A Selection of the
Sermons of
John Y. Barlow

31 Dec 1940
12 Dec 1943
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SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
DECEMBER 31, 1940
AT A SISTERS CLASS IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

My dear sisters, I am pleased to meet with you again. I was sitting here looking over this congregation of women and thinking how true it was, as one sister said, that she didn't know where she would find another group in the world as blessed as this group is. No, sisters, there isn't another group. Why? Because this law was given for your exaltation in the eternal worlds that you may bear the souls of men. Remember, the soul is the body and the spirit. There are some sisters here who haven't had the privilege of having children, but they will have the privilege if they are worthy, and they will be mothers of nations.

How thankful we ought to be that we have had the privilege of mingling with the men that God has seen fit to bless and give the right to keep this holy law alive that we might have eternal increase — that we might be able to bear the souls of men. The Prophet Joseph F. Smith said, "If we reject this law, we will come to a full stop." Then why shouldn't you be the greatest on earth — those that are receiving this law. There are a great many here receiving the law that haven't entered into it yet, but they have it in their hearts, and they know it is true.

I was in Short Creek last Friday and over the holidays. While I was there, Aunt Lizzie received a letter from her mother's brother telling her that she was the cause of this law (Plural Marriage) being lived down there, and that she was the cause of so much of the downfall of their family, and he told her to repent. Why, repent of what? For believing in the Gospel of Jesus Christ? For believing in the fullness of the Gospel? Is that what we should repent of? Christ says, "Though you live all the law, yet offend in one principle, you are guilty of the whole."

There were a great many thoughts going through my mind after reading that letter, and I thought, "Oh Lord, how long are you going to permit this to go on — having the children of the saints ridiculed and persecuted by men for upholding and maintaining the fullness of the Gospel?" I want to tell you that the parents of these children that are on the earth today are praying day and
Stop and think of it, sisters. When Enoch was taken from the earth, the Lord preserved his son that the inhabitants of the earth might not perish. Melchizedek, or Shem, was the righteous one of Noah's seed, and he kept the commandments of God all the days of his life. He gave Abraham the Priesthood. He was such a righteous man that when but a child, he quenched the pillar of fire. He received the higher order of the Priesthood. It was after the order of the Son of God. He conferred the same upon Abraham.
In our day, when we stop to think of what has happened — Elijah, holding all the power, came to the Prophet Joseph and gave it to him, and now here we are receiving it. Are we not blessed? Others are rejecting it.

Lorin Woolley used to keep telling us that his father, John Woolley, came to him quite a bit. I asked the Lord whether it was so, or whether it was not. Next time John Woolley came, I was in the room. He turned to me and said, "There is scarcely a man in this Church under ninety years old that is abiding this covenant." He gave me to understand that men out of the Church were abiding it. Those who had been ostracized. (Lorin testified that I was there when his father came.)

Now, Sisters, before Lorin died, he wanted to fill the Sanhedrin, and he told us that the Priesthood on the other side went from Canada to Mexico, and they couldn't find men to do it. What a condition. Talk about apostasy. Yet, they are trying now to put out a pamphlet and giving the names of all those who have been cast out. If I were one of those who they had missed, I would write and tell them they had slighted me.

Here is a little story on "Progress" told of a man from Sanpete whose wife was very sick. This man went to the hospital about every day to find out how his wife was. They would not let him see her, but they told him that his wife was progressing fairly well or in fair condition each time he came. One day he went to the hospital and asked how his wife was, and he found out she was dead. This is just the condition of the Church now. The members think all is well and that the Church is progressing, but some day they will wake up and find they have been deceived.

Well, I have been watching the progress of you sisters, and it has been very pleasing to me. I want you to all remember this — that the man is the head, but the woman is the neck, and the neck turns the head almost every time. I would like you to remember that. As President Young says, "If we can get the women on our side, we are all set."

I hope in the next year that we improve upon this year. Let's every one of us improve on some trait of ours. There isn't any of us but what has some little place that needs improvement. I know that this someone has.

May God bless you and be with you and help you in all your undertakings is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

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**EXCERPTS FROM A SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW**  
**DECEMBER 12, 1943**  
**IN SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

There have been many thoughts go through my mind in the last few moments. We are sorrowful of what has happened. The world is trying to stop us from keeping the commandments of God — from having eternal increase. The world is trying to, the Church is trying to. In other days when we have been persecuted, we have had the Church at our backs, but today we have only our God. He will see us through if we will get ourselves in order. If we would live right, we would be happy and free and be a most wonderfully blessed people; but on the other hand, if we do not live right, what a sorrow it will be to us. We find out that the servants of God have told us to do certain things, and we failed to do them; then we didn't get the blessing.

Nothing less than eternal salvation will satisfy the immortal soul. We were put on this earth to live a Celestial law. If we fail to live these commandments, then we will be thrown back. How will we feel when we think that we might have gone on? It is this law that is going to exalt us.

We heard in our Sunday School class a short time ago the law that made us free. Everything is predicated upon law. If we live the law, we obtain the blessing. I have heard it said of men, "That is a good man." But what is he good for? Is he good enough to become a God? to go on into exaltation? Are we living the law that will take us there? It is time
that we got down on our knees and asked our Heavenly Father to bless us. He is the best help there is.

I felt like I would like to say to the people here today, if we leave this world and haven't lived as we ought to, when we get on the other side — we have rejected our salvation. Where in the scriptures does the Lord say He will give us another chance? Woe unto those who have had the Gospel and rejected it.

Let us renew our faith, renew our thinking, get in and study and find out the truth and get the Spirit of God to stay with us, and when we know a thing is right and true, stand by it even though all hell should rage against us. Brigham Young once said, "When I find a truth, let the heaven fall, let everything go, but I will stick to the truth." That is the only thing that will lead us into exaltation.

Don't forget our brothers who are now on trial and in trouble. Let us get down on our knees humbly and ask God to help us in all these things, I ask in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

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EXCERPTS FROM A SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
DECEMBER 26, 1943
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

My brothers and sisters, I have been greatly edified with the things that have been said here today. How many of us are taking it home? How many of us will be like James said, when we see our natural selves in the glass, will we go away and forget what manner of men we are? We like to hear God's words taught to us, but the minute we leave here, we forget.

