

**THE POWER AND AUTHORITY OF THE PRIESTHOOD  
CONTINUOUS—PSEUDO-PROPHETS AND THEIR  
REVELATIONS—ORDINATION PREREQUISITE TO ACTION  
IN ANY OFFICE—JOSEPH SMITH THE HEAD OF THIS  
DISPENSATION—THE TWELVE ORDAINED BY HIM TO  
BEAR OFF THE KINGDOM—JOSEPH'S LEGAL SUCCESSOR  
AND BRIGHAM'S—THE PRIESTHOOD, AS IT NOW EXISTS,  
THE RIGHTFUL AUTHORITY OF GOD ON EARTH.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON, DELIVERED AT TOOELE, ON SUNDAY  
AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 29, 1882.

REPORTED BY GEO. F. GIBBS.

Our position, as Latter-day Saints, is such that unless we have the guidance of the Lord our God, we are very likely to become involved in a series of difficulties and troubles. This work cannot be built up by man. Man's power, man's wisdom, man's skill, are all insufficient to establish and to carry on the work of our God in the earth connected with the building up of Zion. It is a glorious reflection that from the time this work was founded in these, the last days, up to present time, there has never been a moment when this people have been destitute of the guidance of the Lord, and of the revelations and counsel necessary to enable them to carry out the mind and will of the Lord. At no time have we been left to ourselves. At no time have the Latter-day Saints been at a loss to learn and to find out the mind and will and counsel of God concerning them, either as individuals or as a people.

There have been some ideas afloat among our brethren concerning the authority and the power of those

who have been in charge of the work of God upon the earth. I have not heard so much of it myself of late, perhaps, for the reason that my position has been such that I have not had the opportunity of mingling with the people, and learning from them their ideas and feelings respecting this matter. But at the death of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and probably for many years subsequent to his death, some people seemed to have the feeling that when he died, there died with him some power and some authority and some knowledge that could not be regained very readily, and was out of the possession of those who presided over the Church. This feeling may prevail to some extent at the present time—the feeling that some great one has to arise in our midst in order to revive the old power and restore it to the Church, and to perform the mighty works that God has promised shall be performed in connection with His Zion of the last days. I do not believe that all the Latter-day Saints understand as they should—I speak now in general