

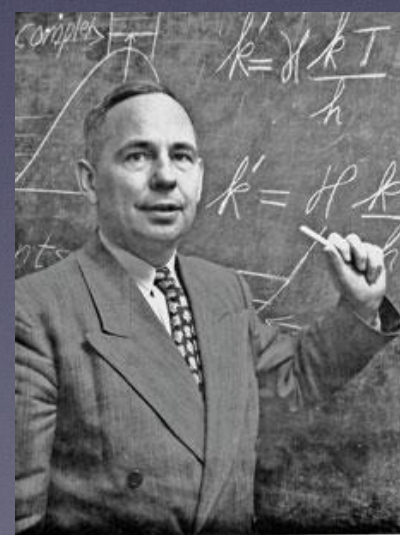
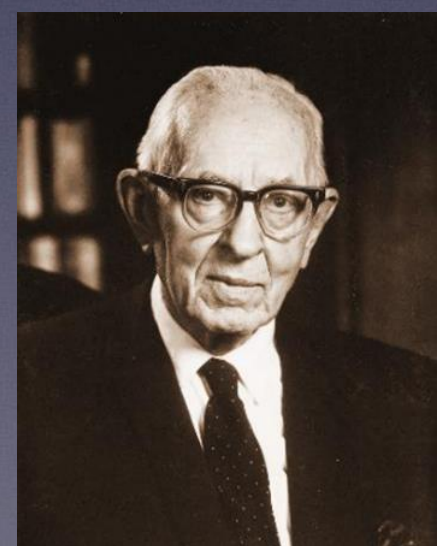
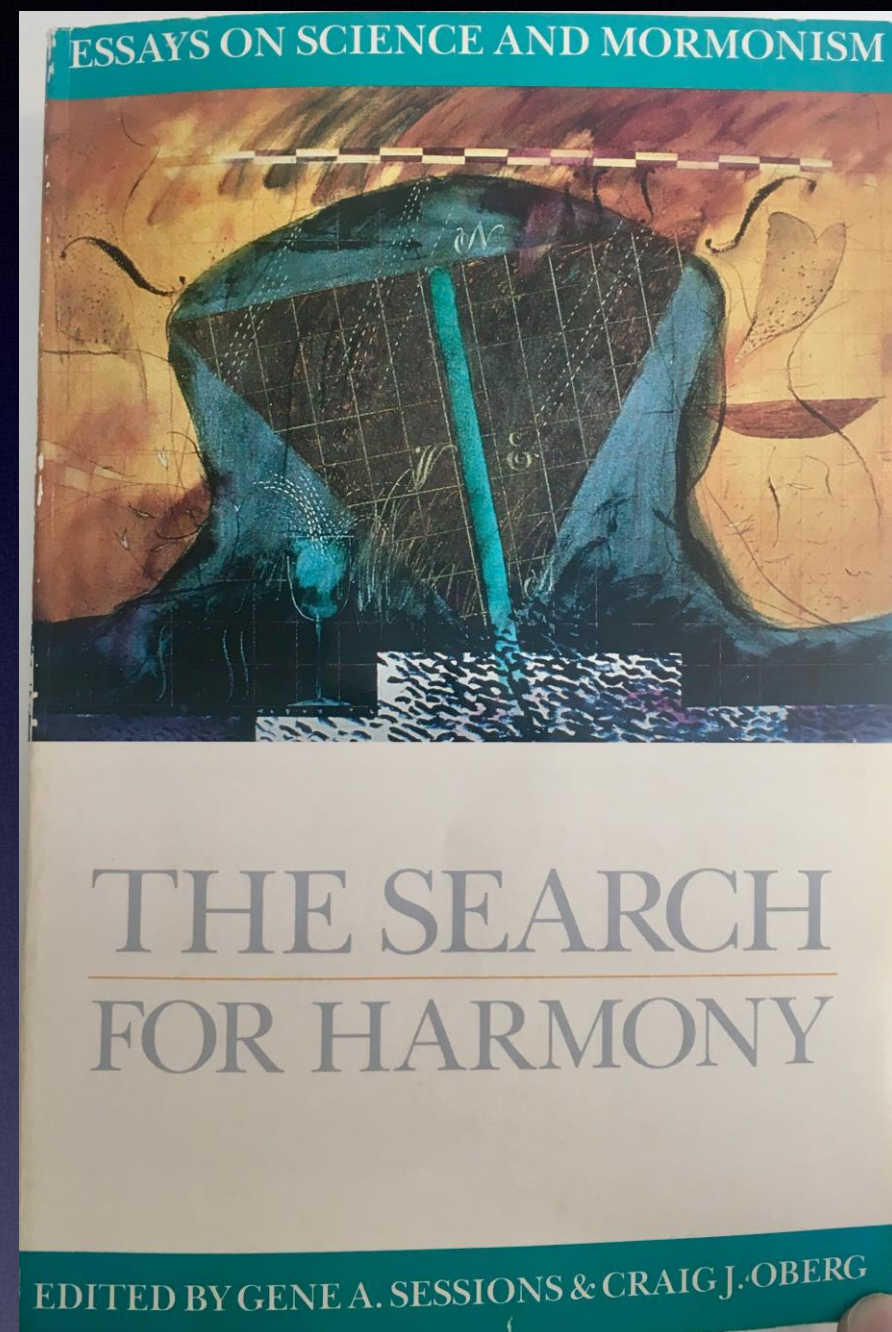
Adam, the Fall, and yes, Evolution



Daniel S. Burdett DDS, MSW

JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH—LETTER TO BRO. EYRING

[HTTP://SIGNATUREBOOKSLIBRARY.ORG/AGREEING-TO-DISAGREE-HENRY-EYRING-AND-JOSEPH-FIELDING-SMITH/](http://signaturebookslibrary.org/agreeing-to-disagree-henry-eyring-and-joseph-fielding-smith/)



“I speak frankly and to some my words may appear harsh, and even filled with “ill humor,” **by those who hold to the theories** I have attacked. Nevertheless I feel that I am justified in referring thus to **those who hold these evolutionary theories** and who feel themselves to be superior in intelligence and wisdom and entitled to treat the rest of us as school boys and need disciplining and **have no right to call them in question.** It remains a definite fact that the majority of scientists have considered themselves to be superior in intelligence and wisdom.”

Henry Eyring

[Wolf Prize in Chemistry](#) (1980)

[Priestley Medal](#) (1975)

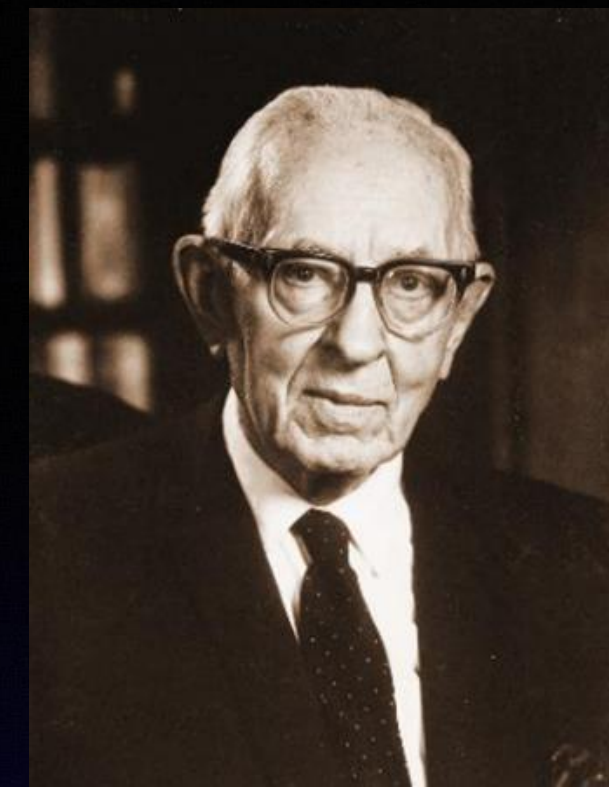
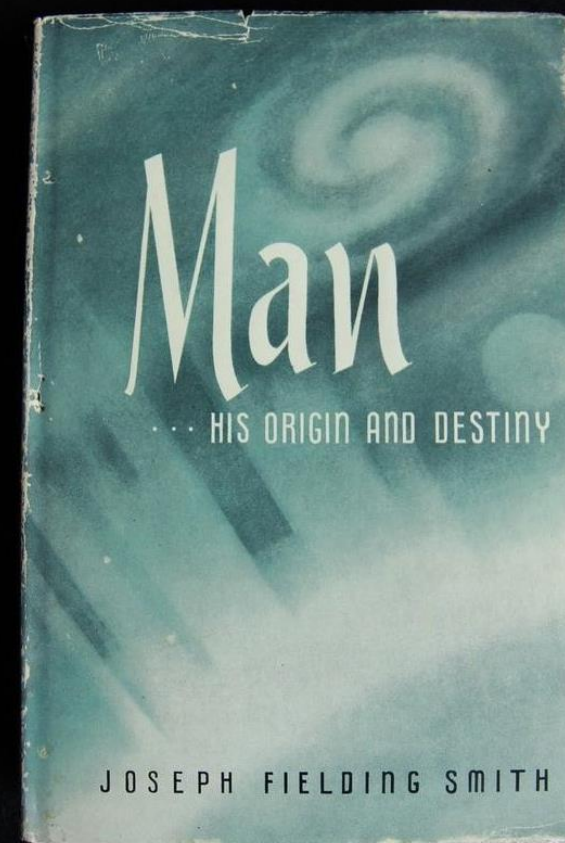
[Elliott Cresson Medal](#) (1969)

[Irving Langmuir Award](#) (1968)

[National Medal of Science](#) (1966)

[Peter Debye Award](#) (1964)

[Newcomb Cleveland Prize](#) (1932)



Joseph Fielding Smith

President 1970-1972

Counselor in the First Presidency 1965-1970

President of the Quorum of the twelve 1951-1970

Quorum of the twelve 1910-1970,

Church Historian 1921-1970

Assistant Church Historian 1906-1921,

Then in a 1973 interview, Eyring, when asked about the age of the Earth controversy, cited his disagreement with Smith's book, but added:

I would say that I sustained Brother Smith as my Church leader one hundred percent. I think he was a great man. He had a different background and training on this issue. Maybe he was right. I think he was right on most things and if you followed him, he would get you into the Celestial Kingdom—maybe the hard way, but he would get you there.

