it shall be opened to you. For he that as-
keth receiveth, etc. Do you believe it? If
you do, go and try it, and see whether
God lives or not, and you will know for
yourselves. It was said in former times,
"We know that God lives." How do you
know? Because we received the things
which we asked at his hands. In one
place the people are told, You receive
not because you ask not; and our Heav-
enly Father upbraids them for not ask-
ing. The Lord declares, I have plenty;
I own all things, the gold and the sil-
ver are mine, and the cattle upon a thou-
sand hills are mine. Now if you are pre-
pared to use them properly, he is pre-
pared to give them to you. He enquires,
If a son ask for bread, would you give
him a stone? The little child when it
is hungry, asks its mother for a piece of
bread and butter; the mother would not
think of picking up a stone and hand-
ing it to the child; but she gives the lit-
tle one something to eat to satisfy its
hunger. And when the child is hungry
it will come again and ask for more. Af-
ter this kind of reasoning the Savior then
said to those around him, if you who are
evil know how to give good gifts to your
children, how much more shall your Fa-
ther in heaven give his Holy Spirit to
them that ask him. Let us try then to
have confidence in God, as our children
have confidence in us. They will come to
us and say, Papa, can I have a new hat?
Mamma, can I have some new shoes?
Papa, please give me five cents to buy
candy. If you can, you like to gratify their
little wants. Our Father feels just the
same towards us. But suppose they were
to ask you for a razor? "That would be
dangerous," you would say. "Why, child,
I don't want to give you that." And then
when you want things of no use to you,
and your Father knows that it would not
be good for you—although he does not
tell you so, he does not give them to you
because they would be injurious.

There is nothing of more value to
me than the principles of eternal truth;
then the principles of eternal lives; eter-
nal salvation, and eternal exaltations in
the kingdom of God; but then it is for
us to comprehend it, for if we do not
comprehend it, no matter how great the
truths, they cannot benefit us. We fre-
quently think a little more of a nice
span of horses, or a nice wagon, or a fa-
vorite cow, and such things, than we do
of God's work, as our boys sometimes
get attached to a few marbles, thinking
that they are everything, and they do not
like to leave their marbles to obey fa-
ther or mother; and God finds us about
the same. We get a few dollars, or a
farm, and a little stock, and a few other
things; and we cannot afford to neglect
these; we cannot afford to take time to
pray, nor to listen to the voice of Father,
we are so busy playing marbles. And oc-
casionally when we play marbles among
the dollars, we try to cheat one another,
as boys sometimes do at marbles, and
try to take advantage one of another. I
never like to see boys cheat, and never
like to see men cheat at their kind of
marbles. Our feelings and affections get
placed on wrong things. We are here to
build up Zion, and to establish the king-
dom of God. The kingdom of what? The
kingdom of God. Then if it is the king-
dom of God, it is not the kingdom of man,
originating or belonging to man. It came
not of man nor from man, it came from
God, and we are indebted to him for it;
and we are indebted to him for all the