

the Twelve have this authority? Do you want to know the reason, brethren and sisters, why we do not take such a step? I suspect you would like to know why a man and his two Counselors are not singled out, called and set apart by the voice of the people at this Conference, as the First Presidency of the Church? The reason is simply this: the Lord has not revealed it to us; he has not commanded us to do this, and until he does require this at our hands, we shall not do it. For the present, it seems to be the mind and will of God, as manifested to us, that the Twelve should preside over the Church. And until he does reveal unto his servants that it is right and proper that a First Presidency should be organized again, we shall wait, we shall do nothing of that kind. When the voice of God comes, when it

shall be the counsel of our Heavenly Father that a First Presidency shall be again organized, the Quorum of the Twelve will be organized in its fullness as before. Therefore you can wait, as well as we, for the voice of the Lord; and when it does come, whenever it will be, you will see the Church take action in this matter; but until then, Latter-day Saints, you will be governed by the authority that already exists. If three men have the right to govern, certainly twelve men, all possessing the same keys, have that right and that authority. Then let us wait the good pleasure of the Lord, and cease surmises, and cease indulging in vain and foolish ideas upon these subjects.

I pray God to bless you, and pour out his Spirit upon us all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.



THE GOSPEL REVEALED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WORLD—  
WITNESS OF THE SPIRIT—PRIESTHOOD—HIGH PRIESTS AND  
SEVENTIES—ENERGETIC MISSIONARIES—DUTIES OF  
PRESIDENTS, BISHOPS, ELDERS, PRIESTS, TEACHERS AND  
DEACONS—RELIEF SOCIETIES—TITHING—P. E. FUND—  
COMMON SCHOOLS

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT JOHN TAYLOR, DELIVERED IN THE OGDEN TABERNACLE,  
ON SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 21, 1877

Reported by Geo.F. Gibbs

I am happy to meet with the brethren and sisters at this Conference. Since I was last here we have

had to suffer the loss of our venerated and beloved President Brigham Young, which cast a gloom over the