prove to the world, my faith and sincer-
ity in the principles I have taught, dur-
ing fifty years, among many nations—
that Jesus is the Son of God—that He
has revealed His Priesthood, and the ful-
ness of the ancient Gospel, and estab-
lished His Church by revelation.

When I received the Apostleship, I
well remember saying to my brethren,
who were present, that very possibly
the same sacrifices would be required
of the modern Apostles as were experi-
cenced by the Apostles anciently, includ-
ing their persecutions and martyrdoms.
I said, in receiving this sacred calling, I
felt as though it were ascending an al-
tar where, perhaps, life itself would be
offered. The Lord has said: "I have de-
creed in my heart that I will prove you in
all things, whether you will abide in my
Covenant even unto death; for, if ye will
not abide in my Covenant, ye are not wor-
thy of me." Seriously considering all this,
I asked myself: Am I willing to accept
these conditions—to so deny myself and
suffer for the glory of God, and to honor
and magnify this Apostleship?

God is now feeling after us, and will
disclose our secret thoughts. It would
be well to purify and prepare ourselves,
and in the language of the Psalmist, call
upon God, saying, "Search me, O God,
and know my heart; try me and know my
thoughts; and see if there be any wicked
way in me, and lead me in the way ever-
lasting."

If we succeed in passing through the
approaching fiery ordeals with our fi-
delity and integrity unimpeached, we
may expect at the close of our trials,
a great and mighty outpouring of the
Spirit and power of God—a great endow-
ment upon all who shall have remained
true to their covenants. We must be
more eager to cultivate friendly relations
with our neighbors, together with love
and affection for our wives and children
that peace may dwell in our households,
and confidence in the midst of the people.

"Fifty millions of people" are said to
be calling loudly for the extermination
of the "Mormons." If it be a FACT that
our religion is divine, established of God,
there is no cause for alarm, nor even anxi-
ety or uneasiness. Tens of thousands,
through obedience to the sacred Gospel,
know it to be true—a FACT, by immedi-
ate revelation to themselves. Therefore,
these "Fifty millions of people," are not
fighting the "Mormons," or their religion,
but they are fighting God and His pur-
poses.

Israel, on the banks of the Red
Sea, were God’s people—a fact perfectly
known to Moses; and he knew, also,
what were the purposes of God concern-
ing them. Hence, there was no occa-
sion for alarm or anxiety in view of
the overwhelming forces of Pharaoh’s
army, threatening immediate annihila-
tion. God’s eye was upon Israel—they
were there by His direction—a FACT—
a revealed FACT, known to Moses and
Aaron, and doubtless to many others,
by direct communication from God. It
is true, they were placed in a fright-
ful situation—naturally, a hopeless one,
from which no human power or ability
could extricate them.

Israel was there, not from choice, but
by the command of God; and He had ar-
 ranged His own program; yet Pharaoh
with his armed hosts, sought to thwart
His purposes, and in the end was over-
thrown and destroyed; and the result of
this ignorance and folly stands recorded
on the page of history as a lesson to all
generations.