Lord or whether it be of man, and I
would not give much for a people or an
individual who is destitute of this knowl-
edge. Sooner or later unless they repent
and feel after it, they will stand in slip-
pery places, and when the floods come
and the tempests beat upon them, they
are in danger of falling away and becom-
ing castaways from the Church of Christ;
but the man who receives his knowledge
from the Father, and the woman who can
come to the Father in the name of Je-
sus and ask and receive for herself a tes-
timony concerning this work, and con-
cerning the government of God, in times
of trial and difficulty, they are safe, be-
cause they know where their strength is
and unto whom they can apply for light
and guidance in the hours of temptation,
trial and difficulty. They know then the
voice of the true Shepherd.

My brethren and sisters let me ad-
dress myself more directly to you upon
this point. We have been bereft of our
President. We have been bereft of the
man who has stood at our head and
guided us for thirty-three years, and we
have learned to look upon him as the
mouthpiece of our Father to us, but we
ought, also, to have learned, as I have
no doubt the majority of this people have
learned, that he was but an instrument
in the hands of God to accomplish the
work entrusted to him, and that he be-
ing gone, the Lord will raise up and
strengthen those who remain, and give
them the power necessary to accomplish
his work and carry it forward in the
earth; and if they fall too, as they likely
will, the column of humanity, the column
of the Priesthood will still press forward,
until all that the Lord has appointed
to his people, he will accomplish on the
earth, and Zion will be established and
fully redeemed according to all the words
of the Prophets. And further, it will
cause us to draw nearer unto the Father
and live so that we shall receive reve-
lation from him for ourselves, that the
knowledge of the Spirit shall be in our
hearts, that the voice of the true Shep-
herd will be known to our ears, that
when we hear it we will know it, that
we cannot be deceived or led astray. This
is the privilege of the Latter-day Saints,
and the man and woman in this Church
who does not live so as to enjoy this privi-
lege comes short of what he should
be. It is these blessings that compen-
sate for the falsehoods, for the contu-
mely and for the persecution to which
the Latter-day Saints are subjected. If
it were not for these gifts and bless-
ings our case would not be a very en-
viable one; but in possession of these
blessings, and knowing for ourselves the
truth, and understanding the will of our
Father in heaven and rejoicing in the
blessings of peace, quietude, union and
love, such as cannot be obtained else-
where, with those other gifts to which I
have alluded—having these in our pos-
session we can look calmly upon the ef-
torts of the wicked. We can, without
being afflicted in our souls, receive the
persecution which they may seem fit to
heap upon us; to have our names cast
out as evil, to be accused of all manner
of wickedness and crime. We can sub-
mit to these things cheerfully, knowing
that the day will come when these lies
shall be swept away; when the will of
the Father and the glorious light of truth
will shine upon us, and we shall be vin-
dicated in the sight of the inhabitants of
the earth, in the sight of heaven and an-
gels. This being our condition, we can
rejoice under these circumstances, and
look forth to the time when we shall re-
ceive the happiness and reward alluded
to. Brethren and sisters, live so that each
of you can go to the Father and ask and