



## 1844 Succession Alternatives



**Sidney Rigdon**

*First Presidency  
Council of Fifty*



**William Smith**

*Head of Smith Family  
Council of Twelve  
Council of Fifty*



**William Marks**

*President of High Council  
Council of Fifty*



**Lyman Wight**

*Council of Twelve  
Council of Fifty*



**Brigham Young**

*President of the Twelve  
Council of Fifty*



**Joseph Smith III**

*Designated Successor  
Joseph Jr.'s heir*



**James J. Strang**

*Angelic Appointment*



**David Whitmer**

*Designated Successor  
Three Witnesses  
Former Missouri President*



**Alpheus Cutler**

*Council of Fifty  
"Council of Seven"*

Succession Chart by John Hamer, 2009