We have in our midst today people who would say they want to live the United Order; but the moment you call on them to do it, then the test comes. They can't stand it. I know something about this myself. I have been working in it now for nearly ten years. I know how it feels. I know how we have men who will start and stop. I know this, that if we wish to live the fullness of the Gospel, we must live the fullness. God has said that He laid down a plan for us that we may be exalted and come back to Him. Do we believe that the angel flying through the midst of heaven has come? Think about it and see whether the hour of God's judgment isn't here upon us.

Another voice from heaven said, "Oh my people, come out of her and be not partakers of her plagues." A great many of us have come out of Babylon, but what have we done? We have brought Babylon with us.

My grandfather was one of the Prophet's bodyguards. My grandmother and Brigham Young's mother were sisters. Not only the first generation but the second, third, fourth, and fifth generation have had the same thing taught to them.

The Savior said, "If your eye offends you, pluck it out. If your arm offends you, cut it off." If any of us are not keeping the commandments of God, let us come out from among the wicked. Jesus said that if a man would not leave father, mother, brothers, and sisters, wives and children for His name's sake, he is not worthy of the Gospel.

Now, brothers and sisters, we are a group here, and we say we are persecuted. No, we aren't. We are blessed. Do you know why? Because every persecution we get brings us closer to the Lord. President Young said he never was persecuted in his life, and he had five homes taken from him. Joseph Smith said that there were only two men at one time out of his whole council who did not go against him. In all our dealings, remember this one thing, he that is not a good follower will never make a good leader.

I think we have had one of the finest sermons we have heard for a long time. Let us live it. We could hear men preach forever, but if we don't take it home and live it, we can't get the Spirit of God and keep it. We may go into the order of Celestial Marriage, but abiding in the covenant is another thing. There are a great many that have gone into it, and they are scattered all over, but are they living it? The adversary has no business with us unless we let him.
May God bless you and keep you in the hollow of His hand. May we live such lives that God will be glad to own and bless us is my prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

EXCERPTS FROM A SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
JANUARY 20, 1944
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

I was thinking while sitting here of some of the sayings of President Young. He said, "Do you think the world will know when the resurrection takes place? Father Smith and the Prophet Joseph said that the world would know nothing about it." I was thinking of the testimonies we have that they have been resurrected. You wouldn't tell it to the world. They wouldn't believe it if you did. We have a testimony that Joseph Smith came, and men shook hands with him, and he told them what to do, had them ordained and set apart for certain work. Will the world believe it? No.

The Millennium will come, and the world won't accept it. When we go back to Jackson County, they will think it is the work of some wise man. Christ said that He would go before them. His sence and His angels would be with them. When that time comes (and it may be close at hand), no unclean thing will be there because Christ won't be there if it is. We can tell how we must live. We must sanctify ourselves and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Resurrected beings will come and teach us of His ways.

There is a writing out now that tells us that the Millennium started in 1936. Do we believe it? I don't. For we read from the scriptures that the very first angel that comes will cry, "The bridegroom cometh, go ye out to meet him."

I want to tell you here, that if this people will keep on and keep the commandments of God, the gifts of the Spirit will surely come to them. We will have prophecy, we will see angels. You will be walking upon the road and someone will come to you. You will find it is one of the ancient prophets. Did Jesus' disciples know Him? Not until He made Himself known.

These small meetings here – God has said that if we will hold these meetings that He will be in the midst of them. I never in my life was more satisfied than I am today that we have the truth, not caring what people are going to do to us. It makes it more true. Jesus said, "He that lives Godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

In any day and age of the world the same cause always produces the same effect. We have been promised that if a few of us will go ahead, take those that will come if we only have twenty men, and live that law (United Order), God will be with us.

A short time ago, we left these parts and went down to Short Creek and started the United Order. If we do not live that law, the Spirit of God will cease to be with us, and we will go down and out. The fullness of the Gospel is the United Order and Plural Marriage. We, as a people, have done away with those things. We have taken the tower on the hill away, and the enemies came in upon us. What was the result? They said, "What need have we of this?" The result was the Edmund Tucker law, and so forth. No matter what people do or say about God's laws, they are true. If they killed us, a truth would still be a truth.

I am glad to be here in Sister Morrison's house. I ask God's blessings upon this house and upon Sister Morrison and her children in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

EXCERPTS FROM SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
FEBRUARY 6, 1944
My brothers and sisters, there is a warm place in my heart for the people here and for the Gospel, and every part of it is worth standing for. We are right in the time when our enemies are all around us, where they are questioning everybody they can find. One brother told me they had a pile of testimonies against us. Does that hurt us? It doesn't hurt me; it makes me rejoice. The time is getting close when God will take a hand. One of us is hit one way, and another hit another way. What difference does it make? God has laid down a law upon which every blessing is predicated. Until we live that law, how can we get the blessing? That is just as much of a truth as that the sun is shining out there.

We had a meeting up north about predestination and foreordination. The laws are predestined to save us, but the individual is foreordained to live those laws. This same law that is saving us now is the same law that saved those in worlds before us. We are foreordained to do a certain work, and we have a right to reject it or live it.

Brigham Young said, "Be careful how you persecute this people. God will hold men responsible for every act against the Latter-day Saints."

We have been aching to get the Spirit of God and keep it. Brothers and sisters, we are going to need it. We have got to be more humble; we have got to let the things of this world go by and bring our minds and our souls and everything under God. If we don't, we are going to be in a trap. If we do it, God will open up a door and just as men think they have us caught, Uncle Lorin told us, if we will exercise the right kind of faith, a door will open and we will go through. Supposing some of us are put in jail. What difference does it make? The Prophet Joseph never was convicted in law. Why was he ever arrested? Because of the prejudice of the people. Every history that we have of the Saints of God on earth is just like we are getting today. You hear them say, "Why, it is against the law of the land." Who made the laws? Men did. They aren't the laws of God. Those are the things we are looking for. When Daniel was told not to pray because it was against the law of the land, Daniel prayed just the same. It wasn't against the laws of God. They threw him into the lions' den, but he had the Spirit of God around him and those lions couldn't touch him. The three Hebrews were cast into the fiery furnace, and the fire couldn't hurt them.

Christ was brought up before the world and crucified — the Son of God — brought up there and told that He was a blasphemer. The Jews said, "Let his blood be upon us and our children." It has never ceased. How many have read what Hitler is doing to the Jews? How many of us are prejudice. They have been whipped and pounded around until, in the financial line, they are sharper than other men. It is the Asiatic Jew that is doing it. The real Jew is light. These others are dark skinned people, nearly always.

