

## #24: "Beware lest ye are deceived"

Monte F. Shelley, 19 July 2009

### Quotes

- The church is a hospital for sinners, not a rest home for saints.
- If we love the Lord, we must feed his sheep, not destroy them.
- Everyone is an example to us ... of what to do or what not to do

Timeline of Events	
1830	D&C 28. Hiram Page's revelations for Church
1831	D&C 43. False prophetess Hubble (Kirtland) D&C 50. False spirits and spiritual phenomena D&C 40. James Covill (fear of persecution, cares of world) D&C 52:37. Simonds Ryder <sup>1</sup> (name misspelled) Joseph corrected Canadian man for praying very loudly.
1832	First Presidency: <b>S. Rigdon, J. Gause<sup>1</sup>, F. G. Williams</b>
1835	Quorum of Twelve. Book of Commandments published.
1836	** Time of harmony and spiritual gifts in Kirtland ** Frazier Eaton unable to attend Kirtland temple dedication.
1837	Greed, bank failures, depression, and apostasy in Kirtland. <b>Williams<sup>2</sup>, Luke<sup>1</sup> &amp; Lyman<sup>1</sup> Johnson, Boynton<sup>1</sup>, &amp; 200+</b> Fault-finders: <b>Parley P. Pratt, Orson Hyde</b>
1838	Far West: Hiram Page <sup>1</sup> (gathering to Zion was premature) <b>Oliver Cowdery<sup>2</sup></b> (lawsuits, accused Joseph of adultery ) W.W. Phelps <sup>2</sup> & John Whitmer <sup>1</sup> (illegal personal gain) <b>William E. McClellin<sup>1</sup></b> (no faith in presidency, sinful lusts) <b>Thomas B. Marsh<sup>2</sup></b> (wife & cream; slanderous affidavit), <b>Orson Hyde<sup>2</sup></b> (signed Marsh's slanderous affidavit) David Whitmer <sup>1</sup> (Joseph power seeker & abandoned faith)
1841	<b>John C. Bennett<sup>1</sup></b> , Nauvoo mayor (bad medical practices)
1842	<b>Orson Pratt<sup>2</sup></b> (his learning led to apostasy)
1844	<b>William Law<sup>1</sup></b> (evil speaking, Expositor) Joseph murdered. <b>Sidney Rigdon<sup>1</sup></b> rejected as prophet
1845	<b>William Smith<sup>1</sup></b> (entitled to be president; misuse of funds)
1846	<b>John E. Page<sup>1</sup></b> (James Strang <sup>1</sup> was successor to Joseph)
1848	<b>Lyman Wight<sup>1</sup></b> (Texas was place to wait for Zion)
1936	Church Welfare Program established during depression
1938	"Charted Course" of Church Education ( <b>J. Reuben Clark</b> )
1942	Isms and the United Order ( <b>First Presidency</b> )
1966	"Is Socialism the United Order" ( <b>Marion G. Romney</b> )
1968	"The Proper Role of Government" ( <b>Ezra Taft Benson</b> )
1969	"Ravens Amongst Us" ( <b>Ezra Taft Benson</b> )
1972	Church Correlation; Scriptures are basis for classes
1980	"14 Fundamentals in Following the Prophet" ( <b>ET Benson</b> )
1989	"Beware of Pride" ( <b>Ezra Taft Benson</b> )
1996	"When Shall These Things Be?" ( <b>M. Russell Ballard</b> )

<sup>1</sup> Excommunicated; <sup>2</sup> Excommunicated and later rebaptized

**Bold** = Apostle, First Presidency or Assistant Prophet (Oliver)

### 1. Who can receive revelation for the Church?

(28:2) No one shall be appointed to receive commandments and revelations in this church excepting my servant Joseph ..., for he receiveth them even as Moses. ... <sup>11</sup> Those things which [Hiram Page] hath written from that stone are not of me and ... Satan deceiveth him; <sup>12</sup> For ... these things have not been appointed unto him. ... <sup>13</sup> For all things must be done in order, and by common consent in the church.

(43:3) There is none other appointed ... to receive commandments and revelations until he be taken. ... If it be taken from him he shall not have power except to appoint another in his stead. <sup>5</sup> And this shall be a law unto you, that ye receive not the teachings of any that shall come before you as revelations or commandments; <sup>6</sup> And this I give unto you that you may not be deceived.

