

4th Mo 1874

to go home just now, for when he commands us to leave you, we shall have to obey him.

Brothers Let me entreat you to think seriously of what will then be your distressed condition. Instead of your good Agents & his friends, with the door open to welcome you, - with his schools for the instruction of your children - with his mill, - & ploughs, - & wagons, - you will be turned over to the soldiers, - with their swords, guns & drums. My heart grows sick when I think of such a change, well knowing how it has always been with the Indians when the soldiers have the charge of them, that sooner or later they have been harassed & destroyed, & as your true friend I fear this will be your sad experience.

Brothers Although it is growing dark, yet there is a little light left, Washingtons door is not quite closed, you still may become a happy people & all I can now do, all that your friends can now do, is to look up to the Great & good Spirit who made both you & us, & beg him that he will change your hearts, & incline you to live in peace both with your Indian brethren & the white people.

We know, & I am persuaded some of you also know, that stealing, & murder is exceedingly displeasing to the Great Spirit, & he has promised to reward all men according to their deeds. To all those who love him, & do those things please him he has promised happiness not only in this life but in that beyond the grave, But to the Wicked, whether they be white or red, sorrow, pain & death."

Or J. C. Rhodes then addressed them in substance as follows, though perhaps not exactly verbatim.