

Extermination, Haun's Mill etc.

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11:00 AM

July 4, 1838 - The town of Far West selects Sidney Rigdon to speak to them for the celebration. He called it the Salt Sermon, His sermon basically says there are people in the audience who have lost their savor and ought to be cast out and trodden under foot of man (killed). He even went so far as to name those people. One man attending, Samson Averd, takes it literally and forms a secret society within the church, sometimes called "the big fan" or "big brother" the main term was "Danites". Joseph would hold church court and then the Danites would later hold court. They believed that Christ's atonement was not infinite- that there were three sins that were not forgivable - murder, adultery and denying the Holy Ghost. They believed that they needed to help their brothers to atone for their own sins through a bloodletting. The people who had been kicked out of the church ran out of the town to Richmond. The people in Richmond were fearful because it was the first city out of the Mormon reservation. They were sending letters to Governor Boggs with false accusations towards the Mormons. David Whitmer eventually becomes the Mayor of Richmond. W.W. Phelps goes a long ways, finally a letter catches up with him saying that "the war is over. Friends at first are friends at last". W.W. Phelps comes back to the church and writes "Praise to the Man".

Joseph is worried about the saints left in Kirtland. He sends the seventies to go and get the poor left in Kirtland to bring them to Caldwell County. They stop at a place called Haun's Mill. Jacob Haun tells them to stay there instead of going all the way to Far West. He hires anyone who would like to be there. He writes a letter to Joseph asking if it's ok. Joseph writes back that if the seventies want to save the lives of the poor from Kirtland that they would send them immediately to Far West. Jacob Haun writes his own letter saying that the saints are allowed to stay from Joseph Smith.

August 1838 - Local election in Galleton. The LDS men were not permitted to vote and finally one of the Danites calls a cry for help. There was a short skirmish but it only lasted two minutes. However this fight at the polls causes the citizens of Galleton to write to Boggs which gets him to send out the whole militia, they are told to go and ask every man woman and child "Is Joseph Smith a prophet?" "Is the Book of Mormon the word of God?" If they answer yes then send them to Caldwell County. From August - October is called the driving of the Mormons. They take all of their possessions and then loot, pillage and burn. October 25th - word reaches Far West that some of our people had been taken prisoner and were being tortured. David W. Patton decides to take others with him to go and rescue these friends. This is the Battle of Crooked River. We rescue the prisoners, there were deaths on both sides. Gideon Carter, David W. Patton were both killed in battle. Gideon was so disfigured by the militia that he was unrecognizable except by his pants and his ring. October 27th- When Governor Boggs hears that blood has been shed, he issues his extermination order. The first time this is carried out is October 30th in Haun's Mill. No questions were asked the militia comes in and starts firing. The men tell the women to flee to the forest with their children. The men run to the blacksmith's shop to get guns, they had the old fashioned guns that took forever to load. The death chamber of Haun's Mill was the blacksmith's shop. The soldiers stuck their guns through the chinks in the logs and just start firing away. Thomas McBride, an elderly man hiding in a tent was shot and quartered. Jacob Haun left town and made it out alive. Some of the women came back to the mill only to see this carnage. The women had to bury their husbands by throwing them in a well. Amanda Smith lost several family members. She was the one who made the poultice for her son's hip that she saw in a vision. DeWitt, Adam-ondi-Ahman, were all treated similarly. By October 31st - Joseph has heard all of what has happened and turns to our general George Hinkel and says they need to defend themselves. They make Far West like a walled city using wagons. George meets with General Samuel Lucas and asks what they can do to save Far West. They say they will save the city if they can have 9 prisoners. George Hinkel tells Joseph that they will preserve the city if these 9 prisoners will just meet with the militia leader. It isn't until they get out to the militia that Joseph finds out that him and these 9 others are prisoners. Joseph turns to George Hinkel and gives him a new name- Judas Iscariot Hinkel. This is called the night the wolves howled, which was a mob cry. The idea was that Joseph was a wolf and if he was killed then the sheep

could return to being regular people. Father Smith knew that his sons were in the enemies hands and he says to Lucy "They have killed my sons and I cannot live another instant." He never really recovered from that night. Joseph knew he was in a very precarious situation. Samuel Lucas calls for a military tribunal- Joseph and the others were civilians, not military. In Liberty, Missouri Alexander Donophan gets a letter from the Governor's office saying that he is the brigadeer General of the forces in Clay county. When he finds that his assignment was to go and exterminate the mormons. He shows up at the military tribunal, and asks who is defending the men, comes and defends the men. He puts forth a masterful argument but the tribunal decides that they still will kill these 9 men by a firing squad in the city square of Far West (the temple site). Alexander Donophan is given the order to do so and he gives a letter to Samuel Lucas saying that he won't do it, and if Samuel does so that he will try him for cold blooded murder and that he will take him before a military tribunal. He also says that one day they will meet on the battlefield and see who was the better man. November 1- Samuel Lucas is scared to death of Donophan. Lucas decides that he really wants to run for Governor of the state of Missouri. He decides to take the prisoners to the city of Independence to show them off to the citizens of Independence.