### 2. Detecting false spirits and spiritual phenomena

(50:2) There are many ... false spirits ... deceiving the world. <sup>3</sup> ... Satan hath sought to deceive you, that he might overthrow you. ... <sup>23</sup> That which doth not edify is not of God, and is darkness. ... <sup>31</sup> If you behold a spirit manifested that you cannot understand, and you receive not that spirit, ye shall ask of the Father in the name of Jesus; and if he give not unto you that spirit, then you may know that it is not of God.

### 3. Why did some break their covenants?

**4. Why did early Church leaders apostatize?** (Timeline)  
The Lord said, Simon, ... Satan hath desired you, that he may sift *the children of the kingdom* as wheat. (JST Luke 22:31)

"There was a prevalent spirit all through the early history of this Church, which prompted the Elders to think that they knew more than the Prophet. Elders would tell you that the Prophet was going wrong. ... The Church was constantly afflicted with such a class of men." (Elder George A. Smith, JD 11:7)

Joseph called 26 men to be apostles, assistant presidents, or counselors in the first presidency. Sixteen (62%) were excommunicated and only four of them returned.

### 1836 Heaven in Kirtland

**Joseph:** "Brethren, for some time Satan has not had power to tempt you. Some have thought that there would be no more temptation. But the opposite will come; and unless you draw near to the Lord you will be overcome and apostatize." (TPC:JS 315+)

### 1837 Bank failures & depression. Great apostasy in Kirtland.

**John Taylor:** "If the spirit which [Joseph] manifests does not bring blessings, I am very much afraid that the one manifested by those who have spoken, will not be very likely to secure them."

Parley P. Pratt told Elder Taylor some things wherein he considered Joseph in error. Elder Taylor said: "Before you left Canada you bore a strong testimony to Joseph Smith being a Prophet. ... You gave to me a strict charge ... that though you or an angel from heaven was to declare anything else I was not to believe it. ... It is not man that I am following, but the Lord. The principles you taught me led me to Him, and I now have the same testimony that you then rejoiced in. ... If Joseph Smith was then a prophet, he is now a prophet." (*The Life of John Taylor*)

**Thomas B. Marsh:** "The Lord could get along very well without me and He has lost nothing by my falling out of the ranks; But O what have I lost?! Riches, greater riches than all this world or many planets like this could afford" (Faust, *Ensign*, May 1996, 7).

### 5. Joseph's counsel before he was murdered

**Joseph:** "I am exposed to far greater dangers from traitors among ourselves than from enemies without. ... All the enemies ... can accomplish nothing, unless some who are among us and ... have been with us in our councils ... join with our enemies, turn our virtues into faults, and, by falsehood and deceit, stir up their wrath and indignation against us, and bring their vengeance upon our heads." (HC 6:152)

**Joseph:** "The majority of this people will never go astray; and as long as you keep with the majority you are sure to enter the celestial kingdom." ... "If you will stay with the majority of the Twelve Apostles, and the records of the Church, you will never be led astray." (TPC:JS, 315)

June 1844: Joseph prepared to leave Nauvoo and go to Carthage. "Joseph paused when they got to the Temple, and looked with admiration first on that, and then on the city, and remarked, 'This is the loveliest place and the best people under the heavens; little do they know the trials that await them.'" (HC 6:554)

A day before Joseph died, he said, "I am glad [Sidney Rigdon] is gone to Pittsburg ...; were he to preside he would lead the Church to destruction in less than five years."

## 6. Counsel for avoiding deception

**1938 J. Reuben Clark: The Charted Course of the Church in Education** (ce.byu.edu/yp/employment/faculty/chartedcourse.htm)

**1942: Isms and the United Order** (First Presidency, Apr. 1842)

We ... warn our people ... of the constantly increasing threat against our inspired Constitution. ... *These revolutionists are using a technique that is as old as the human race—a fervid but false solicitude for the unfortunate over whom they thus gain mastery and then enslave them. ... They speak of their philosophy ... as an ushering in of the United Order.* Communism and ... similar *isms* bear no relationship whatever to the United Order.

**1966 Marion G. Romney, "Is Socialism the United Order"**

Socialism is not the United Order. ... In converting our government into a social welfare state, [we] have ... adopted much of socialism. ... I pray: (1) That the Lord will ... quicken our understanding of the differences between socialism and the United Order. ... (2) That we will develop the understanding, the desire, and the courage ... to eschew socialism and to support ... those just and holy principles embodied in the Constitution.

