

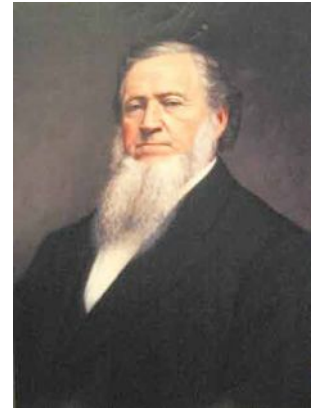
Joseph Smith and six followers started the Mormon church in the State of New York in 1830. Smith said that an angel had shown him some golden plates. Written on the plates was the story of how Christianity had existed long ago in America. Smith wanted this true religion back.

People didn't like these „Latter Day Saints“. Smith and his followers moved to Ohio, then to Missouri, and finally to Illinois. There, in 1844, Smith was murdered by a mob.



Salt Lake, pulling carts behind them.

The Mormons' new leader, Brigham Young, decided to move again. He studied maps of the West and chose a very lonely place in a far-away desert. Young led a small group of Mormons on the long and dangerous trip to the valley of the Great Salt Lake. **Young and his group made the desert bloom.** They built canals and planted fruit. Each year, more groups of Mormons travelled to the



In modern states, church and government are separate. The early Mormons, however, combined the two. Church leaders like Young were also political leaders.

Mormons practiced polygamy. Men could have more than one wife. Brigham Young had twenty-six wives. After the Mormons gave up polygamy in 1890, Utah became a state of the USA in 1896. Modern countries don't tolerate bigamy.



Utah has now over 1.5 million people. 70 percent are Mormons.

For religious reasons, Mormons are interested in genealogies – that is, family trees. In Salt Lake City there is a library with birth records from around the world. It's an interesting place for those who want to know more about their family history.

Odd one out in each line:

God	church	football	angel	temple	religion
Utah	Texas	Arizona	Ohio	China	Illinois
Salt Lake City	Seattle	Boston	Paris	Huston	Dallas
grandfather	teacher	aunt	cousin	daughter	grandson
hairstresser	leader	boss	general	chief	president
trip	history	walk	journey	route	trail
cart	car	trailer	lorry	library	wagon
stay	go	move	walk	travel	drive
stop	give up	end	finish	close	dive