Be careful what you do to God's people! They took Christ and crucified Him. Then they started in on the apostles. The angel took Peter out of their way. Just stop and think for a minute or two and see where the sect is today that is everywhere spoken evil of. You can't scare the spirit of a man, but you can scare his body.

Nothing short of the fullness of the Gospel of the Celestial Kingdom will satisfy the immortal soul. "If we don't live up to the measure of our creation," President Young says, "we will be thrown back to be molded again." Thank the Lord we have got men here that will follow the laws of God.

Now it looks very much like we're going to get persecution. Now is the time to button up your coat and pare yourselves for persecution. I am proud of this people and would much rather hear your testimonies than to get up and talk to you myself. I know God is with us. I know that He is going to have a tried people.

Some men are trying to find out the beginning of their generation. What difference does it make to us? We should be living the laws of God when they come to us. By living the laws that will exalt us and take us on, we can become what every son can become, an Adam, and every daughter, an Eve. That is the Gospel that we want. What should we do about it? We have got to live it! If we don't, that is the end of our kingdom, we cannot have an increase.
Know this that every soul is free
To choose his life and what he'll be.

For this eternal truth is given
That God will force no man to heaven.

He'll call, persuade, direct aright
And bless with wisdom, love, and light,

In every way be good and kind,
But never force the human mind.

Freedom and reason make us men,
Take these away, what are we then?

Mere animals, and just as well,
The beasts can't think of heaven or hell.

I say, God bless you all. What you are called on to do, do it with a cheerful heart, and go ahead and leave the consequences with the Lord. I often think, if the people can forgive me of my faults, I certainly will forgive them of theirs.

I was sent home off a mission because I lived the law of Celestial Marriage. God's Priesthood is inseparably connected with the powers of heaven, and it cannot be controlled only on the principles of righteousness. God has heard and answered our prayers just as much, if not more, than He ever did before I was ostracized.

We were presented with a paper to sign not long ago in which it said that none of the leaders of the Church were living a double life. Now the Church comes along and cuts one of the apostles off for living a double life. Will they call the brethren back who wouldn't sign that paper? No. Why? As with the Priest, so with the people.

We are crying and praying that the One Mighty and Strong will come. Lately, I have been wondering whether we should pray that way or not. Suppose the One Mighty and Strong should come and want me to fill a certain position. Am I ready so I could take that position? Or would it be that I am not living right and could not fill that position? We must pray for the strength to live worthy so we will be ready when he does come.

Not a very long time is going to pass before the ten tribes are coming here, and you sisters have got to go into the temples and give them their washings and anointings. You have got to be prepared by being obedient to your husbands. The sisters have got to help the men. The men can't do it alone. Every individual, every young girl, every mother, and everyone must be converted, must live those laws if they get the blessings. There is no other way. We cannot force. Whenever we get to forcing, we get on the devil's ground.

President Young loved that agency so much that he said, "I would rather be chopped to pieces and resurrected in the morning each day for three score years and ten, than to be deprived of speaking freely, or to be afraid of doing so."

May God bless you and keep you in the hollow of His hand. Don't ever go to bed at night nor get up in the morning but what you kneel down and ask God to be with you. This I ask in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

A SERMON DELIVERED BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
JULY 12, 1947
WIDTSAOE, UTAH
My brothers and sisters, I am glad to be here today. I am glad for the words that our brothers have given us.

What sort of people should we be? One of the servants of God said that there was a certain people going to come out of the Church, and they would be the nucleus of the great Millennium. That people would live all the laws of God. There would be two processes going on: One would draw those people out, the other would be the destroying of all those who rejected the Gospel. It was already started in a very small way at that time, but it would keep on and keep on until it affected the whole world. Now, we as a people have been, as you would say, cast out. Yes, in a way we have been cast out. It is our own faults. We cast ourselves out. They wouldn't let us live the fulness of the Gospel, and we want to live it.

I want to say a few words to you, brothers and sisters, about the men here that have been called. I know that these men have been called under the inspiration of God. I know that every one of them has been called as was Aaron. That being the case, have we got anything to say to them? Let me read just a little in the 132nd Section of the Doctrine & Covenants, verses 59 and 60:

"Verily, if a man be called of my Father, as was Aaron, by mine own voice, and by the voice of him that sent me, and I have endowed him with the keys of the power of the Priesthood, if he do anything in my name, and according to my law, and by my word, he will not commit sin, and I will justify him.

Let no one, therefore, set on my servant Joseph; for I will justify him; for he shall do the sacrifice which I require at his hands, for his transgressions saith the Lord your God."

The Lord took him out of the hands of the people, and he has got to do the sacrifice of God himself. That is what the Lord says about this. But what do we hear today? We hear a man get up here and say he is giving constructive criticism. Why, I have got so tired hearing them talk about constructive criticism. Do you realize that Lucifer used constructive criticism on God? What was the result? It was not for lying, stealing, immorality, etc., but for that very thing that Lucifer was cast out of heaven. Brothers and sisters, we have a lot of that. We have it over there (Short Creek) practically every morning. In our Priesthood meetings men get up and tell us we ought to do things this way and that way instead of the way we are doing. As President Taylor said, "I would gladly take your advice if you had the right to give the advice, but if you haven't the right, why should I take it? If it is counsel and it is good, I would take it from a child." A short time ago, one of my little boys asked my wife, "Who sent the brethren to prison?" She said, "The judge did." He said, "Mama, isn't God greater than the judge?" There was a lesson to me — isn't God greater than the judge? He sure is greater than any judge, but why is He doing this? He is doing it either to try us or because we deserve it.

The Prophet Joseph sometimes would put up a black-leg to try the people, to see if they knew the difference between a servant of God and a black-leg. Brothers and sisters, if we have the Spirit of God and can keep it, we know in a minute whether a man is speaking under the inspiration of the Spirit of God or under the inspiration of enthusiasm. We have lots of men here, and yet at the same time we have got to be careful. We mustn't condemn a man. I will tell you a little story that came to me about Abraham: There was an old man came to Abraham's home to stay all night. When the time came for prayers, that old man refused to kneel down. Abraham told him to get out if he wouldn't pray with him. After the old man had gone, the Lord came to Abraham and said, "Where is that man?" Abraham said, "I told him to go because he wouldn't pray with me," God said, "I have put up with that man for seventy-five years now, couldn't you put up with him for one night?" We have got to be careful, I often think of the song, "Speak Gently of the Erring One."

