

**GROWTH OF THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS—NECESSITY OF  
THE SPIRIT OF REVELATION—CONDITIONAL  
PROMISES—THE LORD DESIGNED ISRAEL TO BE A  
PECULIAR AND HOLY PEOPLE—AND HE HAS THE SAME  
DESIGN CONCERNING US—WE WILL HAVE TO PASS  
THROUGH THE SAME ORDEALS AS THEY—WE SHOULD  
NOT INTERMARRY WITH THOSE NOT OF OUR FAITH—WE  
SHOULD BUILD UP NOTHING THAT IS OPPOSED TO  
ZION—THE FAVOR OF GOD IS BETTER THAN EARTHLY  
RICHES—EXHORTATIONS TO FAITHFULNESS.**

DISCOURSE BY PRESIDENT GEORGE Q. CANNON, DELIVERED IN THE MEETINGHOUSE,  
HEBER CITY, SUNDAY MORNING, AUGUST 26, 1883.

REPORTED BY JOHN IRVINE.

We are becoming a great people—that is, compared with what we have been—not very great compared with the world; but, nevertheless, we are increasing very rapidly; the rising generation is very numerous; and it requires exceeding diligence and watchfulness on the part of those who have the people in charge as shepherds to see that the means of instruction and counsel are in proportion to the growth of the people. If this were not the case we should soon have a generation of young men and young women ignorant of the principles of life and salvation, and of the policy and polity of the work of God that He has established on the earth.

It is very necessary that as a people we should have with us the spirit of revelation from God, and not only should we have it ourselves, but it is also necessary that we should be taught by those whom God has called to preside over His Church and to lead in the affairs thereof.

Our position is in many respects critical. We are surrounded by enemies who are constantly on the alert, and who are doing all in their power to thwart the work of God, and to destroy its influence on the earth. This being the case it is exceedingly necessary that every means which God has placed within our reach for our improvement and for the advancement of His work should be used by us.

The prophecies concerning Zion which are on record are full of promises concerning the future growth of this people, concerning the glory that shall rest upon Zion. But these predictions and promises are all conditional. They will be fulfilled if we place ourselves in a position to merit their fulfillment, or to bring them about. If Zion fails to come up to the requirements which God has made of us, then the fulfillment of these glorious promises will undoubtedly be deferred. It is therefore of importance that the Latter-day Saints should