

## LESSON 32 *by Dennis Roberts*

### **“To Seal the Testimony”**

**(Objective: teach members about Joseph’s Smith’s martyrdom**

#### **Welcome**

Who is this Joseph Smith anyway?

#### **1- Joseph Smith sealed his testimony with his blood**

- a. OH pg 62-64 Summary of martyrdom
- b. OH pg 63 Dan Jones
- c. D&C 135:4-5 Why do you think Joseph was so calm?
- d. Ether 12:36-38 How can this scripture bring comfort?
- e. D&C 135:1-2 What feelings does the martyrdom evoke?
- f. D&C 135:6 What impresses you most about Joseph Smith?

#### **2- JS did more for our salvation than anyone except Jesus**

- a. D&C 135:3 What are some of JS’s major achievements?
  1. Godhead ..... Three beings with bodies and human form
  2. Priesthood..... Offices, organizations, duties, blessings
  3. Godhood ..... Children of God with eternal potential
  4. Scriptures..... McConkie: “More scriptures than any prophet”
  5. Plan of Salvation ..... Knowledge and comfort
  6. Temple Work..... Ordinances and eternal families
  7. Others: ..... Restoration, missionary work, Articles of Faith, Word of Wisdom, Zion building, law of consecration, etc.
- b. *Supplement #2 Two contrasting quotes*
- c. Why is it important that members have a testimony of JS?
- d. How did your testimony of JS develop?

#### **3- Video presentation**

- a. Video “Joseph Smith: The Prophet of the Restoration”
- b. Video “The Martyrdom of Joseph Smith”
- c. *Supplement #3 Joseph Smith and Jesus Christ*

#### **How does this apply to me?**

*How can members of the Granger 18<sup>th</sup> ward demonstrate our gratitude to Joseph Smith, his family, and close loyal friends?*

*Supplement #4 Hymn #27 / Praise to the Man*

#### **Two Minutes**

Elder Willard Richards, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve and a close friend of the Prophet, was present at the jail during the mob’s attack and gave this account, which begins as the mob arrived just after 5:00 pm on 27 June 1844:

**“A shower of musket balls were thrown up the stairway against the door of the prison in the second story, followed by many rapid footsteps...A ball was sent through the door, which passed between us, and showed that our enemies were desperados... Joseph Smith, Mr. Taylor, and myself sprang back to the front part of the room, and...Hyrum Smith retreated two-thirds across the chamber directly in front of and facing the door. A ball was sent through the door which hit Hyrum on the side of his nose, when he fell backwards, extended at length, without moving his feet. From the holes in his [clothing], it appears evident that a ball must have been thrown from without, through the window, which entered his back on the right side, and passing through, lodged against his watch...At the same instant the ball from the door entered his nose. As he struck the floor, he exclaimed emphatically, “I am a dead man.” Joseph looked towards him and responded, ‘Oh, dear brother Hyrum!’ and opening the door two or three inches with his left hand, discharged one barrel of a six shooter (pistol) at random in the entry...A ball [from a musket of one of the mob] grazed Hyrum’s breast, and entering his throat passed into his head, while other muskets were aimed at him and some balls hit him. Joseph continued snapping his revolver round the casing of the door into the space as before..., while Mr. Taylor with a walking stick stood by his side and knocked down the bayonets and muskets which were constantly discharged through the doorway...When the revolver failed, we had no more firearms, and expected an immediate rush of the mob, and the doorway full of muskets, half way in the room, and no hope but instant death from within. Mr. Taylor rushed into the window, which is some fifteen or twenty feet from the ground. When his body was nearly on balance, a ball from the door within entered his leg, and a ball from without struck his watch...in his vest pocket near the left breast, ... the force of which ball threw him back on the floor, and he rolled under the bed which stood by his side... Joseph attempted, a the last resort, to leap [from] the same window from whence Mr. Taylor fell, when two balls pierced him from the door, and one entered his right breast from without, and he fell outward, exclaiming, ‘Oh Lord, my God!’ ... He fell on his left side a dead man”**

*(History of the Church, 6:619-20)*

#### **Next Lesson**

Lesson 33 / Study Guide, page 18 / “President Brigham Young”