There are so many things coming up today. The Church is against us. The state is against us. The government is against us. We can't expect anything else. It is a great deal like in the mission field. I was in a debate with a minister. He proved that this nation wouldn't accept us at all. They cast B. H. Roberts out of the Senate; but they would accept heathens and all the other churches. When I got up, I said I wanted to thank the gentleman that he had proven very conclusively that we weren't of the world. Of course, they wouldn't accept us. They would accept the heathens and all the other churches — everybody except us. Today they allow ministers of different organizations to come into the
Church and lecture to the people; and God has told Joseph Smith that they worship idols. We are told in the very first communication of God to Joseph Smith that they were an abomination in His sight, and they preach for doctrine the commandments of men. Today the Church takes them in their arms. At the same time, they will cast men out that are living the fulness of the Gospel. The adversary is very cunning. He knows very well if we don't live the fulness of the Gospel, we cannot go on to our exaltation. For the Lord has said, "If you live all these laws and reject one of them, you have failed."

The prophets have told us that the United Order and Plural Marriage are the fulness of the Gospel. Do we believe them? No, we do not. That is what is the matter with a good many of these people. They say they believe, but they do not. That makes them liars, and the truth isn't in them. If the cap fits you, I want you to wear it. If not, it is all right.

The Lord has said in very plain words that you must have a testimony. The main thing here is that they don't believe in the Priesthood. Some men say, "We believe you are all right to seal us, but that is as far as you go. You have no right to administer in temporal things." It is like a man building a house and starting at the roof first. He will have hard work to keep it off the ground; it is liable to come down on him. I want to tell you that these men who have been called have got that authority, and they are called of God. And any man you hear talking and saying anything against those men, walk up to him and say, "Brother, do you know you are talking about the Lord's anointed? You better be careful, for the Lord surely will take such men in hand."

I want to tell you one thing, we have got what the rest haven't got. God has given us the true plan, and He has given us the right to go on and have eternal increase. It is up to us whether we do or whether we don't. If we believe it and live up to it, we will get the blessing of it. But if we don't, we will get the cursings of it.

We are having quite a hard time getting along at present. But that will clear up; we can't expect to live the United Order all at once. "We know in part; we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away." As President Taylor said, "Let us do the best we can with the ways the people have been trained and taught, and in time we will be able to live the fulness of the United Order. We are not prepared to live it now, but let us go on and on till we are." That is the way we learn the Gospel – step by step. We never will be able to jump right into the fulness of God's laws until we get prepared for them.

I ask God to bless you all and give you of His Spirit that you might know of these things, and I do it in the name of Jesus Christ, amen.

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REMARKS GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
AUGUST 31, 1947
AT WIDTSEO, UTAH

Church History, what is it? What church are we talking about? The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints? You want to know for sure what church we belong to. Do you folks here belong to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints? There was a church organized in New York – the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Later on, a Church of the First Born was organized in Kirtland, Ohio. President Young, President Kimball and a great many of them belonged to that Church, and it has worked here on earth. It was organized after the pattern that was organized in the heavens before we came here. It wasn't a church to hold a corporation, to hold things of that kind, to hold property and things, but it was a Church of the First Born.

How many of us here today belong to the Church of the First Born? Do you ever stop to think of that? When we talk of history of the Church, we want to get down to the real essence of it and find out what it is. Every man that fulfills his calling, if he doesn't belong to that Church, will belong to it someday if he magnifies his calling as he should; the Priesthood will give him the honor of being a member of the Church of the First Born. It is just as necessary for a man that is an elder to magnify his calling, or a deacon to magnify his calling as it is for an apostle. Paul likens the
organization unto the body of a man to show what a perfect organization it should be. Any member that is not there leaves a schism in the body. If we take the Seventies out, we cut off an arm. We cannot take the lesser ones out, because the legs and feet are just as necessary as the head, because the head can’t move without the feet. All things belonging to the Kingdom or the Church must be there.

I don’t know how many of you had the TRUTH last month. How many of you carefully read it and saw the difference between the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and the Church of the First Born? There is going to be a wide difference. That is why Joseph Fielding Smith said that there had been many people that belonged to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints that didn’t belong to the Church of the First Born. Brothers and sisters, keep on and work until we get where we belong – to the Church of the First Born. I hope that we will, someday, all of us, belong to that Church.

(Uncle John asked Brother Newel Steed) Are you having the Sacrament here? I can’t see any reason why a bunch of people like you who are trying to live the laws of God cannot have the Sacrament every Sunday. I say, have the Sacrament, and I am sure it will help you. Keep on as you are doing now. We are having a time down there in Short Creek right now. I don’t know hardly how it will come out. Yes, I do know. Some will leave, some have already left, some will stay and go on; others will leave. We have got some right good men down there. We have all of the Brother Jessops that are solid, all of the Brother Johnsons that are solid. We have got the young men, and you can depend on nearly every one of them. There is hardly any of the young men but what you can depend on. Some of the older ones got on the rampage again yesterday.

My brothers and sisters, my hands are tied; they are tied right now, but if I could get out like I used to, I don’t think we would have any trouble. If we can’t raise crops, let us raise houses. If we can do that, we can build some good houses down there. President Young said, “I have built a number of houses and I never had five dollars in my life to start with; I have built houses worth five thousand dollars.” I saw his houses in Kirtland, in Nauvoo, etc. He was driven out of them. We, as a people, cannot expect the blessings of God without going through the trials. We have got to go through the trials. Sacrifices bring forth the blessings. If we can’t do these things, we can’t get the blessings either.

We all understand and know that when the Edmunds Law came out it was in opposition to the laws of God; so it made every man, woman, and child in the Church a defier of the law – some defied the laws of the land and others defied the laws of God. If you defy the laws of the land, you will go to jail; but if you defy the laws of God – in the Celestial Kingdom there are three heavens or degrees and in order to obtain the highest you must live that law. If you don’t, you may enter into the other, but that is the end of your kingdom, you cannot have an increase. When we get as high as we can get, ceasing to go up, we have got to go down, we can’t stand still. Those who deny the laws of God start to go back. If that is an end of their kingdom, they are through advancing. Where do they go? We are told by President Young that they go into oblivion, to dissolution. We go back to our native element from whence we were taken.

