Study Guide 23

UNIT 12: Martyrdom, Succession, and Exodus West Day 1: Martyrdom of Joseph and Hyrum Smith

D&C 135, 12.1, 12.2

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Instructions:  The purpose of the study guide is to direct your course of study of the Foundations of the Restoration, and assist you to focus on important salient points of your reading and study. The study guides are due on Learning Suite each class period by **8:59 am**. Your upload should only include the questions with your answers highlighted in yellow.

**Church History:**

**People (Go to JosephSmithPapers.org and search under Reference and People):**

**Places (Look at the Maps in your Scriptures):**

***D&C 135***

1. What was the date, time, and place of the martyrdom?
   1. June 27th 1844
   2. 5:00 pm
   3. Carthage jail
2. Who besides Joseph and Hyrum were eyewitnesses of the martyrdom?
   1. John Taylor
   2. Willard Richards
3. What were Joseph and Hyrum Smith’s last words?
   1. “Oh Lord, my God!”
   2. “I am a dead man!”
4. In your own words, what apostolic tribute was given to the Prophet Joseph Smith after the martyrdom? (verse 3)
   1. Joseph accomplished many things during his life, including founding a church, bringing forth the Book of Mormon and many other revelations. He devoted his life to the salvation of God’s children and died for his testimony of truth.
5. What is meant by "the testators are now dead, and their testament is in force" (vs. 5; compare to D&C 136:39 and Hebrews 9:16)?
   1. Joseph and Hyrum were murdered for their belief in the restored gospel. Their true testament of their faith was put in force the moment they were killed. Any time before that they could’ve admitted the whole religion was made up, but they sealed their testimony with their blood.
6. How old were Hyrum and Joseph when they died. Did you already know this before reading this section again for the class?
   1. Hyrum was 44
   2. Joseph was 38
   3. I knew Joseph’s age but not Hyrum’s

**12.1 Martyrdom at Carthage**

1. Is there evidence Joseph knew he would be killed?
   1. Yes. Just 5 days before his death he said to colonel Markham that him and Hyrum would be killed if they were taken again.
2. Why did Joseph and Hyrum turn back from their trek to the Rocky Mountains for safety?
   1. They heard that the governor would have troops watching over Nauvoo until Joseph and Hyrum delivered themselves up and they feared for the lives of the people.
3. During the Carthage commotion leading up to the Martyrdom, the text says that only two members of the Twelve Apostles at the time were in the Western Frontier. Where were the other 10?
   1. They were on missions in the eastern United States.
4. How did the Prophet’s declaration to Willard Richards from a year previous to the martyrdom come true?
   1. ­­Joseph had prophesied to him over a year before that the time would come when he would not receive a hole in his robe, though balls would fly around him like hail and friends would fall dead by his side.
5. How many people filed through the Mansion House on June 28th to see the bodies of Joseph and Hyrum?
   1. 10,000

***12.2 Two Minutes in Jail***

1. What does "desperado" mean and why do you think it was significant enough for Willard Richards to include this detail in his account? (Feel free to consult a dictionary)
   1. Desperado means a reckless or desperate criminal
   2. He included it in his account to illustrate the type of people those of the mob were to give context to the way they reacted.
2. Briefly describe in your own words how you see the situation with Joseph, John Taylor, and Willard Richards trying to hold off the mob, and what weapons each of these men wielded in defense.
   1. After Hyrum was shot Joseph used a 6 shot pistol to fire shots in the direction of the mob. John Taylor stood by joseph and used a walking sick to knock down bayonets and muskets which were constantly discharging through the doorway. Willard Richards also stood by with another stick ready to lend assistance.
3. After John Taylor hid under the bed and was brutally shot, what did Willard Richards do to protect him?
   1. He brought him into the inner prison, or dungeon, and stretched him on the floor and covered him with a bed in a way to hide him in case the mob came back.
4. At this point, we’d like to invite you to share something surrounding the Martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith that is special to you. This can be something new gleaned from this unit, or this semester in another class/experience. It can even be something that you’ve felt for a long time, and are simply reminded of it because of this Unit. Essentially, it’s your opportunity to testify, and for us to be edified :)
   1. Something about the martyrdom that sticks out to me is the fact that after Joseph did as much fighting back as he could, he then decided to jump out the window. It was a long fall down, and he must’ve known they were surrounded by the mob, so I would have to think that he went out the window in order to divert the fire away from the other men inside. It’s cool to think that even in Joseph’s dying moments he was still thinking about others.