

Polygamy and Mormon Church Leaders

Joseph Young

April 7, 1797 – July 16, 1881

Joseph Young Autobiography; "...visited My Brother John & Family I had Much Conversation with My Brother in Relation to the New Faith...What he Said to Me...Brother Joseph you have Received a New Doctrine and Another Spirit from what you have had heretofore and I fear it is Delusion [p. 30] for the Scriptures Say that Many falts Spirits have gone out into the world and this is one of them When Br John Said these Words My Spirit Sunk within Me and Darkness Profound gathered thick like a cloud covered My Mind and Spirit [p. 31] So densely that I was in Great Mental Agonies..." [sic]

Joseph Young was born in 1797, the seventh child (second son) born to John and Abigail (Nabbie) Howe Young who were residents of Hopkinton, MA. By the time 1801 rolled around his father had moved the family from Massachusetts to Vermont where his younger brother **Brigham** was born and then they moved again in the winter of 1804 to New York where the youngest child (Lorenzo Young) would be born in 1807. According to other sources Lorenzo was born in MA, but according to Joseph's handwritten journal it was in NY.

As a side note here – **earlylds.com** lists Joseph Young's name as Joseph W. Young, Sr. and sealed to his parents in 1896 in SLC.

In all **John and Nabby Young** became parents of eleven kids in twenty-one years who were born between 1786 and 1807. They raised their children in the Methodist faith and that's where **Joseph Young** began his vocation in life. He served as an itinerant minister for the local Methodist churches and became well known for his great singing voice belting out Wesleyan hymns.

All that came to an abrupt end when in 1832 his brother Brigham converted him to Mormonism. After being handed a copy of the Book of Mormon by Solomon Chamberlain, he met up with his younger brothers Brigham and Phineas who summarily baptized him into the faith in **Canada**.

In 1835 he was called to be one of the first Seventies and then called by Joseph Smith to be the first president of all the Seventies. This was a position he held until his death.

He married his first wife Jane Adeline Bicknell in February 1834 and had their first child at the end of that year. (**Pioneers & Prominent Men of Utah, pg 1271**) They moved to Kirtland, OH shortly thereafter and had two more kids by the end of 1837. In 1834 at the request of Joseph Smith he was one of the members who took part in the Zion's March that left a number of Mormons dead from cholera and he was also present during the **Haun's Mill** episode.

After Smith fled Ohio in 1838 Joseph, Jane and their three kids packed up and moved to Missouri. They weren't there long when the Haun's Mill episode took place and they fled again – this time to Quincy, Illinois and arrived there in May 1839. They moved again in 1840 to Nauvoo, Illinois where Young helped build the Nauvoo temple. As a young man he had been trained to be a painter and glazer so he got a job at the temple employing his skills there.

He was admitted into the **Council of the Fifty** in March 1845.

In 1846 they were forced out of Nauvoo and lived in Council Bluffs, IA where Jane gave birth to another child. In January and February of that same year he married three more wives. After arriving in Salt Lake in 1850 Jane gave birth to three more kids by 1856. Some sources say they lived in Council Bluffs and others state they were in Winter Quarters, NE. Either way, in 1850 he along with his wives and other Mormons left Winter Quarters, NE to settle in Utah.

He married two more women in 1862 and 1863 (again conflicting reports show these marriages took place in 1866 & 1868). He stayed in SLC where he lived until his death in 1881.

Young served in countless missionary capacities throughout the territory and in 1870 also visited the British Isles to preach there as well.



There are conflicting reports on the number of wives and kids, but that goes along with the territory of the polygamous lifestyles. Many sources cite 10 – 13 children born to Young, but according to our research we’ve counted more than twenty.

A report on **FamilySearch** lists the marriages of Joseph Young to 10 women not listed in this document. They are Susanna Hall, Letitia Halstead, Julia Belknap, Maryette Belknap, Mary Pill, Maria Beardsley, Harriett Elizabeth Beardsley, Jennet Young, Janet Young and Maria Marshall. This is the only site that lists these extra marriages, thus their exclusion below.

The most remarkable event in this man’s life has to be the ominous warning he received from his older brother John who advised against being involved with the Mormons. Unfortunately, Joseph ended up converting John into the lies.

As ominous as that scenario was other disturbing events are still taking place in regards to Joseph Young’s many wives. You’ll notice in the ‘other info’ column for each wife Mormons are busy re-baptizing these folks and performing proxy marriages for them.