You can’t destroy anything. You can change it, but you can’t destroy it. It all goes back into native element. You take your forests here, the trees will grow on to a certain time when they quit growing, and you will find them starting to go back. pretty quick they decay; then you see nothing. It has all gone back into native element. That is the way we will be. We may come forth again in trillions of years. It may be that long before that dust is awakened again. The intelligence we had is still there, but that part which was created and made, such as our spiritual bodies and temporal bodies must go back into native element. The intelligences will go back where they started from. Whether we lose what we have learned or not is just a question. What light and knowledge we learn in this life, we will always have. Then that makes us wonder if this is the first time we have tried it, if some spirits are more intelligent than others. Abraham was shown the intelligences that were organized before the world was; and among all these, there were many of the noble and great ones, he said. Where did they get it? You take all through life, there are some intelligences greater than others. Why? It is very evident. If we went right now and there were a bunch of Indians out here, we might just as well shut up. The intelligence isn’t there. When they are taught and brought around, they may understand us. Whenever the Lord speaks to a people, He has to come down to their level to get them to understand anything. If we talk to Indians, we have to go down to their level.

Now, we heard today about Elijah. I believe that is in Church History. When the Kirtland Temple was dedicated, who came? Elias came and gave his dispensation. Who is Elias? I will tell you. Elias is Noah. Noah came down and gave
his dispensation, then Moses came and gave them the dispensation of the gathering. This people here can thank the Lord that Moses came, because it is through Moses that we have the power and authority to go forth and preach the Gospel to the nations of the earth and bring them here. Then, a little further on, a great and glorious vision burst upon him – Elijah came and gave them the sealing blessing; gave them the power to seal men on earth.

Now for Elijah. What do we understand by Elijah? If you have the power and authority of Elijah, there isn’t a thing in the Melchizedek Priesthood that can’t be done. All the keys are included in the power and authority of Elijah. Read on page 338 in the sayings of Joseph Smith and see. Now what did he say? Joseph, in speaking, said, “Let us take a case. Here is old Brother Cutler. Suppose he was given the authority and told, Whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven and whatever you loose on earth is loosed in heaven.” That is the way we are carried on to our exaltation. Everyone of us that gains our exaltation gains it through covenants. And if we break those covenants, we go down; if we live those covenants, we are exalted.

We spoke of Elijah. He came and gave Joseph Smith that authority of the sealing power. After Elijah had come and given that authority – he was the last prophet that lived that held all the keys – and after he had come here and delivered those keys to us, then we were able to go ahead and perform these things.

I just thought, sitting here today, I am quite proud—maybe I hadn’t ought to say this, but I am proud of the way you people have been carrying on. I can’t see one better reason why a people would come out from the heart’s core of the Church than to live all the laws of God. You came out, everyone of you; it was hard work. I know how churchbound I was. I didn’t understand or know then, but after seeing these things, He says it very plain in the First Section of the Doctrine & Covenants that the time would come when they would change the ordinances and break the everlasting covenants. He said we would come from among them. How are we going to stay out? How many of you today know where the Priesthood is? Some people get down upon their knees and find out, and they know where the Priesthood is, and you can’t fool them. Others will say, I don’t know about this and that, and almost invariably, you will see them go backwards. We want to get a thorough understanding of these things. Someday you will read about some that have come out from among the people. You will read of such things again before you get through, and we are keeping a history of it. I hope we are keeping minutes here of everything that goes on. Sooner or later, they will be called in.

What is going to become of us? Do you mean to tell me that my parents are all wrong? No, I don’t mean to tell you anything about it. A Methodist said, “Do you mean to say that my father is wrong? Why, he is a good man; my parents are good people.” Yes, they sure are, and so were Cain’s. His Father was, at least. Here is the thing – there is a law on which every blessing is predicated, and when we get the blessing, it is by obedience to that law. How can God give us that blessing without obedience to the law? If we didn’t have to obey, God wouldn’t be God. We will admit there are hundreds of good men, thousands of them in the Church. Our parents and grandparents and relations, we feel for them; they think we have all apostatized and gone. When my folks joined the Church in England, people just thought they had gone to the bad. They came out here. I have met hundreds of people in the world that have said, “I don’t know what we will do, some of our children believe in Mormonism.”

President Young said, “I invite you to take excursions. I will take excursions, but I am not going to take all my wives. I remember one fellow came and told me that I had twenty wives. I said, “That is fine, but I don’t know them, I wish you would name them.” President Young said when the brethren talked about him in Texas, “You go back and tell the Texas people that when I get on the other side, I expect to have thousands of wives.” Maybe he will if he has kingdoms enough. But today I don’t know about taking these thousands of wives, Probably your hair would go grayer than mine is now; you can’t tell. Thank the Lord I am what President Young said, anyway. He said that if you have your hair left on your head, you can consider that you have some blessed good wives. I haven’t lost my hair. I think some of the brethren are getting quite a ways back, though.

Well, let me tell you brethren, this thing is true. It isn’t to be monkeyed with either. When the adversary saw that we started to live the two laws, then he started to work. He didn’t care if we just lived one law. Why? Though you keep all the laws and offend in one, then you are guilty of the whole. If you have something you have got to be punished for, you can’t get into the Celestial Kingdom. I have heard women say, “When I get on the other side, I don’t want to have to live with that man,” etc. If ever you have a man that is worthy of the Celestial Kingdom of God, you will be mighty glad to have him, for when we get on the other side, we are told, if you will read Parley P. Pratt and others, they won’t
be old and crabby and crippled up, but they will be in their full bloom of life. They will be young and fresh. That is what the resurrection is going to do. We are going to have this body renewed. We want to thank the Lord that we have got a good, healthy body; and thank the Lord that we have good honorable parents, that the disease that is in the world today isn't in our bodies. This is all Church History,

We can go ahead and study the Church History and see what happens here and there, but what we want to know is what is going to happen to us. Like I told Brother Darter when he was telling me about the white Indian prophet, I said, "How close does that get you to the Celestial Kingdom of God?" If we are living a law that will put us in the Celestial Kingdom of God, that is what we are after, Be perfect in our sphere. We can be as perfect in our sphere as God is in His sphere. He says, "Be ye perfect as your Father in Heaven is perfect."