The Mormon Myth of Evil Evolution

Michael R. Ash, Dialogue: A Journal of Mormon Thought, Vol. 35, no. 4, p30.

https://www.jstor.org/stable/45226893?seq=12#metadata_info_tab_contents

Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet

#5 The Prophet is not required to have any particular earthly training or credentials to speak on any subject or act on any matter at any time.

Sometimes there are those who feel their earthly knowledge on a certain subject is superior to the heavenly knowledge which God gives to His Prophet on the same subject. **They** feel the prophet must have the same earthly credentials or training which they have had before they will accept anything the prophet has to say that might contradict their earthly schooling. How much earthly schooling did Joseph Smith have? ... We encourage earthly knowledge in many areas, but remember, if there is ever a conflict between earthly knowledge and the words of the prophet, **you stand with the prophet**, and you'll be blessed and **time** will vindicate you.



President Ezra Taft Benson
Feb. 26, 1980



THE INEXHAUSTIBLE GOSPEL, AUGUST 18, 1992 • BYU DEVOTIONAL

When **Moses** was schooled by the Egyptians, what he learned there did **not** compare in eternal significance to what he learned from God's **revelations**, **things he said he “never had supposed”** (Acts 7:22; Moses 1:10–33).



Elder Neal A. Maxwell

<https://speeches.byu.edu/talks/neal-a-maxwell/inexhaustible-gospel/>

Orson F. Whitney
Apostle 1906-1931
Assistant Church Historian
1899-1906



Man's Origin and Destiny
Contributor, Vol 3:9
(June 1882), 268-70.

The recent death of Professor **Charles Darwin** [4/19/1882] the famous author of the "*Origin of Species*," and one of the ablest enunciators of **the theory and doctrine of evolution**, brings vividly to mind the lamentable condition of the modern world, with its scientific vagaries and religious absurdities, and the many unscriptural and unreasonable ideas so widely prevalent concerning **man's origin and eternal destiny.**

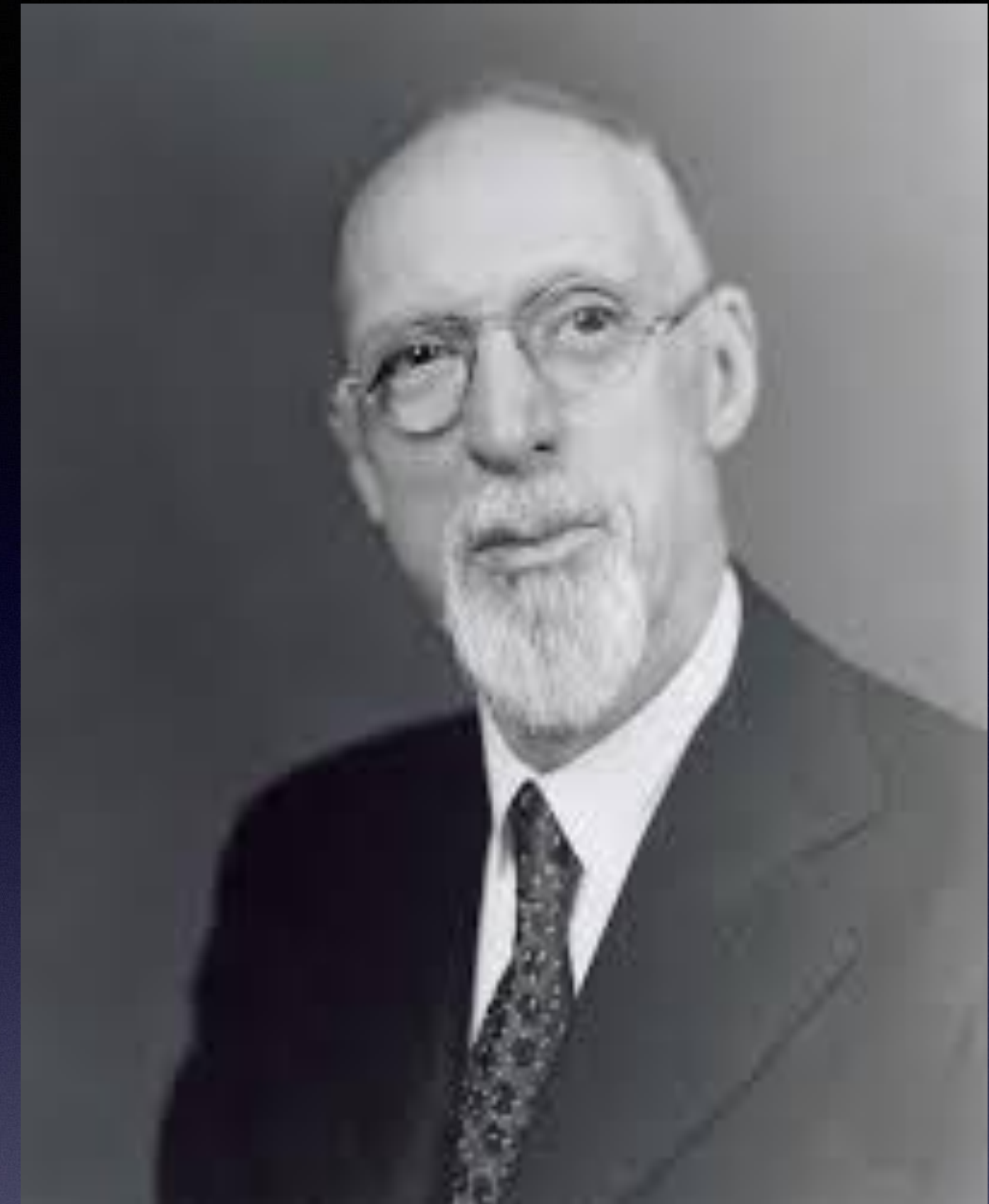
Orson F. Whitney
Apostle 1906-1931
Assistant Church Historian
1899-1906



Man's Origin and Destiny
Contributor, Vol 3:9
(June 1882), 268-70.

There is no instance on record where a baboon ever **evolved** into a human being, and science in attempting to unearth a “missing link” which it is claimed will connect mankind with monkeykind, is like a blind man hunting through a haystack to find a needle which isn’t there. **For man is the child of God, fashioned in His image and endowed with His attributes**, and even as the infant son of an earthly father is capable in due time of becoming a man, so the undeveloped offspring of celestial parentage is capable in due time of becoming a God.

“Man is the offspring of God. **The Latter-day Saints are believers in the words contained in the Holy Scriptures.** We believe that God created the heavens and the earth; and the same God that created the heavens and the earth declared that **he made man in his own image**; male and female created he them. No matter if scientists and great men of the world shall proclaim that we have **evolved** from the lower order of animals, **the witness of the Spirit to you, my brethren and sisters, is that you are the offspring of the Lord**, that the spirits which inhabit your bodies are immortal, and that in due time, if you are faithful, you will go back to the presence of that God who gave you life.”



Elder George Albert Smith
Conference Report, Apr. 1905

We did **not** spring from spawn. Our spirits existed from the beginning, have existed from the beginning, have existed always, and will continue forever. We did **not** pass through the ordeals of embodiment in the lesser animals in order to reach the perfection to which we have attained in manhood and womanhood, in the image and likeness of God. *Improvement Era* Vol. 12, p. 591, **June 1909**, *Gospel Doctrine*, p. 32 [Note — inspired/compiled by Doctor **John A. Widtsoe**, published 1919.]



President Joseph F. Smith



Apostle 1921-1952

Assigned put together the rough draft of the 1909 First Presidency statement on the Origin of Man

Son of Horace and Helen Mar Kimball Whitney
Grandson of Newel K. Whitney
Grandson of Heber C. Kimball



From **September 27 to October 15, 1909**, [for 3 weeks] members of the First Presidency and Quorum of the Twelve, including **John A. Widtsoe and James Talmage**, met to discuss and revise a draft of the 1909 statement on **the Origin of Man. The final statement was approved by the Quorum of the Twelve** on October 20, **1909** (p.276).

