

VISIT TO ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO—CONDITION OF THE  
SETTLEMENTS—OUR ENEMIES—THE “OBNOXIOUS  
DOCTRINE”—THINGS PERTAINING TO CONSCIENCE—THE  
SAINTS STRIVING TO LIVE THEIR RELIGION—PROSPERITY ON  
EVERY HAND—PERSECUTION—TEMPLES—THE LOAD THE  
SAINTS ARE CARRYING—CONCLUSION

REMARKS BY APOSTLE BRIGHAM YOUNG, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,  
SALT LAKE CITY, SUNDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 22, 1884

Reported by John Irvine

I am thankful for the opportunity afforded me of meeting with the Latter-day Saints in this Tabernacle. Though I have been absent but a short time, yet it has been a long journey in one sense of the word. Brother F. M. Lyman and myself left this place on the 3rd of May, for the purpose of visiting our settlements in the northern part of Arizona and New Mexico. We have accomplished the object of our mission and are thankful to be at home again. We have met many friends in these distant settlements, and I might say some enemies; but we have been particularly favored in all of our meetings, and where we found enemies in some instances we left them friends; for as I understand the mission of the Elders of this Church, it is a mission of peace, to extend the olive branch to all people upon the face of the earth. I do not consider it my duty nor my privilege to make war upon individuals, or upon sects or parties in the Territories of Arizona or New Mexico, not even in the Territory of Utah. From my earliest recollections, pretty nearly, to the present

time, constant persecution has followed this people. I do not feel like persecuting. I have felt sometimes that I would like to stand up for my rights and tell men, “Thus far can you go, and no further;” but I have come to the conclusion that I have no desire to take that little business out of the hands of God Almighty. He has managed it excellently well thus far in behalf of this people, far better and more gloriously than any human being could have managed it; for if we had had our desires sometimes, we might have injured the cause of God. While for a little season we have suffered, in the end we have been made whole and have been greatly extended, greatly blessed, and God continues to be our friend.

In the settlements we have visited, we found our enemies in the same condition that enemies have shown themselves to be in this Territory—fighting, beating the empty air, thinking that they had a foe before them, thinking that they had somebody that they could persecute; but their anger has been turned towards each other, and God has