Brothers and sisters, I love to see people united. I love the people that are united, and would to God that I could get out and talk to you more than I do. But everything I say down there is taken right up to the probation officer. There isn't anything that they don't hear about. Last time I went up there, he said, "I understand that Esther had a baby." I said, "What of that?" He said, "You broke your parole." I said, "How did I break my parole? Didn't you hear the Board of Pardons say, 'Go down and take care of your wives and children.'? Would you call it taking care of them by just giving them something to eat? Then how have I broke my parole?" I never denied it or confirmed it. I know this law is true and these other laws are true. If we live them, we will get the blessing, and if we don't, we won't get the blessing. God will bless us when we bless ourselves. God helps those who help themselves. If we want help from God, we do it ourselves. We grow in knowledge, faith, and understanding only as we apply for it. Very few there will be that will be virtuous, honest and straightforward in all things, but those few will hold the Priesthood and will be the few that will be saved. Godliness must be acquired; it won't be forced on us. You must get it yourselves.

I hope you just keep on the way you are going. I will say again that you can start in anytime, and I would like you to do it all the time, as long as the people are doing right like they are doing here, they deserve the Sacrament, and it will help you.

God bless you, amen.

SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
APRIL 6, 1948
MEETING HELD AT OZUMBA, MEXICO

My beloved brothers and sisters, it is with pleasure that I stand before you and tell you concerning the plan of life and salvation. We have driven many miles, something like, I think, five thousand. Hearing from Brother Johnson of you people here and how you wish to be blessed and receive the fullness of the Gospel, I practically got out of a sick-bed to come down here, but I feel well paid. I hope what I may say to you will sink deep into your hearts.

We are living in a day and age of the world when men are doubting and many of them in the Church today are turning away from the higher principles of the Gospel. President Young said that the fullness of the Gospel was United Order and Plural Marriage, and we all know in reading the Doctrine & Covenants that whenever we receive a blessing it is by obedience to a law. He says that every blessing is predicated upon law, and whenever we receive a blessing it is by obedience to that law.

I have been in this work since I was born. My grand-parents came down through all the persecutions of Nauvoo and through that country. My father was born in Nauvoo, and we have been with the Saints and with the Church ever since.

We read from the Book of Mormon that the time would come when men would turn from the fullness of the Gospel and then the fullness of the Gospel would be taken to you people. In fact, they mentioned the House of Israel, and it
looks to me like the time is close at hand.

Now, if you brethren and sisters pare yourselves and get ready in receiving these high ordinances, it is either going to uplift you or else it will damn you. Whenever we receive a high blessing, if we fail to live it – if we fail to keep the commandments of God, we go down that much more.

I can see in the eyes of you people here that you believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ. I truly hope that you will receive every blessing that is necessary to exalt you.

I won't say much tonight as I feel a little shaky. I will say, God bless you, and in the authority of the Holy Priesthood which I hold, I do bless you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, amen.

(At the end of the meeting, Brother Barlow spoke for a few minutes again.)

My brothers and sisters, some years ago while in Short Creek lying in my bed, the Spirit of God spoke to me and told me to go tell the people to get the Spirit of God and keep it. He said that we will need it, and He explained to me why we would need it. The Spirit of God spoke to me just like I am talking to you now. I went up and told our people. Some of them took heed; others went on just the same. Today, you can go pick out the men – the very ones – that listened to what I said. So I will say to you brothers and sisters here, get the Spirit of God and keep it. May God bless you, amen.

SERMON GIVEN BY PRESIDENT JOHN Y. BARLOW
JULY 17, 1949
SHORT CREEK, ARIZONA

My brothers and sisters, I believe to have done myself justice I should have stayed home. But I wanted especially to put to this people some of the testimonies of the men that were with the Prophet Joseph. I brought a sermon today; I am going to call on Louis to read it if he will, and I expect this sermon to have come right from the fountain head – The Prophet Joseph – written by his secretary. I don't know if many of you have ever read William Clayton's testimony. He was the man that wrote down the 132nd Section of the Doctrine & Covenants as dictated by the Prophet Joseph Smith from the Lord.

There are a lot of things transpiring right now that we ought to know. There are a lot of things going on that this people ought to know, and why don't they know? Simply because we dare not give it to them. That is why. They are getting just about all they can take care of, but there is a lot of the Gospel of Jesus Christ today that we are missing. The testimony of men like William Clayton and the testimony of Joseph F. Smith tell us very plainly that this law will endure to the end. Joseph F. Smith was like President Young. He said it would triumph and ride over everything that has tried and still remains to try to hinder it.

If you will come up here, Louis, I have got so I can't preach much, but I can hunt out what has been written. If I did that, we would have enough here to read every Sunday for the next year. There are some other sermons in here I want read in connection with this.

Louis Barlow read: This is taken from the Journal of Discourses, Volume 21, page nine. Discourse by Elder Joseph F. Smith at the funeral of William Clayton.

"I have a paper in my possession, and have had for a number of months past. In fact, it was written at my request and then given into my care. I have preserved it with a view when thought proper, to have it published. As it is a sermon in itself, it would perhaps be more interesting than anything I could say on the present occasion, and therefore, with President Taylor's permission, I will read it to the congregation. He read the following:
William Clayton's Testimony

The following statement was sworn to before John T. Caine, a notary public, in Salt Lake City, February 16, 1874.

Inasmuch as it may be interesting to future generations of the members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to learn something of the first teachings of the principle of plural marriage by President Joseph Smith, the Prophet, Seer, and Revelator and Translator of said Church, I will give a short relation of facts which occurred within my personal knowledge, and also matters related to me by President Joseph Smith.

I was employed as a clerk in President Joseph Smith's office, under Elder Willard Richards, and commenced to labor in the office on the tenth day of February, 1842. I continued to labor with Elder Richards until he went east to fetch his wife to Nauvoo.

After Elder Richards started east, I was necessarily thrown constantly into the company of President Smith, having to attend to his public and private business, receiving and recording tithing and donations, attending to land and other matters of business. During this period, I necessarily became acquainted well with Emma Smith, wife of the Prophet, and also with the children — Julia M. (an adopted daughter), Joseph, Fredrick, and Alexander — very much of the business being transacted at the residence of the Prophet.

On the 7th of October, 1842, in the sence of Bishop Newel K. Whitney and his wife, Elizabeth Ann, President Joseph Smith appointed me Temple Recorder, and also his private clerk, placing all records, books, papers, etc., in my care, and requiring me to take charge of and serve them, his closing words being, 'When I have any revelations to write, you are the one to write them.'