**1968 "The Proper Role of Government," (Ezra Taft Benson)**

"Government is not reason, it is not eloquence—it is force! Like fire, it is a dangerous servant and a fearful master!" ... Unless our conscience is clear that we would not hesitate to put a man to death, put him in jail or forcibly deprive him of his property for failing to obey a given law, we should oppose it. ... There is one simple test. Do I as an individual have a right to use force upon my neighbor to accomplish this goal? If I do ..., then I may delegate that power to my government to exercise on my behalf. If I do not have that right ..., then ... I cannot ask my government to perform the act for me. ... There are times when this principle of the proper role of government is most annoying and inconvenient. If I could only force the ignorant to provide for themselves, or the selfish to be generous with their wealth!

**1969 Ravening Wolves (Ezra Taft Benson, CR, Apr. 1969)**

There are some who, for the time being at least, are members of the Church but not in harmony with it. ... The Lord strengthened the faith of the early apostles by pointing out Judas as a traitor, even before this apostle had completed his iniquitous work. So also in our day the Lord has told us of the tares within the wheat that will eventually be hewn down when they are fully ripe. ... "The ravening wolves are amongst us, from our own membership, and they, more than any others, are clothed in sheep's clothing because they wear the habiliments of the priesthood. ..." The wolves amongst our flock are more numerous and devious today. ... "The Church is little, if at all, injured by persecution and calumnies from ignorant, misinformed or malicious enemies. A greater hindrance to its progress comes from faultfinders, shirkers, commandment-breakers, and apostate cliques within its own ecclesiastical and quorum groups." There are also apostate doctrines that are sometimes taught in our classes and from our pulpits and that appear in our publications. And these apostate precepts of men cause our people to stumble. As the Book of Mormon, speaking of our day, states: "... they have all gone astray save it a few, who are the humble followers of Christ; nevertheless, they are led, that in many instances they do err because they are taught by the precepts of men." (2 Ne. 28:14)

**1980 "14 Fundamentals in Following The Prophet" (ET Benson)**

Eleventh: *The two groups who have the greatest difficulty in following the prophet are the proud who are learned and the proud who are rich.* The learned may feel the prophet is only inspired when he agrees with them; otherwise, the prophet is just giving his opinion—speaking as a man. The rich may feel they have no need to take counsel of a lowly prophet. ...

Fourteenth: *The living prophet and the First Presidency—follow them and be blessed; reject them and suffer.*

**1989 "Beware of Pride" (Ezra Taft Benson)**

When we direct our pride toward God, it is in the spirit of "my will and not thine be done." ... Our will ... allows desires, appetites, and passions to go unbridled. ... The proud cannot accept the authority of God giving direction to their lives. (Hel. 12:6.) ... Our enmity toward God takes on many labels, such as rebellion, hard-heartedness, stiff-neckedness, unrepentant, puffed up, easily offended, and sign seekers. The proud wish God would agree with them. They aren't interested in changing their opinions to agree with God's.

**1996 "When shall these things be?" (M. Russell Ballard)**

There are "false prophets" rising within and without the Church. They believe they have had revelations, that they know something the First Presidency and the Twelve Apostles don't know. We need to be very careful of such people. ... The Savior said that in the last days even the very elect could be pulled away from the truth by such false prophets. (*Ensign*, Dec 1996, 56)

**7. Reasons for many modern excommunications?**

Satan had great power, unto the stirring up of the people to do all manner of iniquity, and to the puffing them up with pride, tempting them to seek for power, and authority, and riches, and the vain things of the world. (3 Ne. 6:15)†

How quick to do iniquity ... are the children of men; yea, how quick ... to set their hearts upon the vain things of the world ... to be lifted up in pride; ... to boast ...; and how slow are they to remember the Lord ... and to give ear unto his counsels! ... They do not desire that the Lord ... should rule and reign over them; ... they do set at naught his counsels, and they will not that he should be their guide. (Hel. 12:4–6)†

**Anti-Mormon lit.** (www.fairlds.org), **Crimes, Law of Chastity**

**8. Am I following the living prophet?**

**Joseph F. Smith** and his counselors: "The Lord has ... appointed one man at a time on the earth to hold the keys of revelation to the entire body of the Church in all its organizations, authorities, ordinances and doctrines. The spirit of revelation is bestowed upon all its members for the benefit and enlightenment of each individual receiving its inspiration, and according to the sphere in which he or she is called to labor. But for the entire Church, he who stands at the head is alone appointed to receive revelations by way of commandment and as the end of controversy" (*Messages of the First Presidency* ..., 4:270).

