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At the trial of Sidney Rigdon (third address)  
  
      President Young arose and replied -- I feel it a duty to make some remarks in reply to what Brother Marks has said with regard to Brother Rigdon's character.  I have not been beyond the last fall conference to fetch evidence. - There was enough brought forward at the conference, and abundance more could have been presented, but Brother Hyrum plead so hard it was kept back.  Brother Rigdon did enough when he came from Missouri, to cut him off from the priesthood.  He said he never would follow Brother Joseph's revelations any more, contrary to his own convenience.  He said Jesus Christ was a fool to him in sufferings; was this not enough to cut him off?  There was enough to cut him off long ago, but Bro. Marks has endeavored to soft soap the people.  I have known that Brother Marks "had no evidence but the written word;" But if this people have no evidence but the written word, it is quite time to go to the river and be baptized for the remission of their sins.  Who cannot see that Elder Rigdon would sacrifice this people?  Brother Marks says, if there are any ordained to offices equal with Elder Rigdon he don't know it.  He don't know all the ordinations, nor he wont till he knows something more than the written word.

      I know the reason why Brother Joseph said all was right between him and Elder Rigdon; he (Rigdon) was whining all the while because of his sufferings. He wanted to go back to Kirtland.  Brother Hyrum went to Brother Joseph and plead with him again, and begged of Joseph to "bless him -- hold on to him, for I believe he will yet straighten out," and he finally got him ordained.  But did he help Brother Joseph after this?  No. There was then another revelation given for him to move his family near to Brother Joseph.  He finally did, but did he then go to Brother Joseph and assist him in his councils?  He did not.

      If I had the same feelings towards this people that Elder Rigdon and some others have I should hope you would cast us off to-day.  Elder Rigdon is now preaching secretly to the people, to have them go back to Pittsburgh -- go back to the "leeks and onions." He has prophesied in the name of God that we wont build this temple.  As has been previously stated, Elder Rigdon was not in our councils before he went away.  But, Brother Hyrum used to go and see him, and labor with him, and Sidney would make great promises, which would cause Hyrum to come and plead with Joseph again, and say, Brother Joseph bless him, he will come back &c.  He is going contrary to Joseph's instructions, and he shall not lead the innocent to destruction; I say it in the name of Israel's God.  His orders was to go to Pittsburgh and build up a kingdom, but he was positively prohibited from taking any one with him from this place, but, now he wants to divide the people and take them somewhere, to the mountains near Pittsburgh. Elder Rigdon can go to Carthage, and to Warsaw, and he is in no danger from the mob; but can a prophet of God go there with safety?  No, he cannot. -- If I was to lay down my authority in this church, they would soon say, Mr. Young how do you do, I approve of your course.  As to Elder Rigdon's revelations, they are from the same source as Oliver Olney's, Gladden Bishop, Mr. Strang's, &c.  They are from the Devil.  John C. Bennett passed up the river last Tuesday, and called at the upper landing. He sent a messenger to Elder Rigdon and wished to see him, and Elder Rigdon would have gone had not a Mr. Lawrence, (who professes no kind of religion) rebuked him.  If you make Sidney Rigdon your president and leader, you will soon have John C. Bennett here, with the Laws and Fosters and all the murderous clan.  Elder Rigdon was the prime cause of our troubles in Missouri, by his fourth of July oration.  He is liable to be deceived, and has already been deceived.  As to a person not knowing more than the written word, let me tell you that there are keys that the written word never spoke of, nor never will.

      All I ask of men or women to do, is, if they believe in Sidney Rigdon and want him to lead them, I want they should be bold enough to go with him, and not say they want to tarry with the church.  They say they believe in Joseph Smith, and at the same time all their operations are to destroy and tear down what he has built up.