Thomas G. Alexander, *Mormonism in Transition*.
Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1986

1909 First Presidency

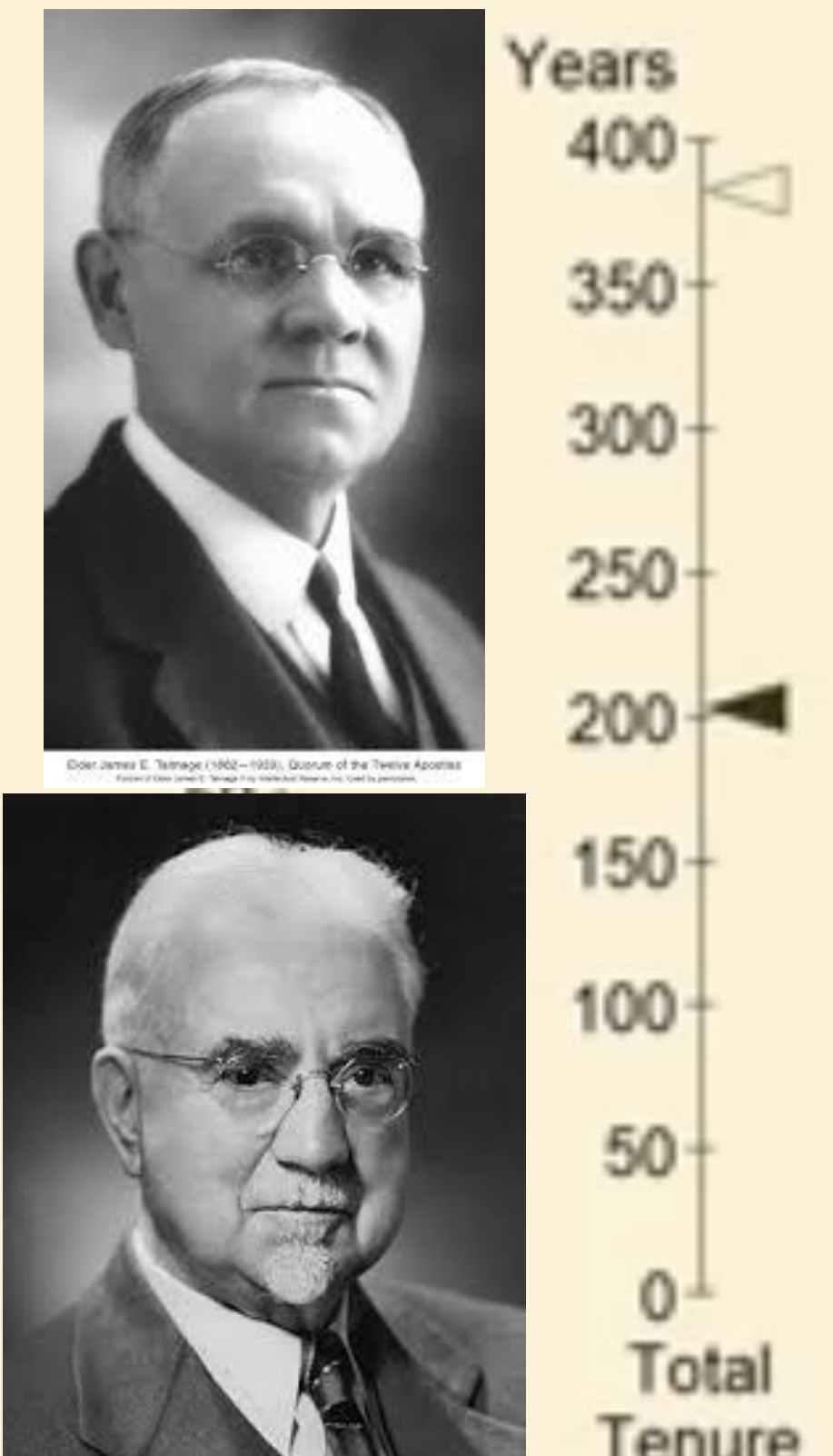


The Origin of Man, Improvement Era 13:75-81 November 1909

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/study/ensign/2002/02/the-origin-of-man?lang=eng>

- President, future President
- Quoted or Upcoming quote

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles



Elder Anthony W. Ivins, of the Council of the Twelve

December 1917

A Study of Evolution

By Elder Anthony W. Ivins, of the Council of the Twelve

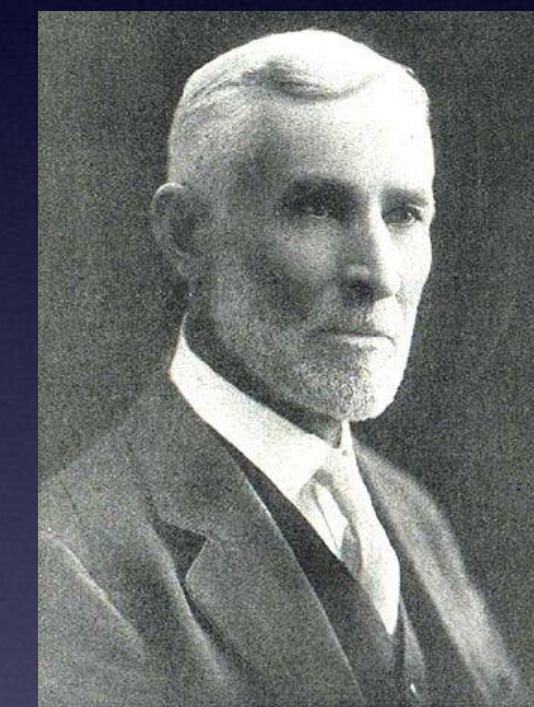
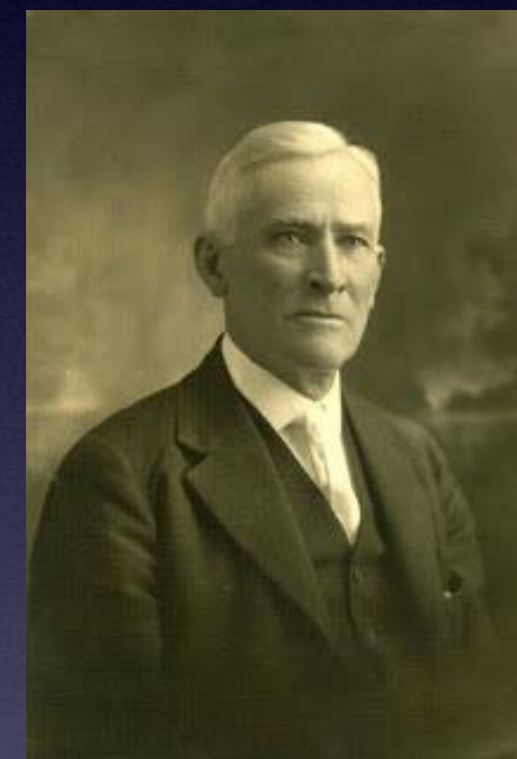
[We urge every young man to read this exposition of evolution as delivered by Elder Ivins, at the recent semi-annual conference of the Church. It points out how those who are in doubt may yet preserve their faith in God, if they will carefully contrast the modern theory of evolution with the revealed doctrines of the Church. To believe that this earth life is all there is to existence is a fallacy. All development leading from lesser to greater is the result of the intelligence of an all-wise God.—*Editors.*]

“Now it came to pass that there were many of the rising generation that could not understand the words of king Benjamin, being little children at the time he spake unto his people; and they did not believe the traditions of their fathers.

“They did not believe what had been said concerning the resurrection of the dead, neither did they believe concerning the coming of Christ.

“And now because of their unbelief they could not understand the word of God; and their hearts were hardened.

“And they would not be baptized; neither would they join the Church. And they were a separate people as to their faith, and remained so ever after, even in their carnal and sinful state; for they would not call upon the Lord their God.”—*Book of Mormon.*



<https://archive.org/details/improvementera2102unse/page/160/mode/2up>

A Study of Evolution
“By Elder Anthony W. Ivins,
of the Council of the Twelve”

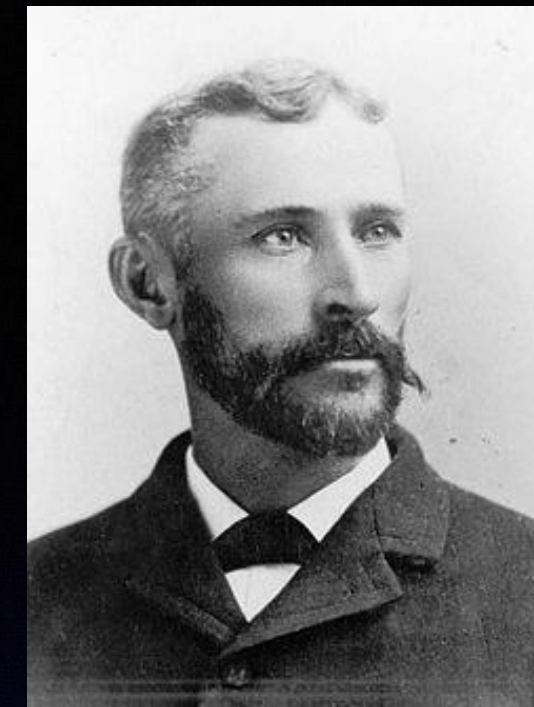


1917

Recently, in one of the stakes of Zion which I visited, a man professing **great learning**, before a public gathering, with **cunning device** and **flattering words** declared to those to whom his remarks were addressed that their ancestors hung from the branches of the forest trees by their tails. **With boldness** he advocated the theory that man had gradually **evolved**, without conscious effort, from the lowest type of created life to what he now is, and that as his past had been a continued process of change so is his future to be.

