

**RETROSPECTIVE REVIEW OF THE PROVIDENCES OF GOD
IN RELATION TO THE SAINTS—THE WRATH AND
SCHEMES OF MEN TURNED TO THE ADVANTAGE OF
GOD'S PEOPLE—THE ORDER OF GOD'S CHURCH
PERFECT—THE WICKED DISTURBED BY JUDGMENTS
WHILE THE RIGHTEOUS ENJOY PEACE—THE
ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAW OF GOD IN RELATION TO
OFFENCES—SHOULD BE RESIGNED TO THE WILL OF
GOD IN ALL THINGS.**

DISCOURSE BY APOSTLE FRANKLIN D. RICHARDS, DELIVERED IN THE TABERNACLE,
SALT LAKE CITY, SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 6 (SEMI-ANNUAL CONFERENCE), 1883.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

The Lord be thanked and praised for granting us another so favorable opportunity of meeting together to contemplate the interests of His Kingdom, and our soul's salvation at this Conference. "Day unto day uttereth speech," said the ancient man of God, "and night unto night showeth knowledge." We can say, that week after week, and month after month, since our last Conference, we have had renewed occasion for thanksgiving and praise to Him for the many blessings which He has vouchsafed unto His people.

If we take a retrospective view of His providences to us as a people, especially during the period of our sojourn in these mountains, we shall find that circumstances have occurred at very short intervals which have kept the people continually awakened to a sense of their liberties, and to a watch-care for them, measuring and weighing and noticing the efforts that have been made from time to time to take away our privileges and liberties, and such blessings as were thought could be taken from us which we had entered

into the enjoyment of, since our location in these mountain fastnesses. Step by step every such instance has been attended, if not with all that gift and abundance of favor and mercy which we might have desired, and which might not have been best for us, yet with sufficient blessing to manifest the kind care of our Heavenly Father continually and unceasingly over us.

When we came here and first made our laws, realizing that we were far away from the mass of the people of the States, both east and west of us, we found it was with great difficulty that we could avail ourselves of the few blessings which government seemed to tender to us. We could not even obtain the presence of federal officials in our midst regularly, as was designed by government, and as was needed by the people. Consequently, our isolation required our Legislature to confer unusual powers upon our local courts; but it was not long before the effort was made, and final success was had in taking from our local courts the civil and criminal