During that period, the Prophet Joseph frequently visited my house in my company and became well acquainted with my wife, Ruth, to whom I had been married five years. One day in the month of February, 1843, the Prophet invited me to walk with him. During our walk, he said he had learned that there was a sister back in England to whom I was very much attached. I replied there was, but nothing further than an attachment such as a brother and sister in the Church might rightfully entertain for each other. He then said, 'Why don't you send for her?' I replied, 'In the first place, I have no authority to send for her, and if I did, I have not the means to pay expenses.' To this, he answered, 'I give you authority to send for her, and I will furnish you with means,' which he did. This was the first time the Prophet talked with me on the subject of plural marriage. He informed me that the doctrine and principle was right in the sight of our Heavenly Father and that it was a doctrine which pertained to celestial order and glory.

After giving me lengthy instructions and information concerning the doctrine of celestial or plural marriage, he concluded his remarks by the words, 'It is your privilege to have all the wives you want.' After this introduction, our conversations on the subject of plural marriage were very frequent, and he appeared to take particular pains to inform and instruct me in respect to the principle. He also informed me that he had other wives living besides his first wife, Emma. And in particular, gave me to understand that Eliza R. Snow, Louisa Beeman, Desdemona W. Fullmer and others were his lawful wives in the sight of heaven.

On the 27th of April, 1843, the Prophet Joseph Smith married Margaret Moon to me for time and eternity at the residence of Heber C. Kimball. On the 22nd of July, 1843, he married to me, according to the order of the Church, my first wife, Ruth.

On the first day of May, 1843, I officiated in the office of an Elder by marrying Lucy Walker to the Prophet Joseph Smith at his own residence.

During this period, the Prophet Joseph took several other wives. Amongst the number I well remember Eliza Partridge, Emily Partridge, Sarah Ann Whitney, Helen Kimball and Flora Woodworth. These all, he acknowledge to me, were his lawful wedded wives according to the celestial order. His wife, Emma, was cognizant of the fact of some, if not all, of these being his wives, and she generally treated them very kindly.
On the morning of the 12th of July, 1843, Joseph and Hyrum came into the office in the upper story of the Brick Store on the bank of the Mississippi River. They were talking on the subject of plural marriage. Hyrum said to Joseph, 'If you will write the revelation on Celestial Marriage, I will take it and read it to Emma, and I can convince her of its truth, and you will hereafter have peace.' Joseph smiled and remarked, 'You do not know Emma as well as I do.' Hyrum repeated his opinion and further remarked, 'The doctrine is so plain, I can convince any reasonable man or woman of its truth, purity, and heavenly origin,' or words to that effect. Joseph then said, 'Well, I will write the revelation and we will see.' He then requested me to get paper and pare to write.

Hyrum very urgently requested Joseph to write the revelation by means of the Urim and Thummim, but Joseph in reply said he did not need to, for he knew the revelation perfectly from beginning to end.

Joseph and Hyrum then sat down and Joseph commenced to dictate the revelation on Celestial Marriage, and I wrote it, sentence by sentence as he dictated. After the whole was written, Joseph asked me to read it through slowly and carefully, which I did, and he pronounced it correct. He then remarked that there was much more that he could write on the subject, but what was written was sufficient for the present.

Hyrum then took the revelation to read to Emma. Joseph remained with me in the office until Hyrum returned. When he came back, Joseph asked him how he had succeeded. Hyrum replied that he had never received a more severe talking to in his life, that Emma was very bitter and full of resentment and anger.

Joseph quietly remarked, 'I told you, you did not know Emma as well as I did.' Joseph then put the revelation in his pocket, and they both left the office.

The revelation was read to several of the authorities during the day. Towards evening Bishop Newel K. Whitney asked Joseph if he had any objections to his taking a copy of the revelation. Joseph replied that he had not, and he handed it to him. It was carefully copied the following day by Joseph C. Kingsbury. Two or three days after the revelation was written, Joseph related to me and several others that Emma had so teased and urgently entreated him for the privilege of destroying it, that he became so weary of her teasing, to get rid of her annoyance, he told her she might destroy it and she had done so, but he had consented to her wish in this matter to pacify her, realizing that he knew the revelation perfectly and could re-write it at any time if necessary.

The copy made by Joseph C. Kingsbury is a true and correct copy of the original in every respect. The copy was carefully preserved by Bishop Whitney, and but few knew of its existence until the temporary location of the Camps of Israel at Winter Quarters on the Missouri River in 1846.

After the revelation on Celestial Marriage was written, Joseph continued his instructions privately on the doctrine to myself and others. During the last year of his life, we were scarcely ever together alone but he was talking on the subject and explaining that doctrine and the principles connected with it. He appeared to enjoy great liberty and freedom in his teachings, and also to find great relief in having a few to whom he could unbosom his feelings on that great and glorious subject.

From him, I learned that the doctrine of plural and Celestial Marriage is the most holy and important doctrine ever revealed to man on the earth, and that without obedience to that principle no man can ever attain to that fullness of exaltation in celestial glory."

(signed) WILLIAM CLAYTON
Salt Lake City, February 6, 1874

( President Joseph F. Smith then continued.)

"As I before said, I felt to read this document because of the instruction it would afford, and for the further object of showing that although 'he is dead, he yet speaketh.' For this testimony of Brother Clayton will stand forever, though his body molders into dust.
I am, and so was the deceased when living, at the defiance of the world to dispute those statements. They are made from personal knowledge derived from personal associations with the Prophet Joseph Smith himself, not with a view to gain notoriety, but rather to leave behind him his testimony with regard to this important principle. He has done so.

And he has here stated, as having come from the mouth of the Prophet, this doctrine of eternal union of husband and wife and of plural marriage is one of the most important doctrines ever revealed to men in any age of the world. Without it, man would come to a full stop. Without it, we never could be exalted to associate with and become gods, neither would we attain to the power of eternal increase or the blessings pronounced upon Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the fathers of the faithful.

There are but a few witnesses now living in relation to the coming forth of this revelation. There never were many that were intimately acquainted with the Prophet and his teachings upon this subject. I look around me and see a number of persons in this assembly whose hair has grown gray in the service of God, and who had an intimate acquaintance with our martyred prophet; but few, if any of them were so closely identified with him in this matter as Brother Clayton.

There are, however, enough witnesses to these principles to establish them upon the earth in such a manner that they never can be forgotten or stamped out. For they will live; they are destined to live and also to grow and spread abroad upon the face of the earth, to be received and accepted and adopted by all the virtuous, by all the pure in heart, by all who love the truth, and seek to serve Him and keep His commandments; they are bound to prevail, because they are true principles."