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A Study of Evolution
“By Elder Anthony W. Ivins,
of the Council of the Twelve”
1917

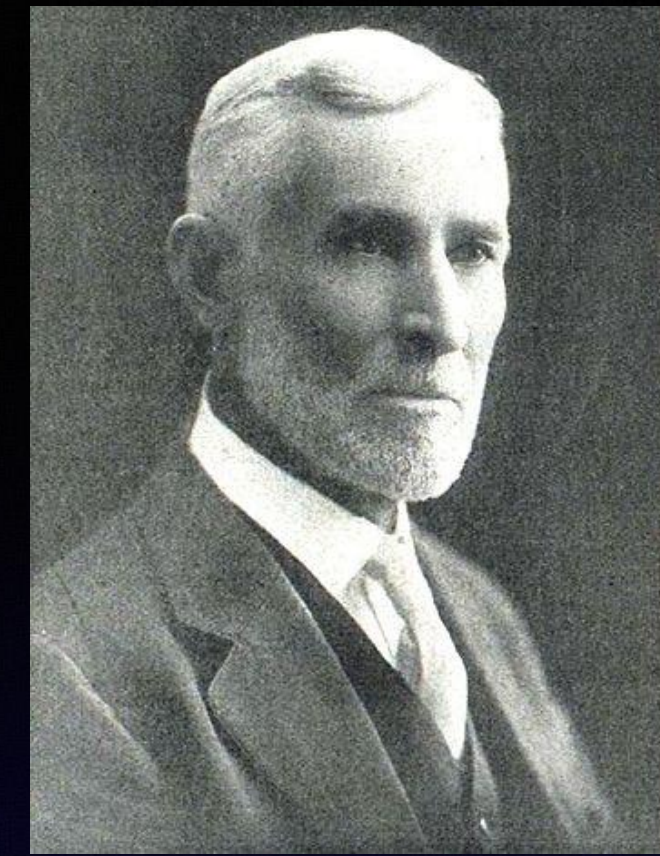


I took occasion to question the **theory** advocated by this man, to point out what appeared to me to be its inconsistencies, with the result that a request was made that I read certain books which treated **the subject of evolution**; some of them, it was said, were in very general use in our common schools. I did so, with the result that my conclusions, long since arrived at, were more strongly confirmed than ever before, and my faith in the **revealed word of the Lord strengthened**, if that were possible.

<https://archive.org/details/improvementera2102unse/page/160/mode/2up>



“By Elder Anthony W. Ivins,
of the Council of the Twelve”
1917



May **the Lord** preserve us from **delusions** which are abroad in the land, fix faith firmly in our hearts that we may **hold fast to the iron rod which is the word of God**, and it will bear us safely through, until we find our way back into the presence of our Creator, and then we will understand. **Yes, there has been evolution, evolution will continue until we shall become like him**, knowing as we are known, seeing as we are seen, and comprehending that in all these wonderful works that are around us, the wisdom of God is manifest and that the laws by which they have been accomplished are simple, and will be simple to us when we come to understand them.

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JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH, OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

Whose dissertation in this number, on "The Origin and Destiny of Man," with a side light on evolution, and telling arguments showing its inadequacies and inconsistencies, is worth careful study and a double reading.

IMPROVEMENT ERA

Vol. XXIII

MARCH 1920

No. 5

The Origin and Destiny of Man

With a Sidelight on Evolution—the Great "Miracle of Unbelief"

By Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, of the Council of the Twelve*

My Brethren and Sisters:—Throughout the discussion of this topic, I would like you to keep in mind the following passages of scripture:

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth; but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned (I Cor. 2:11-14).

Then I beheld all the work of God, that a man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun: because though a man labor to seek it out, yet he shall not find it; yea further; though a wise man think to know it, yet shall he not be able to find it (Ecclesiastes 8:17).

The great difficulty with most scientists is that they are searching to find out God and all his works through the spirit of man, which knows not the ways of the Lord which are spiritually discerned. No man by searching, without the inspiration of the Holy Ghost, can find out God. It is the holy Priesthood that "holdeth the key of the mysteries of the kingdom even the key of the knowledge of God; therefore, in the ordinances thereof, the power of godliness is manifest; and without the ordinances thereof, and the authority of the Priest-

*Remarks at a meeting in the Tenth ward, Salt Lake City, Sunday evening, December 28, 1919. Especially revised for the *Era* by the speaker.

March 1920



The Origin
and

Destiny of Man

"...is worth careful study
and a double reading."

by Joseph Fielding Smith, Of The Council of The Twelve

<https://archive.org/details/improvementera2305unse/page/n3/mode/2up>

The Origin and Destiny of Man, March 1920

by Joseph Fielding Smith, Of The Council of The Twelve



It was not until man forsook the divine guidance which the Lord was always willing to extend to him, that retrogression set in. The “cave man” and the savage are products of transgression and sin; for, in the beginning man was intelligent, and directed by light and truth, even by the Savior, Jesus Christ, **who is the Mediator between man and God. The destiny of man is to become, through stages of progression, like unto his Father**; and after the resurrection from the dead, he shall be added upon, as the scriptures say, until he shall receive all things “which the father hath,” and shall be counted as a son and joint heir with Jesus Christ, the first-fruits of the resurrection and the Savior of the world. **This, then, is true evolution, which all Latter-day Saints believe. ...**





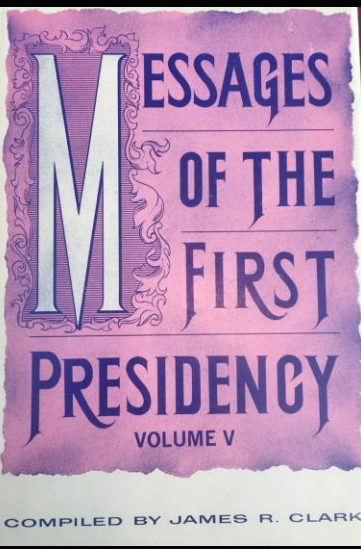
The Origin and Destiny of Man, March 1920

by Joseph Fielding Smith, Of The Council of The Twelve



It is true that the school of **evolutionists** is divided into the two great classes, the Theistic and the Atheistic branches. But the Theistic **evolutionist** is a weak-kneed and unbelieving religionist, who is constantly apologizing for the miracles of the scriptures, and who does not believe in the divine mission of **Jesus Christ**. Again I repeat, **no man can consistently accept the doctrine of the evolutionist and also believe in the divine mission of our Redeemer**. The two thoughts are in absolute conflict. You cannot harmonize them and serve both masters.

In July, 1925, Darwinism had attracted international attention when John T. Scopes, a young high school teacher, had disobeyed the law of the State of Tennessee by teaching Darwinism or evolution. He was convicted and the results of the trial had national and international repercussions. Discussion was widespread in L.D.S. circles. Under these circumstances, the title of the message itself is not without significance.



The 1925 First Presidency statement constitutes a shortened or condensed form of the statement issued by the former 1909 First Presidency statement on “The Origin of Man.” Paragraphs 1-5 are extracts from paragraphs 3, 13, 14, 30, 34 and 35 of the 1909 statement.

1925 First Presidency



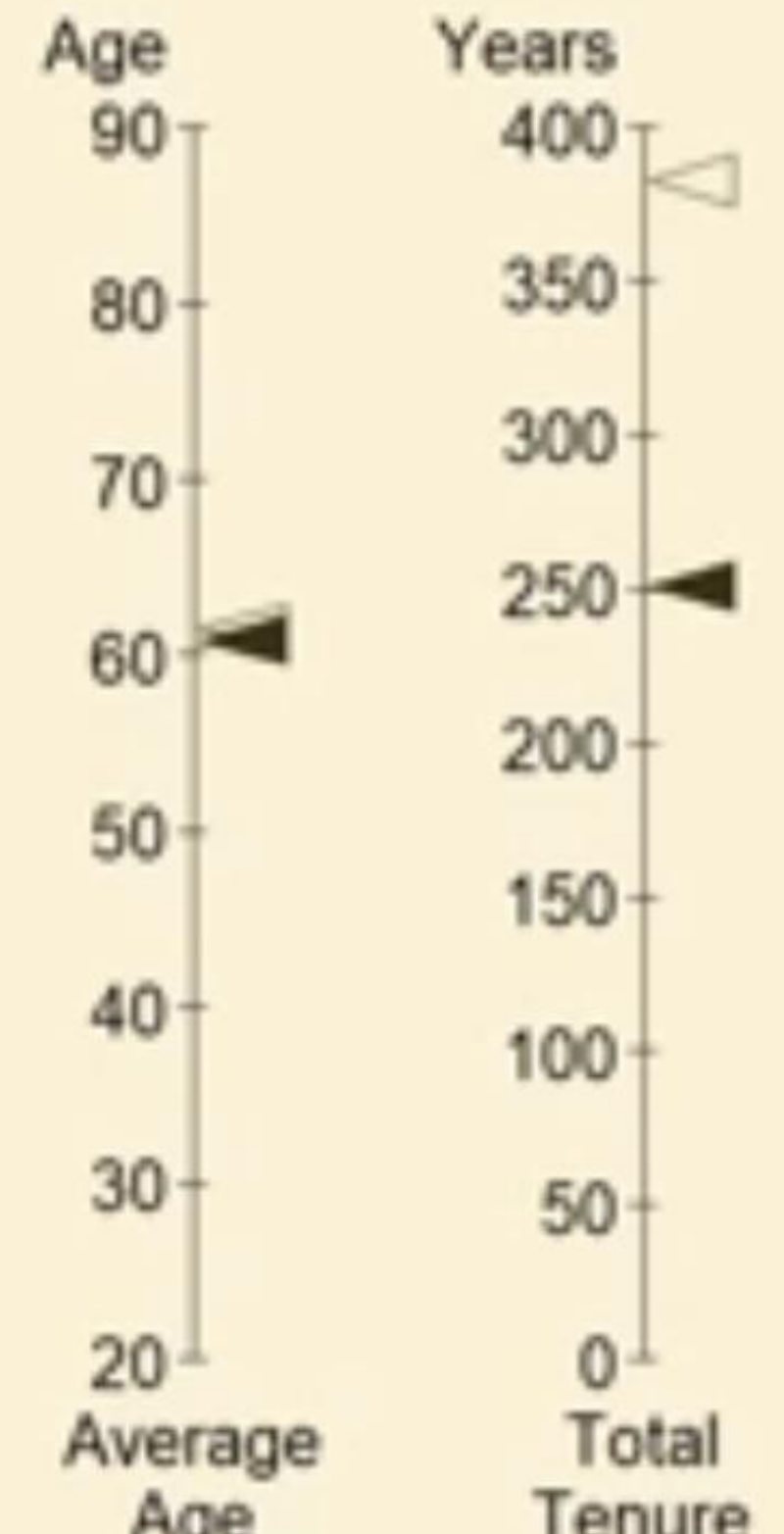
“Mormon” View of Evolution, Improvement Era 28: 1090-1091