All resources are embedded in links within document except for use of Nauvoo Roots of Mormon Polygamy, 1841-1846: A Preliminary Demographic Report by George D. Smith indicated with *

	Wife/Age @ marriage (Young’s age)		Marriage date	Kids	Other info	Wife’s marital status
1	Jane Adeline Bicknell – 19 (36)		2/18/ 1834	11	Born 8/14/1814 NY Died 1/15/1913 WA *Their kids were	Single

the only CR
(children of
record) for Joseph.


**Youngparkinson
family.org** reports

Jane had 2 kids
when they lived thru
the Haun's Mill

Recognition of their
marriage is made in

**Pioneers & Prominent
Men of Utah,
Earlylds.com,
Earlylds.com**

reports she was
baptized by
proxy for the dead
in Salt Lake temple
in 5/1964 & sealed
to her parents in
the Ogden temple
in 12/1973.

2	<p>Lucinda Allen - 21 (48)</p>		<p>1/16/ 1846</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>Born 6/2/1824 NY Died 6/7/1920 UT Marriage to Young mentioned in Pioneers & Prominent Men of Utah. Deseret News obituary reports she outlived all but 1 kid Went to UT in 1848. One of the 1st producers of watermelon & potatoes for the Youngparkinson family.org reported she was heavily involved in many proxy works</p>	<p>Single</p>
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					<p>in the temple.</p> <p>Earlylds.com</p> <p>incorrectly reports her death as 7/16/1881 & baptized 12/1984 in Jordan River temple, UT.</p>	
3	<p>Lydia Caroline Hager (Hagar) Fleming – 28 (48)</p>		<p>1/16/1846</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Born 10/13/1817 ME Died 1859 UT</p> <p>young.parkinson family.org lists marriage w/ picture of son Isaac Fleming Young.</p> <p>Her 1st husband was Isaac Fleming.</p> <p>*Their marriage was for time & Young stood in as proxy for Isaac Fleming.</p>	<p>Widow</p>

Gapages.com lists

her last name as

Hemming, not

Fleming.

Bonnieruefenacht.

com lists 2

daughters Fannie

& Caroline Lydia.

Familyorigins.com

lists her birth,

death in UT.

Earlylds.com

shows marriage to

Isaac Fleming who

died 8/1844 in

Nauvoo.

Earlylds shows

they sealed her to

Young in 1994

in SL temple

even tho she

was sealed to

Fleming in 1846

					<p>by proxy at her marriage for time to Young.</p> <p>Earlylds.com also shows they baptized her in 12/1986 in Jordan River temple</p>	
4	<p>MaryAnn Huntley Burnham – 29 (48)</p>		<p>2/6/1846</p>	3	<p>Born 3/14/1816 VT</p> <p>Died 11/10/1903 UT</p> <p>*Mary & Joseph's marriage was for time & Young filled in as proxy for James Burnham.</p> <p>Married James Lewis Burnham 12/1834 in VT. They had 5 kids.</p> <p>records.ancestry.com says he died in 1835.</p>	Widow

Gapages.com

recognizes 2 kids,

not 3 for Mary

& Joseph Young.

Ealrylds.com

Reports her as

wife #1 to

Young w/ no kids.

In another section

it also reports she

was sealed to Joseph

Young in 7/1993 in

the Jordan River

temple, UT.

Original endowments

& sealing to Young

took place in Nauvoo

temple in 1846 as

noted on the left.

Earlylds.com also

gives info for

1st husband James

Lewis Burnham –

he died in 1845,

					<p>they list 4 of 5 kids, this site shows Mary & James were sealed in 5/1992 in Denver temple & he was sealed to his parents in 2/1993 in Denver temple.</p>	
5	<p>Elizabeth Stevens (Stephenson)</p> <p>- 67 (69)</p>		<p>11/28/ 1866</p>	0	<p>Born 1799</p> <p>MA</p> <p>Died</p> <p>???</p> <p>GEDBrowser gives obscure date of 6/3/1846 as sealing date w/ no other data.</p> <p>No other data or vitals were found on this person.</p>	???
6	<p>Sarah Jane Snow</p>		<p>4/7/ 1868</p>	2	<p>Born 10/30/1838 MO</p>	Widow

Kinsman

- 29

(71)

Died

11/11/1910

UT

Sarah was born
on the day mobs
attacked Far West,
MO.

Findagrave.com

shows marriage to
Marshall Corridon
Kinsman & had
1 girl - he died
in 1863.

Married Joseph in 1868.