

Rosel Hyde

FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH



Family History StoryBooks

In the lush green fields of York, Livingston, New York, a baby boy named Rosel Hyde came into the world. He was born on May 20, 1816 to hardworking parents, Heman Hyde and Polly Wyman Tilton, who cherished their family. From a young age, Rosel learned the values of commitment and love.

When Rosel was nine years old, his family moved to a new town where they had to start a farm from scratch. Although he was young, Rosel worked by his father's side from sunrise to sunset clearing trees and boulders from the land so they could plant crops. His father also had a business making clothes from wool. There was always something Rosel could do to help either on the farm or at his father's shop.







Rosel's family shone brightly as a symbol of generosity and kindness in their community. They were always willing to help those in need and embodied the very essence of Christ's love. Heman and Polly, Rosel's devoted parents, played a pivotal role in their local Presbyterian church, pouring their hearts into its organization and growth.

Their devotion to God was a constant presence in their home, guiding Rosel and his siblings to engage in prayer and scripture study as part of their daily lives. This deep-rooted faith instilled in Rosel from such a young age would later become the foundation upon which he would base important decisions, shaping the course of his life.



One day, a buzz of excitement filled the air as Joseph Smith and Parley Pratt visited the Hydes' small town. Rosel's older brother, Heman Jr., attended several meetings to hear the stories about angels, visions, and plates of gold. While some people scoffed at the testimonies of Joseph and Parley, Heman Jr. was moved by their message and felt the Holy Spirit testifying of truth. He urged his parents to attend the next meeting.

When they went, they were still skeptical. They sat with Heman Jr. and listened to the claims that Christ's Church had been restored to the Earth. Suddenly, their son stood up and announced that he knew this was the true Gospel and that he wanted to be baptized! His parents were shocked. They had not yet felt the same Spirit.







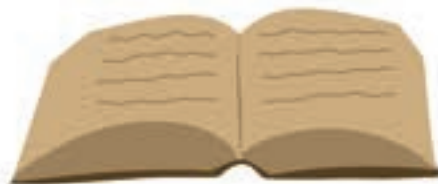
After being baptized, Rosel's brother joined a group of men called "Zion's Camp," who marched hundreds of miles to help Saints facing severe persecution. Polly was distraught. She did not want to see her son join a peculiar church and march away to dangerous places.

She and Heman met with Joseph Smith and intended to rebuke him for causing such turmoil in their family and community. Instead, Joseph Smith bore his testimony of the Restored Gospel to them. The family's faith was ignited. Heman, Polly, and all of their children were soon baptized. That is, all of their children except for Rosel.



Though his family wholeheartedly adopted the teachings of Joseph Smith, 18-year-old Rosel remained hesitant. His father counseled him that each person must find his own testimony. Rosel appreciated his father's wise advice. He remained thoughtful and introspective as he considered all that had happened.

Driven by a firm desire for personal conviction, Rosel embarked on a journey of self-discovery. He sought to deepen his understanding and cultivate a more personal relationship with God. As he prayed, he asked earnestly for guidance and to know the truth.







In response to the Lord's instruction for the Saints to come together, the Hyde family obediently left their home behind to move to Kirtland, Ohio. They arrived just in time to participate in the dedication of the very first Latter-day temple! While the rest of his family got to attend the ceremony, Rosel, who had not yet been baptized, had to stay behind and tend to the farm.

As he worked in the fields that day, he witnessed a miraculous sight. Heavenly light enveloped the temple in a celestial glow. Rosel could not believe his eyes! The beautiful display was soon joined by the tremendous sound of rushing waters. This profound experience struck Rosel's heart, affirming to him that this was in fact the Lord's church.



On May 8, 1836, at the age of 19, Rosel was baptized. It was a beautiful Spring day and his family was overjoyed to have him finally join their family as a faithful member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. His baptizer was a friend of the family, Joel Johnson, who loved music and even wrote the hymn, "High on the Mountain Top."

Like the words of that hymn, Rosel was determined to serve the Lord, obey His truth, and learn His word. Rosel's baptism marked a significant turning point in his life. He fully embraced his faith and began a life of dedicated service to his family, church, and community.







Rosel's heart found its match in Mary Ann Cowles. She was a beautiful and faithful girl whose testimony of the Gospel was just as bright as his own. They were married on a cold winter day, two weeks before Christmas in 1839. In the years that followed, they were overjoyed to be blessed with children and see their small family begin to grow.

The young couple, with two little daughters, desired to find a peaceful place to worship God. To this end, they moved closer to Nauvoo to be with the Saints. Rosel's commitment to the Lord deepened as he contributed to building the Nauvoo Temple, a testament to his hard work and devotion.



While living near Nauvoo, Rosel and Mary became close friends with their new neighbors: Joseph Smith and his family. Mary worked for the Smiths as a maid, tending to their children and helping with the housekeeping. The Hyde and Smith children often played together, and when Joseph was home, he would join in too!

