

cisions reached as to the selecting of the President of the Church, I was thinking there had been some rumors as to who might be the counselors and who might not be the counselors, as is always the gossip that attends such reorganizations. But as the President named his counselors and they took their places at the head of the room, down inside me I had a witness that these were the men that the Lord wanted to be the Presidency of the Church. It came to me with a conviction that was as though that truth was being trumpeted in my ears.

Now, I want to impress this upon you. Someone has said it this way, and I believe it to be absolutely true: "That person is not truly converted until he sees the power of God resting upon the leaders of this church, and until it goes down into his heart like fire." Until the members of this church have that conviction that they are being led in the right way, and they have a conviction that these men of God are men who are inspired and have been properly appointed by the hand of God, they are not truly converted.

So I bear you my witness that I know with all my soul, as I knew on that occasion, that those whom the Lord chooses are the ones He needs for a particular time. I heard Elder Orson F. Whitney, a member of the Twelve, say from this pulpit that he didn't believe that these men are necessarily the best living men in the Church, but that there may be many others who live just as righteous lives, or maybe more so, but one thing he did know: that when there is a vacancy and the Lord has need for a person, He looks around and finds the person who is best qualified to fill the position at a given time.

I have lived long enough now in these thirty-one years as a member of the General Authorities to know that is true; and I bear witness that the Lord is guiding this church, and we see daily and constantly in the councils of this church that there is divine guidance. (72-08, p. 103)

***The only person authorized to bring forth new revelation is the prophet.*** If anyone, regardless of his position in the Church, were to advance a doctrine that is not substantiated by the standard Church works, meaning the Bible, the Book of Mormon, the Doctrine and Covenants, and the Pearl of Great Price, you may know that his statement is merely his private opinion. The only one authorized to bring forth any new doctrine is the President of the Church, who, when he does, will declare it as a revelation from God, and it will be

so accepted by the Council of the Twelve and sustained by the body of the Church. And if any man speak a doctrine which contradicts what is in the standard Church works, you may know by that same token that it is false and you are not bound to accept it as truth. (73-26)

***Only the prophet will receive revelation for the Church.*** How can we know when those holding these positions are speaking by the mind and will of the Lord? May I read to you something that has been written for another occasion. We must have in mind that there is only the President of the Church, the presiding high priest, . . . who has the right to receive revelation for the Church, either new or amendatory or to give authoritative interpretation to the scripture which shall be binding on the Church. He is the sole mouthpiece on the earth for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the only true church. He alone may declare the mind and will of God to His people. No officer or any other church in the world has this high right and lofty prerogative. So when any other person, irrespective of who he is, undertakes to do any of these things, you may know that he is not moved upon by the Holy Ghost in so speaking, unless he has special authorization from the President of the Church. (70-11)

***Only the prophet will receive instructions for the Church.*** Sometimes we have people who approach us claiming that they have some gift or power, and they profess some revelation. I remember a man, a big, heavysset, rough-looking fellow, dressed in a working garb, came into my office, and after a few pleasantries and a little introduction, he said to me as though to startle me, "I'm a literal descendant of Aaron." Well, I said, "I have always been curious to see a literal descendant of Aaron." And when he saw that I wasn't too much impressed, he said, "And I have come to claim my right to be the Presiding Bishop of the Church." "Well, now," I said, "that is very well, but there is just one little matter that you have overlooked." And he wanted to know what that was. And then I read to him from the revelations [that] a literal descendant of Aaron may serve without counselors, if called by the President of the Church and ordained to that office (see D&C 68:20; 107:76). "Now you just go back home and wait until the President of the Church sends for you, and then if he ever does send for you, you won't have to have counselors to be