

Funeral Services For

*Joseph Smith Jr.
The Prophet*



In Loving Memory

*Joseph Smith, the Prophet and Seer of the
Lord, has done more, save Jesus only, for the
salvation of men in this world, than any other
man that ever lived in it.*

-John Taylor -D&C 135:3

Services Provided by:

S&I Mortuary



He lived great, and he died great in the eyes of God and his people; and like most of the Lord's anointed in ancient time, has sealed his mission and his works with his own blood; and so has his brother Hyrum. In life they were not divided, and in death they were not separated!

-John Taylor –Doctrine & Covenants 135:3

Accomplishments

- Translated the Book of Mormon.
- Received hundreds of revelations, many of which are published in the Doctrine and Covenants and Pearl of Great Price.
- Instrument in the restoring of the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthood
- He unfolded eternal principles in a legacy of letters, sermons, poetry, and other inspired writing that fill volumes.
- Prophet of the restoring of Christ Church to the earth.
- Founded the City of Nauvoo Illinois
- Superintended the building of two temples
- He introduced vicarious ordinance work for the dead and restored temple ordinances by which worthy families could be sealed by the priesthood of God for eternity.
- He ran for the presidency of the United States.
- Served as a judge and mayor of Nauvoo
- Served as lieutenant general of the Nauvoo Legion

Program

ConductingClass Representative

Opening Hymn.....”A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief”
Hymn 29

Invocation..... By Invitation

Life’s Sketch Parley P. Pratt

Accomplishments Class Representative

Remarks Lucy Mack Smith

Remarks John Taylor

Video

Joseph Smith – Prophet of the Restoration

Class Testimonies

Closing Hymn “Praise to the Man”
Hymn 27

Benediction By Invitation

Conductor's Opening Words:

We would like to welcome each of you to these funeral services this evening:

To seal the testimony of this book and the Book of Mormon, we announce the martyrdom of Joseph Smith the Prophet, and Hyrum Smith the Patriarch. They were shot in Carthage jail, on the 27th of June, 1844, about five o'clock p.m., by an armed mob—painted black—of from 150 to 200 persons. Hyrum was shot first and fell calmly, exclaiming: *I am a dead man!* Joseph leaped from the window, and was shot dead in the attempt, exclaiming: *O Lord my God!* They were both shot after they were dead, in a brutal manner, and both received four balls.

John Taylor and Willard Richards, two of the Twelve, were the only persons in the room at the time; the former was wounded in a savage manner with four balls, but has since recovered; the latter, through the providence of God, escaped, without even a hole in his robe.

We will begin these funeral services by singing hymn 29, "A Poor Wayfaring Man of Grief". This hymn was one of Joseph Smith's favorites and sung the day of his martyrdom.

After the hymn we will have an invocation by _____.

(Stand again)

In our funeral services this morning we will first hear from Parley P. Pratt, an intimate friend of the Prophet, who will give a "Life's Sketch" of the Prophet's life. Then we will proceed as outlined in the program.

After the video, there will be time for the bearing of testimonies so through the program this evening, be thinking of how you feel about the Prophet and his life.

Life's Sketch of Joseph Smith Jr. By Parley P. Pratt

- Born in Sharon, Vermont in 1805
- Had a leg operation after typhoid fever set in at age 7
- Received the First Vision at age 14
- Visited by the Angel Moroni five times at the age of 17
- Married Emma Hale at age 21
- Received and began to translate the Book of Mormon at age 21
- Received the Aaronic and Melchizedek Priesthoods at age 23
- Reorganized the Church of Jesus Christ at age 24
- Tarred and feathered by a mob at age 26
- Led Zion's Camp to Missouri at age 26
- Dedicated the Kirtland Temple at age 30
- Martyred in Carthage Jail on June 27th 1844 at the age of 38

“President Joseph Smith was in person tall and well built, strong and active, of a light complexion, light hair, blue eyes, very little beard, and of an expression peculiar to himself, on which the eye naturally rested with interest, and was never weary of beholding. His countenance was ever mild, affable, beaming with intelligence and benevolence; mingled with a look of interest and an unconscious smile, or cheerfulness, and entirely free from all restraint or

affectation of gravity; and there was something connected with the serene and steady penetrating glance of his eye, as if he would penetrate the deepest abyss of the human heart, gaze into eternity, penetrate the heavens, and comprehend all worlds.

“He possessed a noble boldness and independence of character; his manner was easy and familiar; his rebuke terrible as the lion; his benevolence unbounded as the ocean; his intelligence universal, and his language abounding in original eloquence peculiar to himself- not polished- not studied- not smoothed and softened by education and refined by art; but flowing forth in its own native simplicity, and profusely abounding in variety of subject and manner. He interested and edified, while, at the same time, he amused and entertained his audience; and none listened to him that were ever weary with his discourse. I have even known him to retain a congregation of willing and anxious listeners for many hours together, in the midst of cold or sunshine, rain or wind, while they were laughing at one moment and weeping the next. Even his most bitter enemies were generally overcome, if he could once get their ears.”

