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Copy of a Communication made to the Ministry from all our first Parents.  
March 12<sup>th</sup> 1840.

Beloved Ministry,

Mother has a weighty communication to the beloved Lord who are God's anointed upon earth, and she says I must open it before I sleep.

The time has come, says Mother, that God requires his people to liberate themselves from all that which serves to blind, darken and bewilder the soul. All my first born, says Mother that have kept this gospel, laid the foundation in their own souls, through scenes of deep, yea, very deep tribulation and severe mortification, by day and by night. And by that means they have been able ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ stand thro' all adverse and trying scenes, and have kept my gospel unspotted. And they shall all shortly be gathered home to a peaceable mansion of rest, in the Kingdom of God.

But this deep tribulation and severe mortification the middle aged and rising generation have but in a very small measure, ever known or sensed. Yea, say our heavenly Parents, God has purposed to bring days of heavy and sore tribulation on them, which will try every heart, and cleanse every soul that will abide and keep their faith unspotted. But the holy Angel, which God and his Christ have sent shall not suffer the persecuting hand of the wicked to rage and rail upon my people



to any great extent, untill the remainder of my first begotten are gathered to their peace-  
-able home, where their weary souls can rest. And it is our labor, says Mother, to plant  
a substance of the way and work of God in every soul that is called in Church relations;  
for upon them the burden of keeping this gospel in its purity must shortly fall. For thus  
saith the Lord spoken, says Mother, Except there be a great change wrought in the  
sense and pursuit of many, the time will come when there will be left of my pure  
and holy people upon earth but a small remnant."

There is an evil spirit, says Mother, let loose, and has been wandering, for  
many years, through every Society of my children upon earth. He is an Angel of  
great influence, and has done, and is doing much hurt. His plans have been matured  
and brought into action from the very deepest recesses of wisdom which the serpent possess-  
-es. This angel's name is Agyal de la vino, or Deceit and Deception. His first movement  
amongst my children, says Mother, was to create a thirst, an unclue thirst for knowl-  
-edge, after the rudiments, arts and sciences of the children of this world. He reasons  
and does reason with them in their own feelings after this sort.

Why in early times, I know it was strict; but that was greatly owing to their ignorance,  
mixed with superstition. They knew nothing then, only to do as the Ministry & Elders said. They  
had no philosophical understanding nor scientific knowledge to enable them to look into the nature of things

and see whether they were according to reason, or whether they were necessary at all. But now we live in an age that such superstition as this is greatly done away, and we can see and judge things for ourselves now, according to reason. I am very glad that I did not live in the days of such superstition and rigidity as there was in early times, when people first believed; for there is quite as much superstition now as I know how to get along with; and a great many more orders than there is any need of. It is folly to have so many little frivolous orders about every thing. The Ministry and Elders themselves won't keep them, and I am not a going to: for every man and woman that has any kind of a decent education, knows that three quarters of these little frivolous orders originated in superstition. It is well enough to have a few general orders for the well being of society I know; and that is sufficient.

So this Angel has reasoned, and so he will continue to reason with every one that will hearken and give place for his benighted influence in their spirits. But I say, says Mother, God owns, approves and blesses the labors of his anointed upon earth; for they have labored in sorrow and deep tribulation; and their cries to God have been incessant for the prosperity of Zion. And God has heard their cries, & caused his holy Angels to go forth and adorn Zion in beauty, and array her in glory, that the inhabitants thereof might be adorned with his beautiful gifts, and shine forth, clear as the morning in spring, and as the stars of Heaven in the Kingdom of their God, forever and ever.

You, says Mother, your Elders are true, and their teaching is holy, just and righteous. And those that regard and practice it in spirit and in truth, it will be well with them; but those that slight and disregard it, shall never enter the peaceful abodes of Paradise, nor dwell in the mansions of the upright. Remember, say our heavenly Parents, that God has not sent his holy Angels with us to visit the earth for nought. But that we might open the door of freedom and encouragement to every soul that has a desire to wash and be clean, and be cleansed from their former and present sins; and to shut the door against those that strive to put far away, this their day of our visitation.