**Wilford Woodruff**: "Brigham ... took the Bible, ... Book of Mormon, and ... Doctrine and Covenants, and laid [them] down before him, and he said: 'There is the written word of God to us, concerning the work of God from the beginning of the world, almost, to our day. ... When compared with the living oracles those books are nothing to me; those books do not convey the word of God direct to us now, as do the words of a Prophet or a man bearing the Holy Priesthood in our day and generation. I would rather have the living oracles than all the writing in the books.'" (Ezra Taft Benson, 14 Fundamentals)

**Harold B. Lee:** “You may not like what comes from the authority of the Church. It may contradict your political ... [or] social views. It may interfere with some of your social life. ... Your safety and ours depends upon whether or not we follow. ... Let’s keep our eye on the President of the Church.” (CR Oct. 1970, 152)

**Ezra Taft Benson:** It is the living prophet who really upsets the world. “Even in the Church ... many are prone to garnish the sepulchers of yesterday’s prophets and mentally stone the living ones.” ... Why? Because the living prophet gets at what we need to know now, and the world prefers that prophets either be dead or mind their own business. Some so-called experts of political science want the prophet to keep still on politics. Some would-be authorities on evolution want the prophet to keep still on evolution. ... How we respond to the words of a living prophet when he tells us what we need to know, but would rather not hear, is a test of our faithfulness. ... Beware of those who would pit the dead prophets against the living prophets, for the living prophets always take precedence. (Ezra Taft Benson, 14 Fundamentals)

**Marion G. Romney:** It is an easy thing to believe in the dead prophets. ... One day when President Grant was living [an elderly] man came over to see me [after general conference]. ... He was very upset about what had been said ... “Do you believe ... Joseph F. Smith was a prophet of God?” “Yes, sir.” ... “Do you believe that Heber J. Grant is a prophet of God?” His answer, “I think he ought to keep his mouth shut about old age assistance.” Now I tell you that a man in his position is on the way to apostasy. He is forfeiting his chances for eternal life. So is everyone who cannot follow the living Prophet of God.

**N. Eldon Tanner:** “The Prophet spoke out clearly on ... our responsibilities. ... A man said to me after that, ‘You know, there are people in our state who believe in following the Prophet in everything they think is right, but when it is something they think isn’t right, and it doesn’t appeal to them, then that’s different. ... Then they become their own prophet. They decide what the Lord wants and what the Lord doesn’t want.’ I thought how true, and how serious when we begin to choose which of the covenants, which of the commandments we will keep and follow. When we decide that there are some of them that we will not keep or follow, we ... become our own prophets, and ... we will be led astray, because we are false prophets to ourselves when we do not follow the Prophet of God. (Ezra Taft Benson, 14 Fundamentals)

## 9. Do I sustain the General and Local Leaders?

**Joseph F. Smith:** “The moment a man says he will not submit to the legally constituted authority of the Church ... he cuts himself off from the privileges and blessings of the Priesthood and Church, and severs himself from the people of God, for he ignores the authority that the Lord has instituted in his Church. These are the men ... that are often so desirous to guide the Church, and to sit in judgment upon the priesthood.” (*Gospel Doctrine*, 45)

**First Presidency (1913):** “From the days of Hiram Page, ... there have been manifestations from delusive spirits to members of the Church. ... When visions, dreams, tongues, prophecy, impressions or any extraordinary gift or inspiration, convey something out of harmony with the accepted revelations of the Church or contrary to the decisions of its constituted authorities, [we] may know that it is *not of God*, no matter how plausible it may appear. ... The Lord’s Church ‘is a house of order.’ It is not governed by individual gifts or manifestations, but by the order and power of the Holy Priesthood as sustained by the voice and vote of the Church in its appointed conferences.” (Robinson, 190)

## 10. Am I finding fault with Church leaders?

Cursed are all those that shall lift up the heel against mine anointed ... and cry they have sinned when they have not sinned before me, saith the Lord, but have done that which was meet in mine eyes, and which I commanded them. (121:16)

I, the Lord, was angry with ... my servant Ezra Booth, and also my servant Isaac Morley ...<sup>16</sup> They sought evil in their hearts, and I, the Lord, withheld my Spirit. They condemned for evil that thing in which there was no evil (D&C 64:15–16)

**Joseph:** “That man who rises up to condemn others, finding fault with the Church, saying that they are out of the way, while he himself is righteous, then know assuredly, that that man is in the high road to apostasy; and if he does not repent, will apostatize, as God lives.” ... “The very step of apostasy commenced with losing confidence in the leaders of this church and kingdom, and that whenever you discerned that spirit you might know that it would lead the possessor of it on the road to apostasy.” (TPC:JS, 315)