## LESSON 32 SUPPLEMENTS *by Dennis Roberts*

### SUPPLEMENT #1

### Carthage Jail



### SUPPLEMENT #2

### Two contrasting quotes

## Joseph's Legacy

#### D&C 135

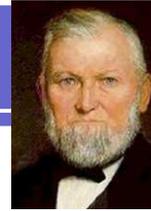
"Joseph Smith, the Prophet and Seer of the Lord, has done more, save Jesus only, for the salvation of men in this world, than any other man that ever lived in it. ... He lived great, and he died great in the eyes of God and his people; and like most of the Lord's anointed in ancient times, has sealed his mission and his works with his own blood; and so has his brother Hyrum. ... Their innocent blood ... is a witness to the truth of the everlasting gospel that all the world cannot impeach

#### Gov. Thomas Ford

Thus fell Joe Smith, the most successful impostor in modern times; a man who, though ignorant and coarse, had some great natural parts which fitted him for temporary success, but which were so obscured and counteracted by the inherent corruption and vices of his nature that *he never could succeed in establishing a system of policy which looked to permanent success in the future*

### SUPPLEMENT #3

### Jesus Christ and Joseph Smith



## Wilford Woodruff

Joseph Smith was what he professed to be, a prophet of God, a seer and revelator. He laid the foundation of this Church and kingdom, and lived long enough to deliver the keys of the kingdom to the Elders of Israel, unto the Twelve Apostles.

He spent the last winter of his life, some three or four months, with the Quorum of the Twelve, teaching them. It was not merely a few hours ministering to them the ordinances of the Gospel; but **he spent day after day, week after week and month after month**, teaching them and a few others the things of the kingdom of God.

Said he, during that period, 'I now rejoice. I have lived until I have seen this burden, which has rested on my shoulders, rolled on to the shoulders of other men; now the keys of the kingdom are planted on the earth to be taken away no more for ever.' ... he lived until every key, power and principle of the holy Priesthood was sealed on the Twelve and on President Young, as their President.

He told us that he was going away to leave us, going away to rest. Said he, 'You have to round up your shoulders to bear up the kingdom. No matter what becomes of me. I have desired to see that Temple built, but I shall not live to see it. You will; you are called upon to bear off this kingdom.' This language was plain enough, but we did not understand it any more than the disciples of Jesus when he told them he was going away... (JD, 13:164)

### SUPPLEMENT #4

### Hymn #27 / Praise to the Man

Praise to the man who communed with Jehovah!  
Jesus anointed that Prophet and Seer.  
Blessed to open the last dispensation,  
Kings shall extol him, and nations revere.  
Hail to the Prophet, ascended to heaven!  
Traitors and tyrants now fight him in vain--  
Mingling with Gods, he can plan for his brethren;  
Death cannot conquer the hero again.  
Praise to his mem'ry, he died as a martyr  
Honored and blest be his ever great name!  
Long shall his blood, which was shed by assassins,  
Plead unto heav'n while the earth lauds his fame.  
Great is his glory and endless his priesthood.  
Ever and ever the keys he will hold.  
Faithful and true, he will enter his kingdom,  
Crowned in the midst of the prophets of old.  
Sacrifice brings forth the blessings of heaven;  
Earth must atone for the blood of that man.  
Wake up the world for the conflict of justice.  
Millions shall know "Brother Joseph" again.<sup>(21)</sup>



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Read Two Minutes instead?

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- f. D&C 135:6 What impresses you most about Joseph Smith?

Read from Roberts connection with DJ

### 2- JS did more for our salvation than anyone except Jesus

- a. D&C 135:3 What are some of JS’s major achievements?
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### 3- Video presentation

- a. Video “Joseph Smith: The Prophet of the Restoration”
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- c. Supplement #3 Joseph Smith and Jesus Christ

13 min

2 min

### How does this apply to me?

How can members of the Granger 18<sup>th</sup> ward demonstrate our gratitude to Joseph Smith, his family, and close loyal friends?

Supplement #4 Hymn #27 / Praise to the Man

Shanna play digital piano

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