The time has come, says Mother, if the beloved Lead feel union, for many things to be cut off, that have heretofore been suffered, for many reasons; and for the time being, it was the best that could be done, considering all circumstances; tho' in general, quite contrary to the feelings of the leading influence in the Church of Christ. But rather than have any soul shut out, thro' hardness of feelings against which must be their overthrow, it was suffered until such times as God in his wisdom, should see fit to return and establish again in Zion, her first pure and holy Laws, which, by reason of disobedience, and going contrary to their counsel, many who now live and make it their home on devoted & consecrated ground,

have trampled under foot and lost. But as I said before, God has purposed that they should again <sup>now</sup> be planted and established in Zion, throughout all her borders beginning at his threshold upon earth.

Search ye your hearts, says Mother, every one for one; and see and know ye for yourselves, (agreeable to the teaching which has been abundantly taught you from time to time through your visible heavenly Lord upon earth, and that which God, in his mercy, has sent special messengers to sound in your ears, and sink into your hearts from the holy Selah in Heaven,) whether the leading influence of your minds, by which you are actuated in your daily pursuits, is mostly to gain the favor of God, and the lamb-like Spirit of Christ; and of your heavenly Parents, by laboring in deep tribulation and humility of soul, with incessant cries to God, that ye may stand as chosen true and faithful heirs of the Kingdom of Christ, separate from the spirit and soul darkening influence of the children of this world, who are yet in their sins & all manner of uncleanness, or whether ye do, in truth, court their favor and friendship by indulging yourselves in their company, and in unnecessary conversation, for sociability's sake, (as you call it) where you have no duty to do, and where you cannot retain the protecting spirit of Christ in simplicity and meekness, & thereby the grandeur forms and fashions of this world become an itching sore in your



minds, which the more you scratch for indulgence, the more it will spread & spread, until it becomes a putrifying sore from the crown of your head to the sole of your foot, and the light of God, in this gospel, is extinguished from the soul.

For if ye think to look to <sup>the</sup> powers of this world, and put your trust in the arm of flesh for protection, God & his holy <sup>Angels</sup> will withdraw from you, and leave you to your own folly, to search for strength where there is no strength and fall by the broken staff whereon you have leaned. Ye, say our heavenly Parents, we again warn all to beware how they press & strive in spirit for that which cannot be owned and blessed by the visible Deceit on earth: for if they do, they incur danger to their souls.

It is the will of God, says Mother, thro' your heavenly Parents, that his people be no longer bound by the laws of the kingdoms of this world, in respect to the education of the youth and children. They should have an opportunity to acquire a suitable education sufficient to transact the ordinary business of life, that becomes necessary for her faithful children in this world; & further than this, will not prove a blessing amongst the inhabitants of the Zion of God upon earth. And thus much, says Mother, you can give them within yourselves. You need no support from those without. And the blessing of God will be a far richer compensation than the gold or the silver of the children of this world, for keeping & maintaining a school, regu-



lated according to the laws they may be pleased to enact by the influence of *Angel de la*  
*vino*, which, at present would nearly effect the work for which he was let loose. So say  
our heavenly Parents.

In all this which we have spoken, says Mother, ye must do as your best wis-  
dom will direct; for God has bestowed his anointing power upon you, to lead his peo-  
ple upon earth. For ye have been faithful & true, and will be to the end.

With this, says Mother, do receive the love of Christ, which his holy & protect-  
ing Angel has brought, together with his own, also the love of all your heavenly  
Parents, with their everlasting blessing for your comfort & strength. It may be received  
with three bows. Yea, says Mother, in a short time I will gather your weary souls  
home, to rest with me in my peaceable mansion which God hath given me.