**Joseph:** “The devil flatters us that we are very righteous, when we are feeding on the faults of others.” (HC5:24)

**Spencer W. Kimball:** A man “took a stand against the Authorities of the Church. He followed the usual pattern, not apostasy at first, only superiority of knowledge and mild criticism. He loved the brethren, he said, but they failed to see and interpret as he would like. He would still love the Church, he maintained, but his criticism grew and developed into ever-widening circles. He was right, he assured himself; he could not yield in good conscience; he had his pride. His children did not accept his philosophy wholly, but their confidence was shaken. In their frustration, they married out of the Church, and he lost them. He later realized his folly and returned to humbleness, but so very late. He had lost his children.” (CR, Apr 1955)

**Dallin H. Oaks:** “The counsel against speaking evil of Church leaders is not so much for the benefit of the leaders as it is for the spiritual well-being of members who are prone to murmur and find fault.” (*Ensign*, Feb 1987, 70)

**Harold B. Lee:** Unfortunately, some are among us who claim to be Church members but are somewhat like the scoffers in Lehi’s vision—standing aloof and seemingly inclined to hold in derision the faithful who choose to accept Church authorities as God’s special witnesses of the gospel and his agents in directing the affairs of the Church. There are those in the Church who speak of themselves as liberals who ... “read by the lamp of their own conceit.” ... One time I asked one of our Church educational leaders how he would define a liberal in the Church. He answered in one sentence: “A liberal in the Church is merely one who does not have a testimony.” ... Wouldn’t it be a great thing if all who are well schooled in secular learning could hold fast to the “iron rod,” or the word of God, which could lead them, through faith, to an understanding, rather than to have them stray away into strange paths of man-made theories and be plunged into the murky waters of disbelief and apostasy? (*Ensign*, Jun 1971, 5)

**Brigham Young:** “Once ... a feeling came over me that Joseph was not right in his financial management. ... I clearly saw and understood, by the spirit of revelation manifested to me, that if I was to harbor a thought in my heart that Joseph could be wrong in anything, I would begin to lose confidence in him, and that feeling would grow from step to step ... until at last I would have the same lack of confidence in his being the mouthpiece for the Almighty. ... Though I admitted in my feelings and knew all the time that Joseph was a human being and subject to err, still it was none of my business to look after his faults.” (JD 4:297)

## 11. Am I publishing my differences of opinion?

**George Q. Cannon:** “A friend ... wished to know whether we ... considered an honest difference of opinion between a member of the Church and the Authorities of the Church was apostasy. ... We replied that we had not stated that an honest difference of opinion between a member of the Church and the Authorities constituted apostasy, for we could conceive of a man honestly differing in opinion from the Authorities of the Church and yet not be an apostate; but we could not conceive of a man publishing those differences of opinion and seeking by arguments, sophistry and special pleading to enforce them upon the people to produce division and strife and to place the acts and counsels of the Authorities of the Church, if possible, in a wrong light and not be an apostate, for such conduct was apostasy as we understood the term.” (quoted in Ezra Taft Benson, CR 04/1969)

The day cometh that they who will not hear the voice of the *Lord*, neither the voice of *his servants*, neither give heed to the words of the *prophets and apostles*, shall be cut off from among the people;<sup>15</sup> For they have strayed from mine ordinances, and have broken mine everlasting covenant;<sup>16</sup> They seek not the Lord to establish his righteousness, but every man walketh in his own way, and after the image of his own god. (D&C 1:14–16)

And with my servant Almon Babbitt, there are many things with which I am not pleased; behold, he aspieth to establish his counsel instead of the counsel which I have ordained, even that of the Presidency of my Church; and he setteth up a golden calf for the worship of my people. (D&C 124:84)

**Harold B. Lee:** “Those who criticize the leaders of this Church are showing signs of a spiritual sickness which, unless curbed, will bring about eventually spiritual death. ... Those who in public seek by their criticism, to belittle our leaders or bring them into disrepute, will bring upon themselves more hurt than upon those whom they seek thus to malign.” (CR, Oct. 1947, 67)

## 12. Does it contradict the scriptures?

**Harold B. Lee:** “If [one] writes something or speaks something that goes beyond anything that you can find in the standard Church works, unless that one be the prophet...—please note that one exception—you may immediately say, ‘Well, that is his own idea.’ And if he says something that contradicts what is found in the standard Church works, you may know ... that it is false, regardless of the position of the man who says it.” (THBL 540–41)

