

A FEW QUESTIONS EVERY LATTER-DAY SAINT CAN ANSWER FOR HIMSELF—THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT—THE PROPER USE OF RICHES—NO COMPARISON BETWEEN EARTHLY WEALTH AND ETERNAL RICHES—PRINCIPLE MUST NOT BE SACRIFICED FOR RICHES—CONSECRATION—SATAN REBUKED—WE OUGHT TO CULTIVATE THE FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT—THE WORK OF GOD ONWARD AND UPWARD—THE FATE OF THOSE WHO SACRIFICE PRINCIPLE AT THE SHRINE OF GREED—CONCLUSION

REMARKS BY ELDER MOSES THATCHER, DELIVERED AT THE GENERAL CONFERENCE,

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The thought frequently arises in my mind, are we as a people honest and sincere in the professions we make? Do we prove by our dealings, our acts and conversations, that we sincerely believe in all of the principles of the Gospel which we have been willing to preach to others; or do we sometimes in our weakness, preach one thing and practice another? Do we manifest more of the fruits of the flesh than of the spirit? Do we manifest greater love for the things of this world, and the honors of men, than we do for eternal riches and the honor of God? These are questions every Latter-day Saint ought to be able to answer for himself.

We are bidden of Paul to stand fast in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and to be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. The purpose that the Lord had in view in gathering us to this land, is at least partly reflected in this language of Paul, namely: that we may sanctify the body by developing the fruits of the spirit.

Honesty and sincerity are fruits of the spirit; to be true to God and each other are manifestly fruits of the spirit; purity of thought and action is fruit of the spirit. Injustice, unrighteousness, dishonesty, intemperance, impurity, insincerity and hypocrisy are fruits of the flesh. All these are sometimes manifested in man's undue love for the things of the world, and in his contempt for the things of God. Those who live for eternal riches are thoughtful, devoting time and reflection and study to the word of God; they are the people who desire the Lord to search and prove them, and know their hearts, and see if there be any wickedness in them. You see true religion manifested in such people by their attention to the sick, by their administering to the orphan and widow; you see them friends to God's poor. You see them opposed to oppression of every form, opposed to the encroachments of those who would do the people harm. You see them urging the people to works of righteousness not only by precept