

has become changed so that it attracts iron filings or whatever else is subject to magnetic action. Just so, if we, men and women, could wrap ourselves in obedience to God's law, live as we should live, a wonderful change is effected in us, and we, too, can then hear the messages of the unseen world. The principle of revelation and fitness for revelation, should be remembered by all of our people, by you, by me, and by all of us.

#### A SURE GUIDE

There is another thing to be remembered. How can I, a poor human being, distinguish between an impression from God and an impression from an evil source. The devil is always ready to deceive us. You heard Brother Petersen's remarks yesterday recounting a dozen or so of the devices the devil uses in this day to mislead humanity. The test of truth, given us is very simple, easily understood. When an impression comes, call it inspiration or revelation, compare it with the words that issue from the mouth of the prophet who stands at the head of the Church. Then, if your impression is in harmony with his expressed words, it is from God. If it runs counter to the prophet's teachings, your impression is from an evil source.

The Lord wants to speak to us; he wants to guide us. He wants us to hear. His Holy Spirit permeates the universe, touches every heart, and if it is permitted, will carry messages to us from the throne of God. The manner of our lives will help us to receive such messages and to distinguish between those that may come from God and those that come from the evil one.

This Church lives and moves and has its being in revelation—continuous revelation. May we remember our relationship to the living prophet, as we recall the great events of two days ago. God bless us and be with us, and magnify us in our labors, that we may stand as a light before the nations, I pray, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

#### ELDER ANTOINE R. IVINS

##### *Of the First Council of the Seventy*

What a comfort it would have been if I had known last Saturday that I was not going to have any more time than has been allotted to me.

#### SUSTAINING THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH

I have climbed this stairway for fourteen years, and I find it gets no shorter. I used to look into the sympathetic eyes of my father and gain support, and then into the eyes of my uncle, the President of the Church, where I found it. I still look into the eyes of the men who occupy these seats and feel a sympathy, a strength, and a support. My testimony is that it comes from the Spirit of God.

For the first time I have witnessed the inauguration of a Presi-

dent of the Church, and have pledged him my support. I pray that God will make me equal to that pledge. I do not expect him to do his work in exactly the same way as his predecessors have, and I hope that I will not judge him by the yardsticks which they left behind. I grant him the privilege to move in his office as he is inspired by the Spirit of God, and hope that I may have the strength always to support and sustain him, that I may see in the policies which he initiates the advance of the kingdom of God.

I once asked one of my friends what would happen if the President of the Church should die unexpectedly, and he said, "Nothing. It will go right forward." And contrary to the expectations of many people in the Church, this transition has been made with absolute smoothness and without friction so far as I have been able to observe. It is a great and lasting testimony to me.

#### THE CHURCH GIVEN STRENGTH TO CARRY ON

The gospel of Jesus Christ is the plan of life and salvation. It applies while we are here as well as after we shall leave this sphere. It is based on the correct principles that should govern the lives of men. It is the statement of those principles. The Church of God is the vehicle destined to carry into the lives of the people those principles and develop the people to eternal joy and happiness. It would be a sad commentary if this Church should not be so constructed that it could carry on from age to age and meet its opportunity. It has done so in the past. I have seen it work, myself, over a number of years.

There came a time when it moved the people into a desolate region without any opportunity whatsoever, so far as the world thought, and we saw it develop an organization which conquered an arid land, which established principles of right living, and which developed the country and brought distinction to its people. The Church is properly formed; it meets its opportunity.

It teaches us to till the soil. It teaches us cooperative effort. It teaches us the value of education, and sends us on to unlimited efforts in that direction. It meets all the exigencies of life. The Church is a virile, strong, true organization. My worry is not as to the Church so much as to how I shall serve it. If I can serve it faithfully and well, I shall be fortunate.

I pray that God may give me the strength and the power to do it, to hold up the hands of these men who stand at its head, and as I go throughout the Church ministering to the people, that I may be able to carry to them the gospel of love, and sympathy, and true fellowship; in other words, that I may be true to the charge that has been given to me, and if God will give me that power, then I shall be happy. And what I pray for myself, I pray for all of you who are here, evidencing by your presence that you desire to do the same thing. God bless us all, I ask, in the name of Jesus. Amen.