Rosel admired the time Joseph gave to the children. He could tell that mingling with them gave the Prophet genuine happiness. Whenever they chatted together, Rosel was also struck by Joseph's piercing eyes. He knew they were the eyes of a man who had seen and talked with God.







The Hydes' friendship with the Smiths brought both families great joy, but there were hard times too. Mobs who hated the Prophet and the Church committed all manner of cruelties against Joseph Smith. Rosel found it difficult to be a firsthand witness to so much of his friend's pain and suffering.

When word reached Rosel of the Prophet's martyrdom, he cried, "They have just killed one of the greatest men that ever lived." But the persecution did not end there. Many Saints in the area, including Rosel and his family, experienced the hate of angry people. Sometimes mobs would even burn down homes. Soon, the matter became so perilous that the Lord instructed them to leave Nauvoo and travel West.



In 1849, the Hyde family took on the formidable task of migrating to Utah, guided by their steadfast faith in the Lord through his new Prophet, Brigham Young. Upon reaching their destination, they chose the Kaysville area as their new home. Rosel undertook the construction of a simple log cabin, a humble home made from the land itself.

It was a modest home with dirt floors and a roof that leaked when it rained. Puddles that gathered in the cellar got up to six inches deep every Spring. Their cabin, however, was more than just a shelter. It was a sanctuary filled with love, laughter, and a profound sense of unity, embodying the family's resilient spirit and unwavering bond.







In 1859, Rosel was called to serve a mission. He went all the way back to New York, a 2,500 mile journey, to serve the Lord by teaching others about the Gospel. This journey was a full-circle moment for him, allowing him to share the love and faith that had so profoundly shaped his life in the places where it had all begun for him.

Rosel returned from his mission to meet another addition to the family, a new baby boy. Reunited with his family, he quickly found ways to continue serving the Lord and his community. He was called to serve in the bishopric of the Kays Ward and as a county commissioner for the area. He served in these capacities for nearly 20 years.



Eventually, Rosel was able to build a new, sturdy stone home for his growing family. It even had two stories! He and Mary enjoyed sharing this home with their ten children for many years.

The year 1885 marked a momentous occasion for the Hyde family. They were sealed together in the Logan Temple by Wilford Woodruff. This sacred ceremony was a culmination of Rosel's lifelong commitment to his family and faith, ensuring their eternal unity and love in the eyes of God.







Rosel's journey from a young boy on a farm in New York to a respected leader in Utah was marked by trials, triumphs, and unwavering faith. His life was a testament to the power of commitment, hard work, and love. Through his actions, he taught his sixteen surviving children the importance of service, faith, and family, leaving a legacy that would endure for generations.

On August 20, 1903, Rosel Hyde passed away in Kaysville, Utah, leaving behind a rich tapestry of memories and lessons learned. His life was a story of unwavering faith, profound love, and dedicated service to his family and community. Rosel's legacy continues to inspire, reminding us all of the enduring power of commitment, generosity, hard work, and love.



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FOUNDATIONS OF FAITH

MAY 20, 1816 - AUGUST 20, 1903

My Relationship:



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Book Created for Rosel's Great-Great-Great-Great
Granddaughter, Karine Wacker

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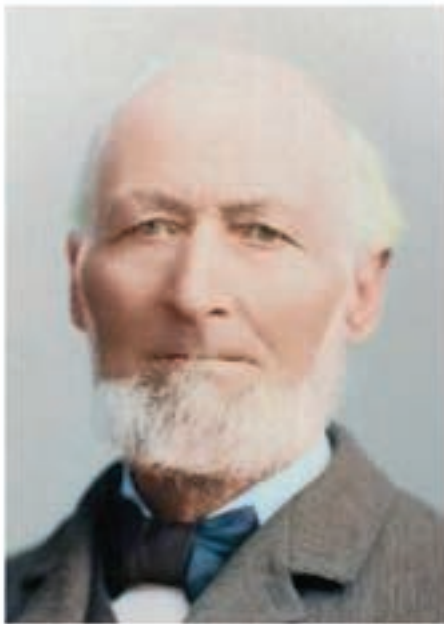
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children's book

SCAN
ME





Rosel Hyde



Rosel and his wife, Mary Ann Cowles



**Rosel's Headstone
Kaysville, Utah**



Rosel Hyde's Children

Back Row (L to R): George, Clara, John, Mary, Mabel, Rosel, Frank, Ida

Front Row (L to R): Martha, Sarah, Rosel, Mary, Helen, Heman, Austin, William



The Hyde Home



Rosel and Mary on their porch



Rosel Hyde's Children

Back Row (L to R): George, Clara, John, Mary, Mabel, Rosel, Frank, Ida

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Rosel and Mary on their porch