Brother Barlow: I have another little piece or two, one from Orson Pratt and one from John Taylor that I would like to have read, also, because I can't stand up and talk much. I think we can get the gist of the Gospel from this better than anything.

Louis read: (This is taken from the Journal of Discourses, Volume 22, page 29, quoting Orson Pratt.)

"No man without the Priesthood can behold the face of the Father and live. Now this has troubled the minds of some of the Latter-day Saints. 'How is it,' they say, 'that Joseph lived after having seen the face of the Father, after having heard the words of His mouth, after the Father had said unto him, This is my beloved Son, hear ye Him?'

Have you thought upon this other subject, namely, that Joseph had been already ordained before this world was made? To what Priesthood? To the Priesthood after the order of endless life, a Priesthood that is everlasting, a Priesthood handed down that had no beginning, a Priesthood after the holiest Order of God, a Priesthood that was after the order of His Only Begotten Son. If you had only reflected that that same Priesthood had been conferred upon him in the councils of the holy ones before the world was made, and that he was ordained to come forth in this dispensation of the fullness of times to hold the keys of authority and power of that high and holy Priesthood, and that he was ordained to come forth and perform the work that God intended to accomplish in the latter times, then the mystery would have been cleared up to your minds."

Louis read: (This is taken from the Journal of Discourses, Volume 21, page 2, by President John Taylor.)

"We have, with the help of the Lord, succeeded in gathering out many of the honest in heart from among the different nations of the earth. And we have come here to carry out the will, purposes, and designs of God.

I never supposed that we were to come here to get rich, to increase in worldly possessions, but we came, as I understand it, in accordance with an express command of the Most High that we may be taught in the knowledge of God and that we might come to an understanding of his laws. We are not here to follow the devices and desires of our own hearts; we are not here to carry out any particular theory of our own; we are not here to build up any system of man's creation, but we are here simply to do the will of God in the establishment of His Kingdom on the earth.

In many things, however, we have not lived up to that high and glorious privilege which has been sent to us; we have been careless and indifferent, and it seems as though Satan has been permitted to try and tempt us in every possible way.
For a few years past, a spirit of greed and covetousness has run through the land and cursed with a withering blight everything it has touched. It is as bad in its effects upon the mind of man as any pestilence or plague upon the human body.

We have begun to run after the things of the world; our hearts, our feelings and affections, in many instances, have been estranged from God. It is time that something should transpire to wake us up to a sense of the position we occupy; it is time we realized how God and angels look upon men who are absorbed in the things of this world instead of living up to their professions and the covenants they have made with Him."

Brother Barlow: Here is one from Brigham Young which I think is right to the point.

Louis read: (Journal of Discourses, Vol 1, page 117.)

"Language to convey all the truth does not exist. Even in the Bible and books that have been revealed from heaven unto man, the language fails to convey all the truth as it is. Truth, wisdom, power, glory, light, and intelligence exist upon their own qualities; they do not, neither can they, exist upon any other principle. Truth is congenial with itself, and light cleaves unto light; it seeks after itself and clings thereto. It is the same with knowledge and virtue and all the eternal attributes; they follow after and attract each other. Mercy cleaves to mercy, because it is mercy; light to light, because it is light, and there is no darkness, no deception, no falsehood in it. Truth cleaves unto truth because it is truth, and it is to be adored because it is an attribute of God, for its excellence, for itself. It is upon this principle that these principles should be held, esteemed, practiced.

Any persons, men or women, who do not receive these principles for the love which they bear towards them, because of their beauty, excellence, and glory;

and because they are congenial to their feelings upon this principle, are not Saints! They exist upon their own basis and rest upon their own foundation. Eternal justice, mercy, love, and truth, never can be moved; they are attributes and correspond and are congenial with each other; they promote each other, fortify the heavens, the Gods, and that which the Gods possess.

Now look upon the opposite side of these principles. Suppose you say, 'We will give up the pursuits of our holy religion. We are not Latter-day Saints. Let us go and seek after the things of the world, speculate, get unto ourselves riches, turn away from our duties, neglect the things pertaining to our salvation, go with the giddy, the frivolous, the seeker after gold to California, Australia, or elsewhere, for the purpose of acquiring wealth.' I will tell you the result of that course. You would cease to increase in all the attributes of excellence, glory, and eternal duration from that very moment. As soon as you conceive such ideas, they find soil within you prepared to nurture them, and it brings forth their direful effects; from that very moment, you cease to increase. The opposite principle seizes you, fastens itself upon you, and you decrease, lessen, diminish, decay, and waste away in quality, excellence, and strength until your organization becomes extinct; oblivion covers you; your name is blotted out from the Book of Life, from the heavens, from the earth and from under the earth."

Brother Barlow: Now these are a few of the sentiments of the brethren that have been teaching us for years and years. If we analyze ourselves, how many of us are living these laws because we love them? Because of the excellency of them? Brigham Young stated here that if we take the opposite course it will fasten itself upon us. We naturally diminish and waste away in excellency and character and in everything else.

I wish, my brothers and sisters, that my health was so I could speak these things that are on my mind. I want to say this much, that I know that the testimony of William Clayton is true. And I know that these things are true that we have heard read to us. I know them of myself. You have got to know those things are true and know that you know them. That is the important thing. Lots of people say, "We know it," when they don't know that they know it.

I say, God bless this people and those who are striving to keep this principle alive, for it will stay alive. It doesn't make any difference whether we do it, but it will be done, and it will go ahead and triumph and over-ride everything
that is opposed to it.

Now maybe some of you wonder why I am so sure of this. When I was set apart, I took a covenant that as long as I lived I would teach these things. I didn't necessarily take a covenant that I would teach the practice of them, but I would teach the principle of them and let the people themselves follow out the practice. You can't teach the practice of it, but you can teach pure principle. We, ourselves, have got to consider about the practice of them.

I ask God to bless you, one and all, and I ask Him to enlighten your minds and quicken your understandings that you may learn more of these things and learn more about these principles. The Savior tells us very plainly how to live them. He says it plain. "Search the scriptures, for in them ye think ye have eternal life, and they are they which testify of me." There is your key. Search it. I hope to see a great many more of the people searching and studying more. There is too much mental laziness among the people – mental laziness – we don't dig down in and get the kernel of truth that is lying there waiting for us. God bless you, amen.