

The Book of Jared
Story of Brigham Lawrence Young
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Brigham Lawrence Young the only son of Adolphia Young to live to maturity. Born 28 May 1846 to Adolphia Young and Rhoda Byrne (Jared) Young. He was not related to the great Mormon leader and prophet, Brigham Young, but he did receive his first name from that man. His parents were residing in Nauvoo, IL, at the time of the martyrdom of the Prophet Joseph Smith and following that event a controversy arose over the successor to leadership of the L.D.S. Church. A meeting was held to determine the course they should take. Although they had receive the instruction from the Prophet Joseph Smith that the president of the twelve apostles should become the leader of the Church each time the president's seat was vacated, many

thought of other plans and possibilities. As is the policy, matters of discord are openly discussed and voted upon by the people. The meeting was called to discuss this important decision. During the course of the meeting Brigham Young arose to give his views and to the astonishment of the audience the "Mantle of Joseph fell upon Brigham." That meant that to the thousands of Saints assembled Brigham Young had the appearance of Joseph Smith and spoke in his voice, every aspect of his appearance became that of Joseph Smith.

Rhoda was a witness of this manifestation and was so impressed that she never for a moment doubted the divine calling of Brigham Young's leadership. She was so impressed by the incident that five years later, when she was again presented with a man child she gave him the name of the Prophet Brigham Young.

Brigham Lawrence Young was the only male member of the household of Rhoda Byrne Young to survive the trek and the early persecutions of the Mormon community. He was four years old when he entered Salt lake Valley with his mother and five sisters. He could remember taking willows and brushing crickets into the irrigation ditches when those pests invaded the crops of the Utah pioneers and how relieved he was to realize the help of the seagulls that came from the islands of Great Salt Lake to devour the crickets and save their food.

The only memory he had of his father, Adolphia, was when his brother Samuel held him by the hand to look down into the grave that held no coffin, just the beloved figure of their father wrapped in quilts and his mother's beautiful handmade "coverlid." Two days later Samuel was buried beside the road too, a victim of the same dread disease of Cholera.

“Brig” received his education in the pioneer schools of Provo, Utah, and finished the 7th grade, which was equal to a high school junior class today. He attended the Brigham Young Academy under Karl G. Maeser, famous pioneer teacher and founder of the school that later became the Brigham Young University. His education was cut short when the family moved to the Muddy to colonize and raise cotton at the time of the Civil War. He always regretted that he was unable to receive his college degree.

“Brig” moved with his parents to Kanab, Utah in 1871 when he was twenty-two years old. The following spring he was engaged by Major J. W. Powell to participate in the Government Survey of the Grand Canyon, Kaibab Plateau, and Southern Utah tributaries of the Colorado River. The pencilman or map maker of the survey company soon noticed the natural talent Brigham possessed for drawing and would get him to help draw the maps after the evening meal was finished. He had hired out to the survey crew as cook, but in a short time was made one of the crew of pencilmen. Maps that the crew made are still available in the Library of Congress and were used in recent years to plat the plans for Glen Canyon Dam. When the preliminary work was being mapped on the present construction for that dam and meetings were held in Kanab to determine the feeling of the citizens, one of the officials told the community that the maps made by B.L. Young on the Powell Survey proved the most beneficial of any they had used in construction plans.

He and Frederick S. Dellenbaugh of the Powell Survey were sent to scout the “New Valley of Wonder,” now Zions National Park, and he was the first to write a description of that place. He was also a member of the Powell Survey Crew which made the first maps of Yellowstone Park in Wyoming.

He fell in love with Ida Francel Lewis, a local belle, but had to wait a few years for her to grow up. They were married in the Salt Lake Endowment House 20 August 1875.

Brigham Lawrence Young participated in several Indian encounters and it was said of him that he was always able to take the Indians out of actual hostilities. He was postmaster at Kanab, Utah for sixteen years and served two terms as mayor of the town. He also served as a guide to parties wishing to visit the surrounding hills and forest.

When Brigham became feeble, he was only able to walk three blocks to the postoffice to get his daily paper. He would sit and rest on the postoffice window seat and read the news, then totter over to the drugstore where all the town loafers gathered to hear him and Uncle “Billy Mack,” argue current events. They both took the same paper and each read it with his own interpretation, as people do their Bibles. Then they argued long and loudly and highly entertained the

crowd until dinner time and only Brigham's life-long habit of punctuality to meals, which could tear him away for the arguments.

One night , in February 1924, Brigham became ill, not seriously it seemed, but he would allow nothing done for him. He said, "I will be dead at noon tomorrow." Some of the family suppressed a smile at his determination in such a circumstance, but the next day, just before noon, he bid farewell to the family surrounding his bed. He turned his eyes toward his wife and said, "Ma has been good to me." At noon he was gone. The doctor said it was the easiest death he had ever witnessed.



Ida Francel Lewis



Home on Indian Creek, Putnam Co., TN, where Brigham Lawrence Young was born.



Brigham Lawrence Young



Annie and Ida Young



Alice Young



Howard Brigham Young



Ray Byrne & Emily "Milly" Francel Young



James Adolphia Young

