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An Overview of the
34 Wives
of
Joseph Smith Jr.

THE WIVES OF JOSEPH SMITH

| <u>Wife</u> | <u>Date</u> | <u>Age</u> | <u>*Living Husband</u> |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------|------------------------|
| Emma Hale | Jan 1827 | 22 | |
| Fanny Alger | 1833 | 16 | |
| Lucinda Morgan Harris | 1838 | 37 | *George W. Harris |
| Louisa Beaman | Apr 1841 | 26 | |
| Zina Huntington Jacobs (s) | Oct 1841 | 20 | *Henry Jacobs |
| Presendia Huntington Buell (s) | Dec 1841 | 31 | *Norman Buell |
| Agnes Coolbrith | Jan 1842 | 33 | |
| Sylvia Sessions Lyon (d) | Feb 1842 | 23 | *Windsor Lyon |
| Mary Rollins Lightner | Feb 1842 | 23 | *Adam Lightner |
| Patty Bartlett Sessions (m) | Mar 1842 | 47 | *David Sessions |
| Marinda Johnson Hyde | Apr 1842 | 27 | *Orson Hyde |
| Elizabeth Davis Durfee | Jun 1842 | 50 | *Jabez Durfee |
| Sarah Kingsley Cleveland | Jun 1842 | 53 | *John Cleveland |
| Delcena Johnson (s) | Jul 1842 | 37 | |
| Eliza R. Snow | Jun 1842 | 38 | |
| Sarah Ann Whitney | Jul 1842 | 17 | |
| Martha McBride | Aug 1842 | 37 | |
| Ruth Vose Sayers | Feb 1843 | 33 | *Edward Sayers |
| Flora Ann Woodworth | 1843 | 16 | |
| Emily Dow Partridge (s) | Mar 1843 | 19 | |
| Eliza Maria Partridge (s) | Mar 1843 | 22 | |
| Almera Johnson (s) | Apr 1843 | 30 | |
| Lucy Walker | May 1843 | 17 | |
| Sarah Lawrence (s) | May 1843 | 17 | |
| Maria Lawrence (s) | May 1843 | 19 | |
| Helen Mar Kimball | May 1843 | 14 | |
| Hanna Ells | 1843 | 29 | |
| Elvira Cowles Holmes | Jun 1843 | 29 | *Jonathan Holmes |
| Rhoda Richards | Jun 1843 | 58 | |
| Desdemona Fullmer | Jul 1843 | 32 | |
| Olive Frost | 1843 | 27 | |
| Melissa Lott | Sep 1843 | 19 | |
| Nancy M. Winchester | 1843 | 14 | |
| Fanny Young | Nov 1843 | 56 | |

****Polyandrous Marriages – The wife of a living husband at the time of marriage with Joseph Smith Jr.***

(m) Mother, (d) Daughter, (s) Sister sets

POINTS OF INTEREST

- Ten of Joseph Smith's wives were teenage girls –two 14 year old and two 16 year old girls.
- Joseph married a mother and her daughter – Patty Bartlett Sessions and Sylvia Sessions Lyon.
God said, *“If a man take a wife and her mother, it is wickedness: they shall be burned with fire, both he and they; that there be no wickedness among you”* Leviticus 20:14, see also Lev. 18:17.
- Joseph married several sets of sisters (Huntingtons, Partridges, Johnsons, Lawrences)
God said, *“Neither shalt thou take a wife to her sister... to uncover her nakedness, beside the other in her lifetime”* Leviticus 18:18.
- Eleven marriages were to women who had living husbands. All of these married women lived in ongoing ‘polyandrous’ relationships with both their husbands and Joseph Smith.

God said, *“The man that committeth adultery with another man's wife... the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death”* Leviticus 20:10.

Marrying married women was also adultery according to Joseph's own teachings,

“If any man espouse a virgin, and desire to espouse another, and the first give her consent... and they are virgins, and have vowed to no other man, then is he justified; he cannot commit adultery for they are given unto him; for he cannot commit adultery with that that belongeth unto him and to no one else... But if one or either of the ten virgins, after she is espoused, shall be with another man, she has committed adultery”
D&C 132:61-63.

LDS SOURCES

www.WivesofJosephSmith.org

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