Sept., 1925

1909

- President, future President
- Quoted or Upcoming quote

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

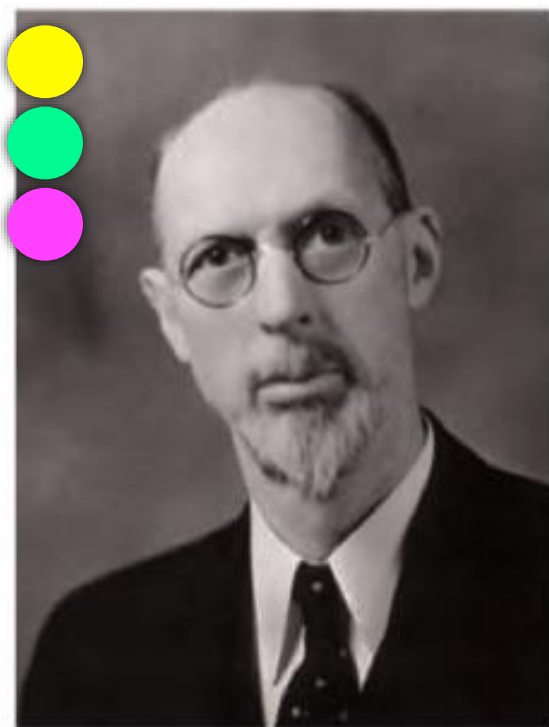




President George Albert Smith, Conference Reports, Oct. 1925,

“Man did **not** come from a lower order of life. I am grateful that in the midst of the confusion of our Father’s children there has been given to the members of this great organization **a sure knowledge of the origin of man**, that we came from the spirit world where our spirits were begotten by our Father in Heaven, that he formed our first parents from the dust of the earth, and that their spirits were placed in their bodies, and that man came, **not** as some have believed, **not** as some have preferred to believe, **from some of the lower walks of life**, but our ancestors were those beings who lived in the courts of heaven. We came not from some menial order of life, but **our ancestor is God our Heavenly Father**. I am grateful that we are not laboring under a handicap such as I feel that some men are who feel that they have grown up and **evolved** from some unknown condition; but, on the contrary, standing as we do, facing the problems of life, believing as we do that **we were first created in the image of God**.”

Committee Assigned to Review *The Truth, The Way, The Life*



George Albert Smith—Chair



Joseph Fielding Smith



David O. McKay



Stephen L. Richards



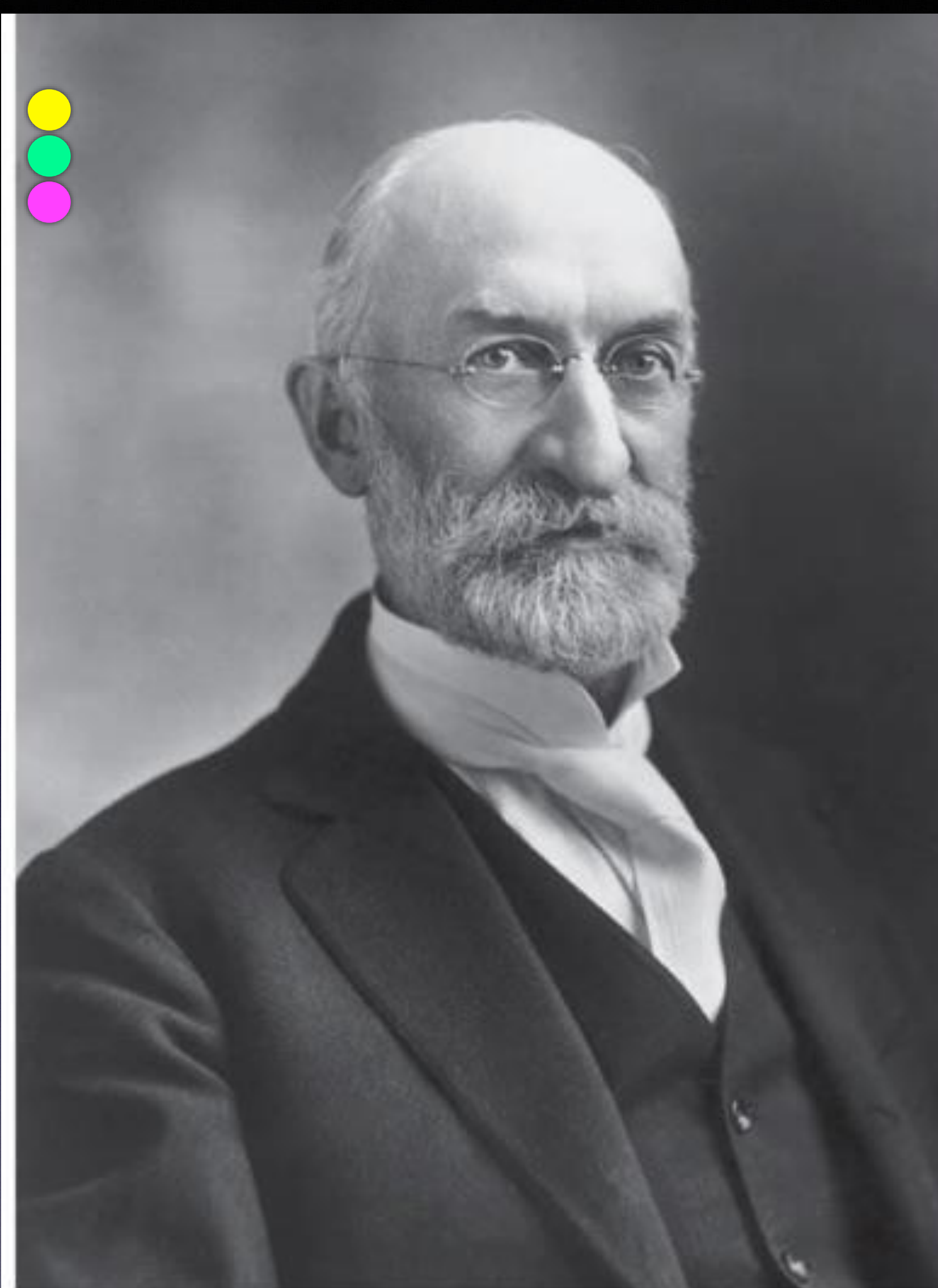
Melvin J. Ballard



A.C.H. 1902-1933

Robert's TWL

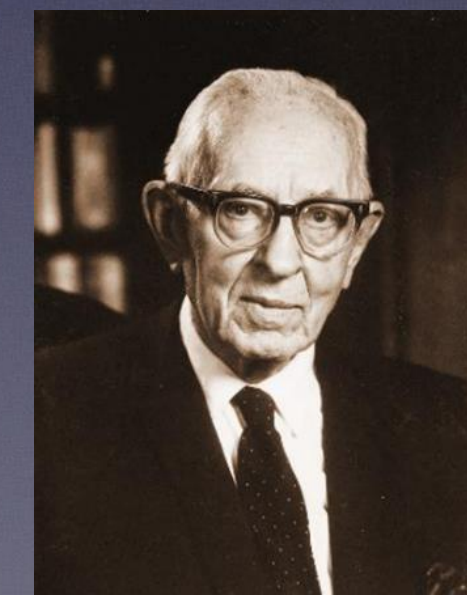
- President
- 1909
- 1925



Heber J. Grant. President Grant and his counselors authorized Roberts's stay in New York and provided him a stenographer. Because *The Truth, The Way, The Life* was considered an excellent work in many respects, President Grant sorrowed that Roberts insisted on including in it "some things that I think [are] problematical and cannot be demonstrated." LDS Church Archives.

Elder Joseph Fielding Smith

I have **not** felt that I am under any obligation to accept the **theories** which are based on scientific research, **but have the divine right to question them.** I am, however, under obligation to accept **revealed truth which comes through the opening of the heavens from the One** who “comprehendeth all things,” and when I find what I believe to be a conflict between **the theories of men** and **the word of the Lord**, I am bold to say that I accept the latter with full confidence that the [scientific] theories must be changed.