Accomplishments

(As seen in the program)

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Remarks by Lucy Mack Smith
(The Mother of Joseph & Hyrum)

I lost two of my sons that day at Carthage. "After the corpses were washed and dressed in their burial clothes, we were allowed to see them. I had for a long time braced every nerve, roused every energy of my soul, and called upon God to strengthen me; but when I entered the room, and saw my murdered sons extended both at once before my eyes, and heard the sobs and groans of my family, and the cries of "Father! Husband! Brothers!" from the lips of their wives, children, brothers, and sisters, it was too much. I sank back, crying to the Lord, in the agony of my soul, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken this family!" A voice replied, "I have taken them to myself, that they might have rest!"

Emma was carried back to her room almost in a state of insensibility.

Her oldest son approached the corpse, and dropped upon his knees, and laying his cheek against his father's, and kissing him, exclaimed, "Oh, my father, my father!"

As for myself, I was swallowed up in the depths of my afflictions; and, though my soul was filled with horror past imagination, yet I was dumb, until I arose again to contemplate the spectacle before me. Oh! at that moment how my mind flew through every scene of sorrow and distress which we had passed together, in which they had shown the innocence and sympathy which filled their guileless hearts!

As I looked upon their peaceful, smiling countenances, I seemed almost to hear them say, "Mother, weep not for us, we have overcome the world by love; we carried to them the gospel, that their souls might be saved; they slew us for our testimony, and thus placed us beyond their power; their ascendancy is for a moment, ours is an eternal triumph." (Lucy Smith, *Joseph Smith the Prophet and His Progenitors*, 354-355)

Testimony of John Taylor

I was there and witnessed the awful seen. I have written my testimony of the events in your Doctrine and Covenants. Turn with me to Doctrine and Covenants 135 verse 3 and read along with me.

[Pause for them to find D&C 135:3]

Joseph Smith, the Prophet and Seer of the Lord, has done more, save Jesus only, for the salvation of men in this world, than any other man that ever lived in it. In the short space of twenty years, he has brought forth the Book of Mormon, which he translated by the gift and power of God, and has been the means of publishing it on two continents; has sent the fullness of the everlasting gospel, which it contained, to the four quarters of the earth; has brought forth the revelations and commandments which compose this book of Doctrine and Covenants, and many other wise documents and instructions for the benefit of the children of men; gathered many thousands of the Latter-day Saints, founded a great city, and left a fame and name that cannot be slain. He lived great, and he died great in the eyes of God and his people; and like most of the Lord's anointed in ancient times, has sealed his mission and his works with his own blood; and so has his brother Hyrum. In life they were not divided, and in death they were not separated!

When Joseph went to Carthage to deliver himself up to the pretended requirements of the law, two or three days previous to his assassination, he said: "I am going like a lamb to the slaughter; but I am calm as a summer's morning; I have a conscience void of offense towards God, and towards all men. I shall die innocent, and it shall yet be said of me—he was murdered in cold blood."

The testators are now dead, and their testament is in force.

Skip to verse 6 with me.

Hyrum Smith was forty-four years old in February, 1844, and Joseph Smith was thirty-eight in December, 1843; and henceforward their names will be classed among the martyrs of religion; and the reader in every nation will be reminded that the Book of Mormon, and this book of Doctrine and Covenants of the church, cost the best blood of the nineteenth century to bring them forth for the salvation of a ruined world; and that if the fire can scathe a green tree for the glory of God, how easy it will burn up the dry trees to purify the vineyard of corruption. They lived for glory; they died for glory; and glory is their eternal reward. From age to age shall their names go down to posterity as gems for the sanctified.

They were innocent of any crime, as they had often been proved before, and were only confined in jail by the conspiracy of traitors and wicked men; and their *innocent blood* on the floor of Carthage jail is a broad seal affixed to "Mormonism" that cannot be rejected by any court on earth, and their *innocent blood* on the escutcheon of the State of Illinois, with the broken faith of the State as pledged by the governor, is a witness to the truth of the everlasting gospel that all the world cannot impeach; and their *innocent blood* on the banner of liberty, and on the *magna charta* of the United States, is an ambassador for the religion of Jesus Christ, that will touch the hearts of honest men among all nations; and their *innocent blood*, with the innocent blood of all the martyrs under the altar that John saw, will cry unto the Lord of Hosts till he avenges that blood on the earth. Amen.