The Men who would be President

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Joseph Smith</th>
<th>Abraham Lincoln</th>
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<td>1844</td>
<td>1861</td>
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Joseph Smith called of God

Wherefore, I the Lord, knowing the calamity which should come upon the inhabitants of the earth, called upon my servant Joseph Smith, Jun., and spake unto him from heaven, and gave him commandments; D&C 1:17

Abraham Lincoln called of God?

President Heber J. Grant

“Every Latter-Day Saint believes that Abraham Lincoln was raised up and inspired of God, and that he reached the Presidency of the United States under the favor of our Heavenly Father.

We honor Abraham Lincoln because we believe absolutely that God honored him and raised him to be the instrument in His hands of saving the Constitution and the Union.”

Improvement Era, February 1940

Reed Smoot: Senator, Apostle

Speech on Lincoln to the US Senate
February 12, 1927

“It was [Lincoln's] faith in God that made him a guide, a prophet and a seer.”
Parallels

- Joseph Smith: December 7, 1805
  - Vermont

- Abraham Lincoln February 12, 1809
  - Kentucky

- Both sought truth early

- Strong athletic, fun loving

Second Great Awakening

Abraham Lincoln: Infidel
Joseph Smith: Fraud

- Joined no church
- Predestination
- Eternal damnation
- All may be saved
- Adam’s transgression
- Manuscript

- Manuscript Book of Mormon

Illinois neighbors

- Both in Illinois between 1839 and 1844

- Lincoln read dozens of articles on Joseph Smith and the Mormons

- Lincoln in Carthage, 10 miles from Nauvoo in April 1839

- Carthage Jail, built in 1839

Orville Browning

- Fellow State Legislator with Lincoln

- Close friend

- US Senator and frequent visitors/confidants to President Lincoln

- In Quincy when exiled Saints arrived
  - Cousin Jonathon Browning

- Represented Joseph Smith in Monmouth trial
  - Had Judge Stephen A. Douglas in tears
James Adams
- Flight from New York
- Lawsuit
- Father figure
- Buffer
- Temple ordinances

John T. Stuart
- Lincoln’s first law partner
- Congressman
- “Speed says he wrote you what Jo. Smith said about you as he passed here. We will procure the names of some of his people here and send them to you before long.”

Joseph Smith’s people in Springfield
- Some 17 families fleeing Kirtland
- Samuel and Katherine Mulliner
- Almon Babbitt
- Springfield Branch

1845: Gov. Ford commissions S.A. Douglas to form militia and negotiate the removal of the Mormons from Illinois.
- Friends and former Congressmen John J. Hardin and Edward Baker
  Led armed militias to Nauvoo in 1846
- Why not Lincoln?
The Men who would be President

Joseph Smith 1844
Abraham Lincoln 1861

Joseph Smith  Abraham Lincoln
On Slavery

“If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong.”

“Petition, also, ye goodly inhabitants of the slave states, your legislators to abolish slavery by the year 1850.”

“If slavery is not wrong, nothing is wrong.”

“Now, at the end of three years struggle the nation’s condition is not what either party, or any man devised, or expected. God alone can claim it.”

D&C 87 in 1832
“The Southern States shall divide against the Northern States.”

“I want every man to have a chance—and I believe a black man is entitled to it…”

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

Joseph Smith  Abraham Lincoln
On Compensated Emancipation

“Pray Congress to pay every man a reasonable price for his slaves…”

In Lincoln’s final Cabinet meeting he asked them again to consider compensated emancipation.

…save the abolitionists from reproach and ruin, and infamy and shame.”

“In Lincoln’s final Cabinet meeting he asked them again to consider compensated emancipation.”

…the promulgation of abolition doctrines tends rather to increase than to abate [slavery’s] evils.”

Joseph Smith  Abraham Lincoln
On Abolition

“…the promulgation of abolition doctrines tends rather to increase than to abate [slavery’s] evils.”

“…save the abolitionists from reproach and ruin, and infamy and shame.”
**Joseph Smith**  **Abraham Lincoln**  **On the South**

- “The North should not judge the South.”
- “We would not be different.”
- “If God now wills the removal of a great wrong, and wills also that we of the North as well as you of the South, shall pay fairly for our complicity in that wrong, impartial history will find therein new cause to attest and revere the justice and goodness of God.”

**Declaration of Independence**

- “I feel a double anxiety for the happiness of all men, both in time and eternity, where the Declaration of Independence which states that…all men are created equal…”
- “…and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”
- “I have never had feeling politically that did not originate from the Declaration of Independence…”

**Joseph Smith**  **Abraham Lincoln**  **Repent!!**

- “Now, Oh people…turn to the Lord and live.”
- “…reform this nation.”
- “They must contritely confess their faults as a nation and as individuals.”
- “…men would do well to recognize the hand of God in this terrible visitation.”