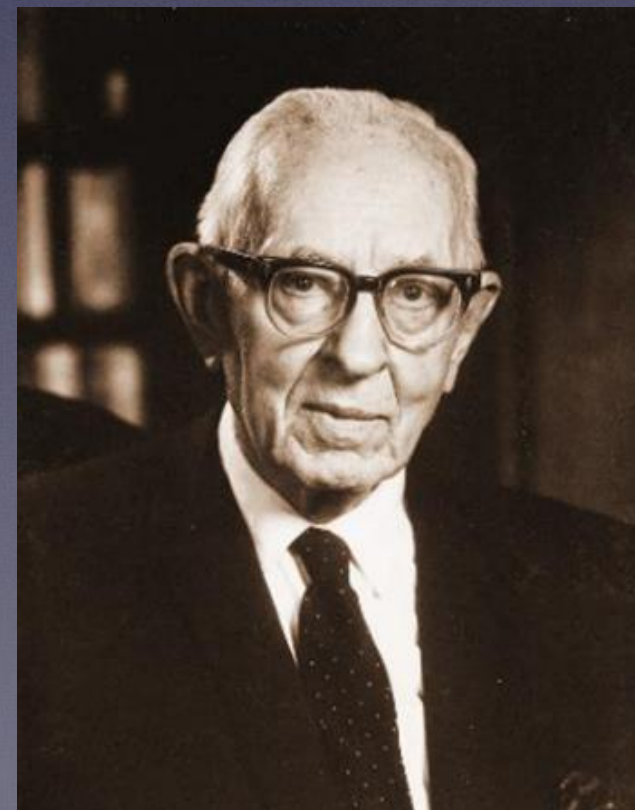


Joseph Fielding Smith to Sterling B. Talmage,
September 29, **1934**. Sterling B. Talmage Papers, Marriott Library.

Elder Joseph Fielding Smith

When I think I find something which tends to destroy the faith of the youth in these **revelations**, or which is hurtful to this truth, I have opposed it with vigor and have freely expressed my views. **I believe I am willing to modify my views if the evidence indicated that my interpretation has been wrong.**

Joseph Fielding Smith to Sterling B. Talmage,
September 29, **1934**. Sterling B. Talmage papers, Marriott Library.



“I would like to say just a word about my testimony of **the mission of Jesus Christ**. I want to go a little farther back for a moment, if I can be given guidance by the Spirit of the Lord to speak the truth accurately, and mention the great condition precedent to the efficacy of **the mission of Jesus Christ**. That condition precedent is the mission of **Father Adam**, because without the mission of **Adam** there would have been no need for the mission of atonement—of **Jesus Christ**.”



Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953

I have an assignment from **the First Presidency** to serve on the Church publications committee. This committee is expected to read and pass upon the literature proposed for use in the study courses of our auxiliary organizations. It would please me immensely if, in the preparation of this literature, we could get away from using the language of those who do not believe in the mission of **Adam**. I have reference to words and phrases such as "**primitive man**," "**prehistoric man**," "**before men learned to write**," and **the like**. We sometimes use these terms in a way that offends my feelings; in a way which indicates to me that we get mixed up in our understanding of the mission of **Adam**. The connotation of **these terms**, as used by unbelievers, is out of harmony with our understanding of the mission of **Adam**.

Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953



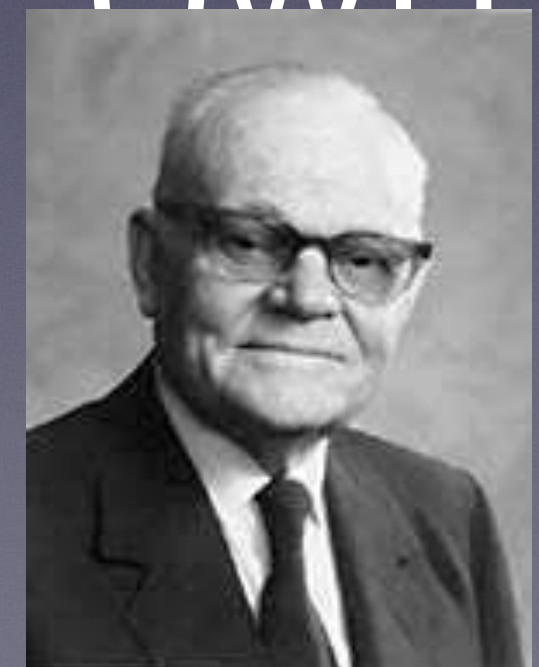
Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953

"**Adam** fell that man might be" (2 Ne. 2:25). There were **no** **pre-Adamic men** in the line of **Adam**. **The Lord said** that **Adam** was the first man (D&C 84:16, Moses 1:34, Moses 3:7). It is hard for me to get the idea of a man ahead of **Adam**, before the first man. **The Lord also said** that **Adam** was the first flesh (Moses 3:7) which, as I understand it, means the first mortal on the earth. I understand from a statement in the book of **Moses**, which was made by **Enoch**, that there was **no** death in the world **before** **Adam** (Moses 6:48, see also 2 Ne. 2:22) Enoch said:

. . . “death hath come upon our fathers;
nevertheless we know them, and cannot deny,
and even **the first of all we know**, even
Adam.

For a book of remembrance we have written
among us, according to the pattern given by
the finger of God; and it is given in our own
language” (Moses 6:45-46).

Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953



I understand from this that **Enoch** could read about **Adam** in a book which had been written under the tutelage of Almighty God. Thus there were no prehistoric men who could not write because men living in the days of **Adam**, who was the first man, wrote.



Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953

I am not a scientist. I do not profess to know anything but **Jesus Christ**, and **him** crucified (1 Cor. 2:2) and the principles of **his** gospel. **If**, however, there are some things in the strata of the earth indicating there were men before **Adam**, they were not the ancestors of **Adam**.



Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953

Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, General Conference April 1953



Adam was the son of God. **He** was our elder brother, not older than **Jesus** but **he** was our brother in the same sense that **Jesus** was our brother, and **he** “fell” to earth life. **He** did **not** come up through an unbroken line of **organic evolution**. There had to be a fall. “**Adam** fell that men might be” (2 Ne. 2:25). . . .

Elder Marion G. Romney, Of the Council of the Twelve Apostles,
Nurture a Testimony, **General Conference** April 1953



I must not go into a longer discussion, but I say again that I would be very pleased if, in our teaching of the gospel, we could keep revealed truth straight in our minds and not get it confused with the ideas and theories of men, who do not believe what the Lord has revealed with respect to the fall of Adam.

Marion G. Romney



- President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: November 10, 1985 – May 20, 1988
- First Counselor of the First Presidency: Spencer W. Kimball; December 2, 1982 – November 5, 1985,
- Second Counselor of the First Presidency: Harold B. Lee/Spencer W. Kimball; July 7, 1972 – December 2, 1982
- Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: October 4, 1951 – July 7, 1972