“If we’re not reading the scriptures daily, our testimonies are growing thinner, our spirituality isn’t increasing in depth” (p. 152)

**Harold B. Lee:** “I don’t dare answer any of your questions unless I can find an answer in the standard works or in the authoritative declarations of presidents of the Church.” (Ensign, Dec. 1972, 3)

**Joseph F. Smith:** “Apostates speak in tongues, ... prophesy; ... claim to have marvelous manifestations. ... The trouble is, we know so little of the truth ourselves and we ... live by it so poorly that almost [anyone] ... may rise up and claim he has had a vision, or some marvelous dream, and however absurd or untrue it may be, he may find believers and followers among those who profess to be Latter-day Saints.” (CR Apr. 1900, p. 40)

## 13. Does it invite and entice to believe and do good?

Every thing which inviteth and enticeth to do good, and to love God, and to serve him, ... and to persuade to believe in Christ, is sent forth by the power and gift of Christ; (Moro. 7:13, 16)

## 14. Does it edify?

That which doth not edify is not of God, and is darkness. (50:23)

I will give unto you a pattern ... that ye may not be deceived ... He that speaketh, whose spirit is contrite, whose language is meek and edifieth, the same is of God if he obey mine ordinances. (52:14)

**Joseph Fielding Smith:** “There is no saying of greater truth than ‘that which doth not edify is not of God.’ And that which is not of God is darkness, it matters not whether it comes in the guise of religion, ethics, philosophy or revelation. No revelation from God will fail to edify.” (Church History and Modern Revelation, 1:201–2)

## 15. Am I doing my duty?

**Joseph:** “The moment you permit yourselves to lay aside any duty that God calls you to perform, to gratify your own desires; the moment you permit yourselves to become careless, you lay a foundation for apostasy.” ... “Any man ... who ... would ignore or ... refuse to obey any known law or commandment or duty ... [or] neglected any duty God required at his hand in attending meetings, filling missions, or obeying counsel, he laid a foundation to lead him to apostasy and this was the reason those men had fallen.” (TPC:JS, 315)

**Brigham Young:** “If people neglect their prayers and other daily duties, ... they quickly begin to love the world, become vain in their imaginations, and liable to go astray, loving all the day long to do those things that the Lord hates, and leaving undone those things that the Lord requires at their hands?” (JD 4:298)

**Heber J. Grant:** “I have never known a person, man or woman, who attended his meetings, and partook of the spirit and inspiration that are present in the meetings of true, faithful Latter-day Saints, who has ever apostatized.” (Gospel Standards, p 42)

## 16. Am I easily offended or provoked to anger?

Hawaiian father with sick daughter (Groberg, Ensign, May 1980, 48)

## 17. Am I worthy of and seeking the Spirit?

At that day, when I shall come in my glory, shall the parable [of the ten virgins] be fulfilled ... For they that are wise and have received the truth, and have taken the Holy Spirit for their guide, and have not been deceived ... they shall not be hewn down and cast into the fire, but shall abide the day. (D&C 45:56–57)

## 18. Do I make it easy for people to return?

“I went to [Joseph] in tears and ... confessed wherein I had erred ... , murmured, or done or said amiss. He frankly forgave me, prayed for me, and blessed me. Thus by experience, I learned more fully to discern and to contrast the two spirits, and to resist the one and cleave to the other. And being tempted in all points, even as others, I learned how to bear with, and excuse, and succor those who are tempted.” (Autobiography of Parley P. Pratt, 183–184)

## Quotes

**Joseph Smith:** “I ... went over to the store, where a number of brethren and sisters were assembled, who had arrived this morning from ... New York. ... I showed them that it was generally in consequence of the brethren disregarding or disobeying counsel that they became dissatisfied and murmured; and many when they arrived here, were dissatisfied with the conduct of some of the Saints, because everything was not done perfectly right, and they get angry, and thus the devil gets advantage over them to destroy them. I told them I was but a man, and they must not expect me to be perfect; if they expected perfection from me, I should expect it from them; but if they would bear with my infirmities and the infirmities of the brethren, I would likewise bear with their infirmities.” (HC 5:181)

**Ezra Taft Benson:** The central feature of pride is enmity... toward God and ... our fellowmen. *Enmity* means “hatred toward.” It is the power by which Satan wishes to reign over us.