**Final Sacrifice**

- …sealed his mission and his works with his own blood. D&C 135:3
- “I am going like a lamb to the slaughter; but I am calm as a summers morning; I have a conscience devoid of offense towards God, and towards all men. I shall die innocent, and it shall be said of me—He was murdered in cold blood. D&C 135:4  John Taylor, eye witness
Final Sacrifice

- Last day in Springfield:
  “The sorrow of parting from his old associations was deeper than most persons would imagine. Lincoln had a feeling which had become irreplicable that he would never return alive.”
  God’s Humble Instrument, p. 132

- Dream: Who is dead in the White House?

Charles Chiniqy: Lincoln and Moses

- Conversation between Abraham Lincoln and his friend Charles Chiniqy, at the White House in June 1864

- You are not the first to warn me against the dangers of assassination. My ambassadors in Italy, France, and England as well as Professor Morse, have, many times, warned me against the plots of murderers whom they have detected in those different countries. But I see no other safeguard against these murderers, but to be always ready to die, as Christ advises it.

- Let me tell you that I have, lately, read a message in the Old Testament which has made a profound … impression on me. Here is that passage.’

- ‘My dear Father Chiniqy, let me tell you that I have read these strange and beautiful words several times, these last five or six weeks. The more I read them, the more it seems to me that God has written them for me as well as for Moses.

- ‘Now, I see the end of this terrible conflict, with the same joy of Moses… and I pray my God to grant me to see the days of peace and untold prosperity, which will follow this cruel war, as Moses asked God to see the other side of Jordan, and enter the Promised Land.

- But, do you know, that I hear in my soul, as the voice of God, giving me the rebuke which was given to Moses?”
Yes! every time that my soul goes to God to ask the favor of seeing the other side of Jordan... do you know that there is a still but solemn voice which tells me that I will see those things only from a long distance, and that I will be among the dead when the nation which God granted me to lead through those awful trials, will cross the Jordan, and dwell in that Land of Promise….

Why did God Almighty refuse to Moses the favor of crossing the Jordan and entering the Promised Land? It was on account of the nation’s sins! That law of divine retribution and justice, by which one must suffer for another, is surely a terrible mystery. Moses, who knew that law... calmly, says to his people: “God was wroth with me for your sakes.”

Now, would it not be the greatest of honors and privileges bestowed upon me, if God in His infinite love, mercy, and wisdom would put me between His faithful servant Moses, and His eternal Son, Jesus, that I might die as they did, for my nation’s sake!

... my fear is that the justice of God is not yet paid. When I look upon the rivers of tears and blood drawn by the lashes of the merciless masters from the veins of the very heart of those millions of defenseless slaves, these two hundred years; I fear that we are still far from the complete expiation. For the judgments of God are true and righteous.

It seems to me that the Lord wants today, as He wanted in the days of Moses, another victim – a victim which He has himself chosen, anointed and prepared for the sacrifice, by raising it above the rest of His people. I cannot conceal from you that my impression is that I am the victim.

But just as the Lord heard no murmur from the lips of Moses, when He told him that he had to die before crossing the Jordan, for the sins of his people, so I hope and pray that He will hear no murmur from me when I fall for my nation’s sake.

Father Chiniquy: Never had I heard such sublime words. Never had I seen a human face so solemn and so prophet-like as the face of the President when uttering these things. Every sentence had come to me as a hymn from heaven... I was beside myself.

Bathed in tears, I tried to say something, but I could not utter a word. I knew the hour to leave had come. I asked the President permission to fall on my knees and pray with him that his life might be spared; and he knelt with me. But I prayed more with my tears and sobs than with my words. Then I pressed his hand on my lips and bathed it with tears, and with a heart filled with an unspeakable desolation, I bade him adieu.’”

Fifty Years in the Church of Rome, pp. 706-10.
April 6th
- Abraham’s sacrifice with Isaac
- Day of the Pass over in Egypt
- The Last supper
- The Restored Church organized
- Salt Lake Temple dedicated

Called of God
- Lincoln
  - Premonitions
- Dreams
- Joseph Smith
  - Sacred Grove
  - Visions
  - Revelations

Conclusion
- Is Lincoln’s impression of sacrifice from God?
- Religious convictions
- Prophet calls him a prophet
- Political ideals: Same as Joseph Smith’s
- “The Judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.”

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