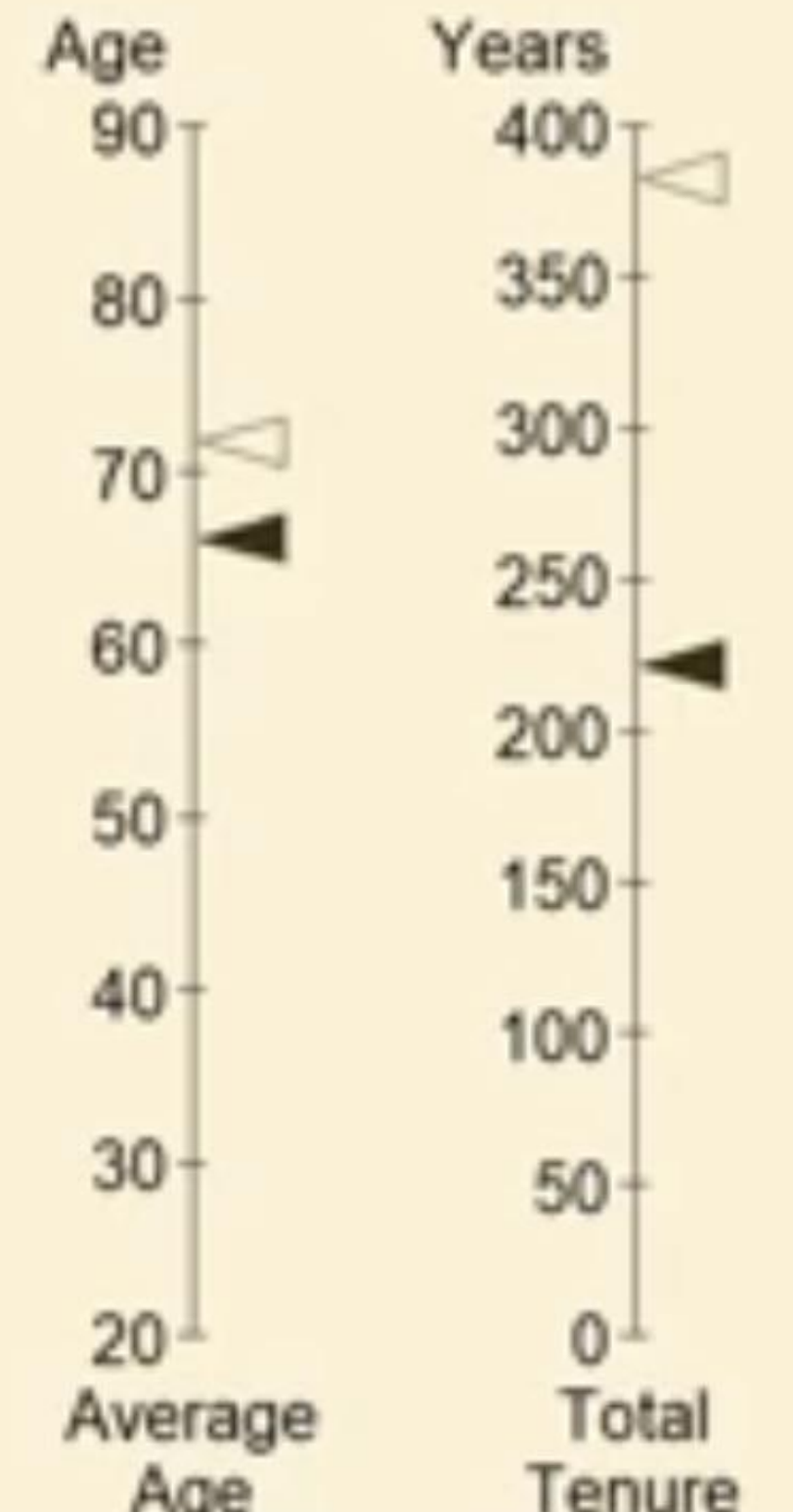
1954 First Presidency



Man His Origin and Destiny,
by President Joseph Fielding Smith

- 1909
- 1925
- President, future President
- quoted

Quorum of the Twelve Apostles

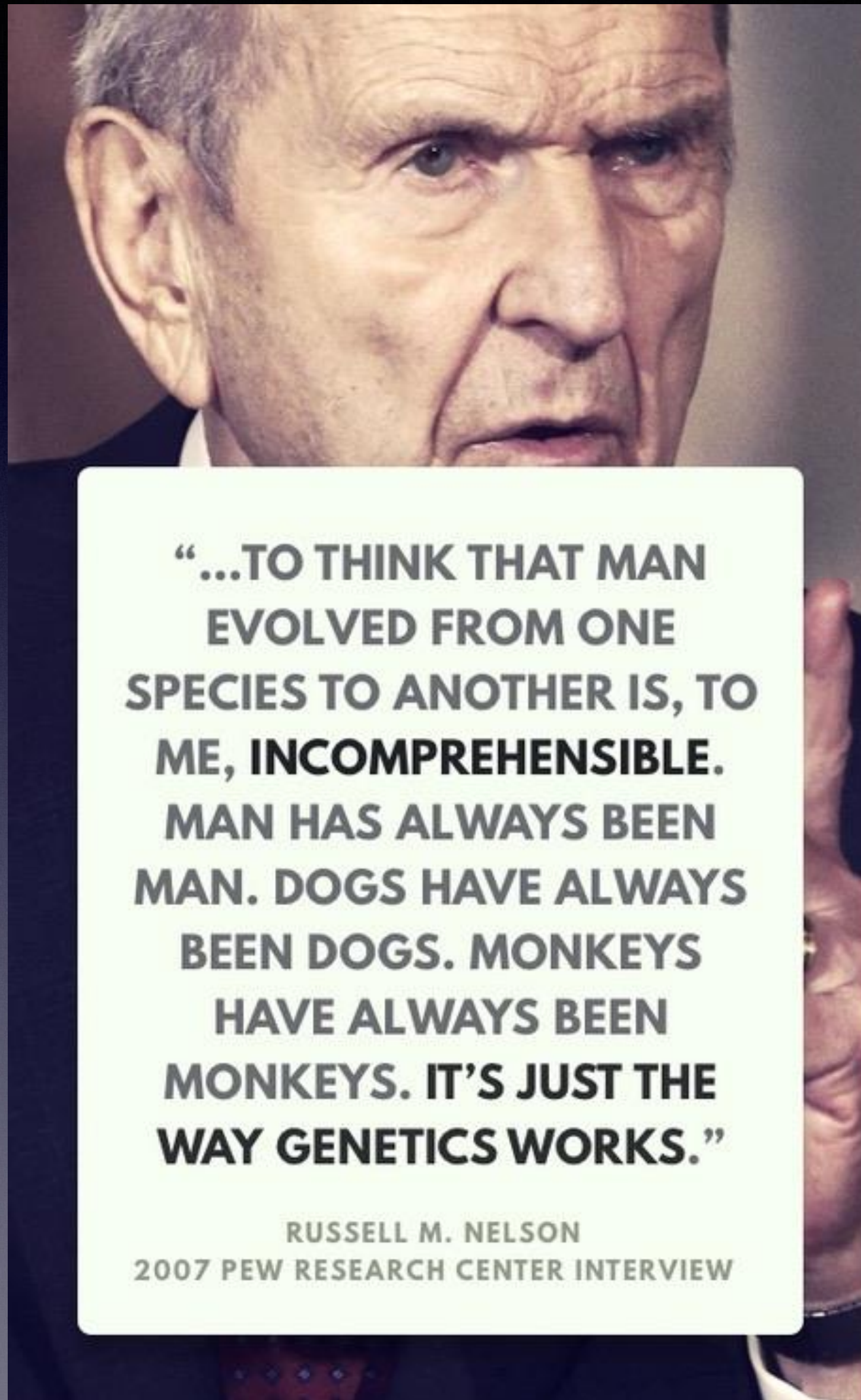




Elder LeGrand Richards,
I Tell You of Heavenly Things, Oct. 1962

“I have said that if I did not have an assurance that God intended that the companionship of husband and wife here in mortality should be projected into the eternal worlds, I would just about as soon believe that death would be a complete annihilation of both body and spirit, but when the Lord placed **Adam in the garden before death was known in the world**, he said it was not good for man to be alone, and he gave him a helpmeet (Gen. 2:18).”

#1 The prophet is the only man who speaks for the Lord in everything.



“...TO THINK THAT MAN EVOLVED FROM ONE SPECIES TO ANOTHER IS, TO ME, INCOMPREHENSIBLE. MAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN MAN. DOGS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN DOGS. MONKEYS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MONKEYS. IT’S JUST THE WAY GENETICS WORKS.”

RUSSELL M. NELSON
2007 PEW RESEARCH CENTER INTERVIEW

“Evolution by natural selection is the most important scientific discovery of modern times (I am stoically unapologetic about the lack of equivocation in that statement). **The evidences for it are staggeringly abundant, detailed, and scientifically undeniable.”**

STEVEN L. PECK - BYU PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY
'WHY MORMONS SHOULD EMBRACE EVOLUTION'

*MISSED IN
SUNDAY.com

D & C 132: 7

D & C 21: 4-6

Fourteen Fundamentals
in Following the Prophet

President Ezra Taft Benson
Feb. 26, 1980

When an individual encounters this
conflict between evolution and
creation...



Ben Spackman

“Well, **It’s very clear that apostles, prophets and scriptures reject evolution** and, ah, you decide that science is a conspiracy, it’s false, maybe it’s satanic, and you start claiming that true church doctrine is a young earth and, ah, creationism and moreover those professors at BYU are leading the church astray. They’re off base. Currently this is the heartlander movement. They are literally doing this.”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xPAI_GmgNA&t=249s

“I also consider it a personal imperative to enrich my own religious community with the best of scholarship...”

Ben Spackman



“The Problem in the Church is **not** that you can’t be an **evolutionist** and accept church doctrine. **The problem is the nature of prophets, scripture and revelation.** If you think they must know what God knows and always teach what God knows as facts, by that standard. Again I want to be clear—by that standard—**Our Prophets and scriptures are false.**”

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xPAI_GmgNA&t=249s

Fourteen Fundamentals in Following the Prophet

#11 The two groups who have the greatest difficulty in following the prophet are the **proud** who are learned and the **proud** who are rich.

The learned may feel the prophet is only inspired when he agrees with them; **otherwise, the prophet is just giving his opinion** [his assumptions]—speaking as a man. The rich may feel they have no need to take counsel of a lowly prophet.



President Ezra Taft Benson
Feb. 26, 1980

By President Gordon B. Hinckley
Second Counselor in the First Presidency
“God Hath Not Given Us the Spirit of Fear”
October 1984



I remember when I was a college student there were great discussions on the question of **organic evolution**. I took classes in geology and biology and heard the whole story of **Darwinism** as it was then taught. I wondered about it. I thought much about it. **But I did not let it throw me**, for I read what the scriptures said about our origins and our relationship to God. Since then **I have become acquainted with what to me is a far more important and wonderful kind of evolution**. It is the **evolution** of men and women as the sons and daughters of God, and of our marvelous potential for growth as children of our Creator.

President Nelson
Constancy amid Change
Oct. 1993
General Conference



Adam and Eve were **the first people to live upon the earth**. They were different from the plant and animal life that had been created previously. Adam and Eve were children of God. Their bodies of flesh and bone were made in the express image of God's. In that state of innocence, **they were not yet mortal**. They could have had no children, **were not subject to death**, and could have lived in Eden's garden forever. Thus, we might speak of the Creation in terms of a *paradisiacal* creation.

