

# The Witnesses of the Book of Mormon Plates

While the Three Witnesses were not related to each other, the Eight Witnesses were very much interrelated. They were made up of the extended families of the Smiths and the Whitmers. Joseph and Emma Smith lived with the Whitmers on their farm. The Whitmers helped Joseph during the days of translation. Christian,

Jacob, Peter Jr., and John Whitmer were all sons of Peter Sr. and Mary Whitmer. Hiram Page later married Catherine Whitmer, the oldest daughter of Peter Sr. and Mary Whitmer. Joseph Smith Sr., Hyrum Smith, and Samuel Smith were the father and brothers of the Prophet Joseph Smith.

## The Three Witnesses

<u>Date of Birth</u>	<u>Place of Birth</u>	<u>Age When Shown Plates</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Membership in the Church</u>	<u>Death</u>
<b>Oliver Cowdery</b> Oct. 3, 1806	Wells, Rutland County, Vermont	23	School teacher, lawyer	Baptized May 15, 1829 Excommunicated Apr. 12, 1838. Rebaptized Oct. 1848. Died in full fellowship. Never denied his testimony concerning the Book of Mormon	Mar. 3, 1850 Richmond, Missouri
<b>David Whitmer</b> Jan. 7, 1805	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	23	Farmer	Baptized June 1829 Excommunicated Apr. 13, 1838. Never returned to the Church. Never denied his testimony	Jan. 25, 1888 Richmond, Missouri
<b>Martin Harris</b> May 18, 1783	East-Town, Saratoga County, New York	45	Farmer	Baptized Apr. 6, 1830 Excommunicated last week of Dec. 1837. Baptized again Nov. 7, 1842. Never denied his testimony concerning the plates. Died in full fellowship	July 10, 1875 Clarkston, Utah

## The Eight Witnesses

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<b>Christian Whitmer</b> Jan. 18, 1798	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	30	Shoemaker	Baptized Apr. 11, 1830 Always a faithful member of the Church	Nov. 27, 1835 Clay County, Missouri
<b>Jacob Whitmer</b> Jan. 27, 1800	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	28	Shoemaker	Baptized Apr. 11, 1830 Apostatized 1838. Never returned to the Church. Never denied his testimony of the plates	Apr. 21, 1856 Richmond, Missouri
<b>Peter Whitmer Jr.</b> Sept. 27, 1809	Fayette, New York	20	Tailor, farmer	Baptized June 1829 Always a faithful member of the Church	Sept. 22, 1836 Liberty, Clay County, Missouri
<b>John Whitmer</b> Aug. 27, 1802	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania	27	Farmer	Baptized June 1829 Excommunicated Mar. 10, 1838. Never returned to the Church. Never denied his testimony of the plates or the Church	July 11, 1878 Far West, Missouri
<b>Hiram Page</b> 1800	Vermont	29	Physician, farmer	Baptized Apr. 11, 1830 Apostatized 1838. Never denied his testimony	Aug. 12, 1852 Excelsior Springs, Missouri
<b>Joseph Smith Sr.</b> July 12, 1771	Topsfield, Essex County, Massachusetts	58	Farmer	Baptized Apr. 6, 1830 Always a faithful member of the Church	Sept. 14, 1840 Nauvoo, Illinois
<b>Hyrum Smith</b> Feb. 9, 1800	Tunbridge, Vermont	28	Farmer	Baptized May 1829 Always a faithful member of the Church	June 27, 1844 Carthage, Illinois
<b>Samuel H. Smith</b> Mar. 13, 1808	Tunbridge, Vermont	22	Farmer	Baptized May 1829 Always a faithful member of the Church	July 30, 1844 Nauvoo, Illinois