

Polygamy and Mormon Church Leaders
George Albert Smith
June 26, 1817 – September 1, 1875

George Albert Smith is also known as George A Smith in Mormonism to distinguish him from his grandson with the same name who served as the 8th prophet of Mormonism.

George and Joseph Jr. were first cousins so it comes as no surprise he was baptized in 1832 at the age of fifteen. Because their parents lived so far from each other he didn't meet Joseph until 1833 when he and his family moved to Kirtland, Ohio. Smith immediately began serving as a missionary and joined other Mormons in their March to Zion campaign that went from Ohio to Missouri and back again.

His devotion to the Church and Joseph paid off when he was rewarded handsomely with the position of apostle at the ripe ol' age of twenty-one and Wilford Woodruff, who would eventually become the 4th prophet, was ordained an apostle the same day. They replaced Orson Hyde and Thomas Marsh who had both been ex-communicated.

His lasting legacy will most likely be the city that was named in his honor, St. George, Utah. Brigham Young was looking for ways to expand the strength of Mormonism and sent George down to the most southern regions of the Utah Territory to begin experimenting with growing cotton in the early 1860's. With the advent of the Civil War cotton prices had exploded, but the venture went bust and never brought in the cash flow Young and others were hoping for. When that failed they tried their hand at Mulberry bushes which is a necessity for the silk worm to house themselves in and grow. That too failed.





Eventually the industry that best suited the southern desert was of the nuclear kind. When the US government needed a place to detonate and test their bombs they picked southern Utah.


George A Smith had no problem fulfilling the duty of the Mormon version of the everlasting gospel as he married eleven women who made him the father of twenty kids.



It's widely believed his rhetoric contributed to what caused the [Mountain Meadows Massacre](#). While the Mormons readied themselves for US troop's arrival to enforce the law of monogamy amongst other US laws, Smith went on a speaking tour in the southern cities of the territory to garner support and warn other Mormons of the enemies' impending arrival.

The Paiute tribe gave him the nickname of Non-choko-wicher, or "takes himself apart" after seeing him remove his wig to wipe his sweaty brow, then his removing his false teeth and finally his glasses. Smith was rather portly standing at 5'10" and weighed in at a hefty 250 lbs. He was only 57 when he died.

Unless otherwise noted – additional info was gathered from Nauvoo Roots of Mormon Polygamy by George D. Smith.

		Wife/Age @ marriage (Smith's age)	Marriage date	Kids	Other info	Wife's marital status
1		Bathsheba W. Bigler - 19 (24)	7/25/1841	3	Born 5/3/1822 Died 9/20/1910 in SLC Officiated in each of the temples constructed during her lifetime: Nauvoo, Logan, Manti, St. George, and Salt Lake.	Single
2		Nancy Clement (Clemmond) - 29 (27)	11/29/1844	1	Born 10/31/1815 Died 3/26/1847 in Winter Quarters from scurvy, their daughter Nancy Adelia died a month later 4/17/1847	Single
3		Lucy Meserve Smith - 27 (27)	11/29/1844	2	Born 2/9/1817 Died 10/5/1892 Their son Don Carlos died @ 11 mos of age from diarrhea in Winter Quarters.	Single
4		Zilpha Stark - 26 (27)	3/26/1845	3	Born 7/3/1818 Died 9/19/1887 in Parowan, UT. They had 1 daughter, Adelaide who died in Winter Quarters @ 7 wks.	Single
5		Hannah Maria Libby - 17 (28)	11/20/1846	5	Born 6/29/1828 Died 9/21/1906 in Provo. Younger sister of Sarah Ann Libby, wife #6.	Single

6		Sarah Ann Libby – 27 (28)	11/20/ 1845	1	Born 5/7/1818 Died 6/12/1851 in SLC. Older sister of Hannah Libby, wife #5. They had 1 son, John Henry Smith who became an apostle.	Single
7		Agnes M. Coolbirth Smith – 34 (28)	1/28/ 1846	0	Born 7/11/1811 12/26/1876 in Los Angeles Former wife of Don Carlos Smith, Joseph Smith's deceased brother. married Joseph Smith for time, then George A. Smith, proxy for Don Carlos.	Widow
8		Mary Jane Smith Gee – 33 (28)	2/6/1846	0	Born 4/29/1813 in Sweden Died 3/1/1878 in Provo Endowed to Smith 2/6/1846 in Nauvoo Formerly married to George Washington Gee He was born 8/13/1815 He died 1/20/1842 They ad 2 kids Their son George Washington Gee born in 1841	Widow
9		Susanna Ogden Bigler – 60 (28)	2/7/ 1846	0	Born 10/11/1785 Died 3/14/1847 in Winter Quarters. Mother of Bathsheba, wife #1. Marriage to Smith for time. Smith proxy for Mark Bigler who died 9/23/1839 in Illinois.	Widow

10		Susan Elizabeth West - 23 (40)	10/28/ 1857	5	Born 12/4/1833 Died 10/14/1926 in SLC	Single
11		Elizabeth Boardman Smith Wilson - 28 (28)	12/10/ 1845	0	Born 1/27/1817 Died 9/25/1893 in Logan, UT	Single