President Nelson

Constancy amid Change

Oct. 1993

General Conference



If that state had persisted, you and I would still be stranded among the heavenly host as unborn sons and daughters of God. “The great plan of [happiness] would have been frustrated”

Spencer W. Kimball



Anthony W. Ivins



Both had lived in the state of Arizona

Petrified Forest National Park, AZ





The Fullness of the Gospel—Its Power to Unite—Its Comprehensiveness—Definition of Its Priesthood—Condition of Apostates.
Discourse by President Brigham Young, delivered in the New Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday Afternoon, August 11, 1872.

The philosophy of our religion embraces all the **true** philosophy, every art and every science there is on the face of the whole earth, and when they step outside the pale of the Christian religion, the power of God and the priesthood of the **Son of God**, they step out of the kingdom of heaven, and they then have cisterns that will hold no water, Jer. 2:13 systems that will not bear **scrutinizing**. I know that a great many of the scientific men of the world philosophize upon this, that and the other thing. Geologists will tell us the earth has stood so many millions of years. Why? Because the Valley of the Mississippi could not have washed out under about so many years, or so long a time. The Valley of Western Colorado, here, could not have washed out without taking such a length of time. What do they know about it? Nothing in comparison.



The Fullness of the Gospel—Its Power to Unite—Its Comprehensiveness—Definition of Its Priesthood—Condition of Apostates.
Discourse by President Brigham Young, delivered in the New Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday Afternoon, August 11, 1872.

They also reason about the age of the world by the **marvelous specimens of petrification** that are sometimes discovered. Now we can show them plenty of places where there are trees, perfect stone, running into the solid rock, and perhaps the rock is forty, fifty, or a hundred feet above the tree. Yet it is a perfect tree. **There is the bark, there is the heart, and there is the outer coating between the heart and the bark, all perfect rock. How long did it take to make this tree into rock?** We do not know. I can tell them, simply this—when **the Lord Almighty** brings forth the power of his chemistry, **he** can combine the elements and make a tree into rock in one night or one day, if **he** chooses, or **he** can let it lie until it pulverizes and blows to the four winds, without petrifying, just as **he** pleases.



He brings together these elements as **he** sees proper, for **he is the greatest** [p. 127a]**chemist there is.** **He** knows more about chemistry and about the formation of the earth and about dividing the earth, and more about the mountains, valleys, rocks, hills, plains, and the sands than all the scientific men that we have. This we can say of a truth. Well, if it takes a million years to make a perfect rock of one kind of a tree, say a cedar tree, how long would it take to make a perfect rock of a cottonwood tree? Let the chemists tell this, if they can, but they cannot tell it.

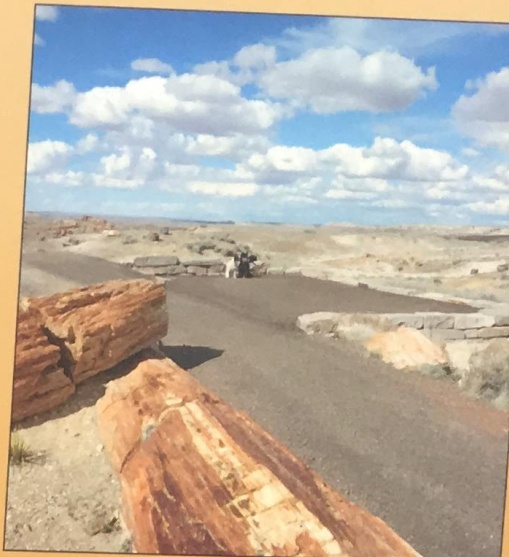


Our religion embraces chemistry; it embraces all the knowledge of the geologist, and then it goes a little further than their systems of argument, for **the Lord Almighty**, its author, is the greatest chemist there is.



Crystal Forest

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



Halfway around the trail loop, there is a spot for rest and reflection.



Welcome shade on a sunny day.

Explore Crystal Forest, a fantastic deposit of petrified logs dating back to the dawn of the dinosaurs. Signs along the trail will help you understand how these logs turned to stone and their significance.

Thank you for staying on trail—watch where you step and leave all traces of Earth's history for future visitors.

Crystal Forest Trail

Distance: 0.8 mi (1.3 km) loop

Surface: Asphalt

Elevation Gain: 122 ft (37.2 m)
Elevation Loss: 94.1 ft (28.69 m)

Accessibility Information:

--- Meets Standards for Outdoor Developed Areas
--- Grades up to 20%

Typical Cross Slope: 2.2%
Max Cross Slope: 11.3%

Typical Tread Width: 71 in (179.8 cm)
Min Tread Width: 65 in (165.1 cm)

No Obstacles



Hypretherm

Water Pressure

30,000 ft. = 13,395 psi

Continental
Crust

Oceanic
Crust

Frictional Heat

350° - 400°C (650°-750°F)

UM

A photograph of three people standing in front of a large black sign that reads "Valley of Fire State Park". The sign is set against a desert landscape with red rock formations and sparse vegetation under a cloudy sky. The person on the left is wearing a black jacket and pants. The person in the middle is wearing a grey hoodie with "Levi's" on it and shorts. The person on the right is wearing a blue jacket and black pants. The ground is dry and rocky, and the background features prominent red rock hills.

Valley of Fire State Park



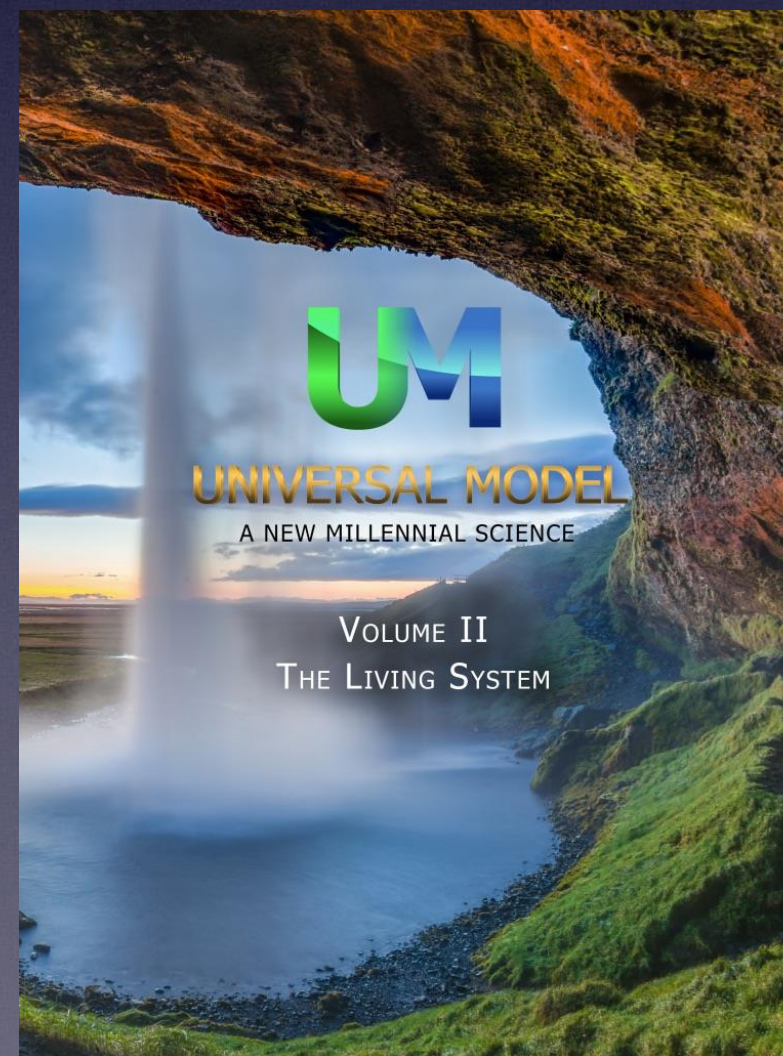


petrified log

Petrified forests are rather common in the West, and are often made up of a wide variety of trees. The trees of this “forest,” however, are ancient pines that grew near here during the great Age of Reptiles, approximately 150 million years ago.



Vol. II Chapter 10 The Age Model



Valley of Fire State Park, NV

Millions of years ago this tree likely grew with others of its kind in a forest several miles from here. Later, flood waters carried the fallen log to this area where it was buried beneath thousands of feet of silt, sand and sea deposits. Here it slowly changed to stone.



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p. 214

“Today’s geologists graduate **without** a basic understanding of the crystallization process and mineral formation from **water**.”

First Petrified Wood Made 2/12/05! Figure 11.4.2



eph Fielding Smith and Spencer W. Kimball, would have loved to have read the Universal Model



<https://universalmodel.com>

<https://universalmodel.com>

UM

UNIVERSAL MODEL

A NEW MILLENNIAL SCIENCE



BA in Near Eastern Studies from **BYU** in 2001.
He taught New Testament, Book of Mormon, and Biblical Hebrew at **BYU**. He has taught various courses in a volunteer capacity for the **LDS Church Education System** since 2003.

“SCIENCE FALSELY SO CALLED”: HOW LATTER-DAY SAINTS CAME TO MISREAD SCRIPTURE AS SCIENCE

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0xPAI_GmgNA&t=249s

05/04/2020

LDS scholar Ben Spackman in a Fireside he gave in Washington DC, Feb 28, 2020

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“SCIENCE FALSELY SO CALLED”: HOW LATTER-DAY SAINTS CAME TO MISREAD SCRIPTURE AS SCIENCE



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05/04/2020

#3 The living prophet
is more important to us
than a dead prophet

President Nelson

Constancy amid Change

Oct. 1993

General Conference

