fined to elders alone? No. To the apo-
stles and presidents? No. To the sev-
teens or high priests or elders, bishops, priests,
teachers or deacons? No. This is a thing
which pertains to all; all who are Latter-
day Saints, all who have complied with
the requirements and who have thus
placed themselves in the condition to re-
ceive this knowledge; and you men who
are before and around me today are wit-
tesses of the truth of that which I say,
because you yourselves did receive the
Holy Ghost, the Spirit of God which im-
parted to you a knowledge of the prin-
ciples of the Gospel and placed you in com-
munion with God your heavenly Father.
And this Spirit has borne witness to our
spirits as it has been said by one of old,
"that we are the children of God: And if
children, then heirs; heirs of God, and
joint heirs with Christ." We sometimes
treat these things rather lightly, scarcely
comprehending what we are doing; and
I often think that our elders themselves
hardly realize the significance of the sit-
uation they occupy when they say to him
that believes, repents and is baptized,
"Receive thou the Holy Ghost." Is there
a thing of more importance that we can
think of anywhere than this which so
many of us treat so lightly. The idea
of a man, human and fallible, pronounc-
ing the reception of the Holy Ghost upon
his fellow man, and his fellow receiv-
ing that heavenly treasure, is one of the
greatest manifestations of the faith-
fulness of God, in sanctioning the acts of
his elders that it is possible for us to
conceive of. He has said that through
these ordinances he would confer the
Holy Ghost; he has also fulfilled it, as the
thousands who hear me today can bear
record. Here is the thing that operated
upon you and which was the means of
bringing you here to this place, from
many of the nations of the earth.

Some people find fault with us about
these things. I have said frequently to
men that I cannot help my faith and I
am sure you cannot help it; no man liv-
ing can control my faith, for I have re-
ceived a portion of the Spirit of the Lord
and I know it; and if you have received
a portion of that same Spirit you know
it, and you cannot unknow it—it is im-
possible, you cannot unknow it, unless
you sin against God and, as the apos-
tle said, grieve the Spirit, by which you
were sealed; then it withdraws from you,
then you will not know much about it, no
more than some do who take this course
against us. The apostle said, "Grieve
not the Spirit of God, by which you are
sealed to the day of redemption;" do not
grieve it, do not sin against God, do not
violate his laws, do not corrupt your-
selves; do not corrupt your bodies, for
are they not, as one has said, "the tem-
oples of the living God?" Do not allow your
spirits to be contaminated and led astray
from correct principles, but cleave unto
God in all humility, fidelity, faithfulness;
oberving his laws and keeping his com-
mandments. Why, then, let me ask, are
you here? You are here because the el-
ders of Israel visited the place where you
lived in this nation, or in nations afar
off, preaching the principles of the ever-
lasting Gospel which had been restored;
and you believed their testimony, and
obeyed the Gospel, and received a knowl-
edge of its divinity, and because of this
you came here; and hence the elders, the
apostles, the presidents, and all the var-
ious peoples and members being touched
by the spark of that fire that dwells
in the bosom of God, being enlight-