

Heber J. Grant
JOURNAL

EVOLUTION

B. H. ROBERTS

Excerpts taken from the Heber J. Grant Daily Journal - - - 22 Sept. 1930

SIC Thursday 22 May 1930 - Brother B. E. Roberts called, and we discussed the contents of his new book, telling him of the feeling of the brethren of the Twelve that they could not approve of some parts of it. He was determined not to make any change and finally requested that we drop the matter for the time being, as he was leaving for California to attend a stake conference and did not feel like discussing the matter. I feel very sorry to think that Brother Roberts is determined to put in the book some things that I think are problematical and cannot be demonstrated. Inasmuch as the Church has furnished him a stenographer while he was in New York and since he returned, to compile this book, I think that before it is published he must come to an understanding as to what shall go into it, and we object emphatically to his putting anything in it that the Presidency and Apostles cannot approve.

I intended to go through the temple, but on account of the Presidency's interview with Brother Roberts it was too late for me to do.

Pres. H. J. Grant Journal pp. 80-81

SIC Sunday 25 Jan. 1931 At ten o'clock this morning President Ivins and I met at the office and we read part of the communication of Joseph Fielding Smith to the Apostles, and part of the communication from Brother B. E. Roberts. Brother Ivins took these documents home with him Saturday and read them, and so after reading part of these documents he suggested that we go home for lunch, and as he had read them that I read the balance that I had not yet read and that we wait and let Brother Nibley see them before coming to any decision. Brother Roberts has been teaching that this earth was inhabited prior to the advent of Adam, and Brother Smith has been preaching that it was not so inhabited. The total number of pages in the two documents is 105.

(Grant Journal 7.19)

Later in the day and this evening I read the balance of these articles. As soon as Brother Nibley comes home the Presidency ought to go over these carefully and make a decision.

After reading the articles by Brothers Roberts and Smith, I feel that sermons such as Brother Joseph preached and criticisms such as Brother Roberts makes of the sermon are the finest kind of things to let alone entirely. I think no good can be accomplished by dealing in mysteries, and that is what I feel in my heart of hearts these brethren are both doing.

It is pp. 19-20

SIC Wednesday 25 Feb. 1931 At 11:00 met Brother Brigham E. Roberts and the Presidency discussed his disagreement with the preaching of Brother Joseph Fielding Smith. Our discussion lasted until after 1:00.

Grant Journal p. 44

SIC Monday 30 March 1931 The Presidency spent about an hour discussing differences of opinion regarding the creation of the earth, etc. as expressed in the controversy between Brothers B. H. Roberts and Elder Joseph Fielding Smith. Brother Ivins is ~~now~~ preparing a paper on the subject.

Grant Journal pp. 62-63

MATTHEW G. JAMES E. TALMAGE

SIC Monday Nov. 16, 1931 Brother James E. Talmage called and the Presidency went over his sermon delivered in the Tabernacle two or three months ago, which had been referred to the Apostles. They had not been able to agree on it. He asked him to go over his sermon and make some slight changes that had been suggested by the brethren, which he agreed to do. The matter had been in abeyance as to its publication for many weeks.

Grant Journal p. 218

SIC 17 Nov. 1931 At 11:30 Brother James E. Talmage called, and we went over his address delivered in the Tabernacle a number of weeks ago, and authorized its publication and also gave authorization for it to be printed in the same form as the radio addresses, for distribution.

Grant Journal, p. 219

President Heber Z. Grant Journal 12 Sept. 1950

SIC 21 June 1930 After lunch Brother Guy C. Wilson called and read a chapter from a book that is being prepared along historical and religious lines for the seminaries. He approved of it and suggested that he make it even stronger. It was with regard to the faith of the leaders in early days in plural marriage. He said the idea was growing among the young people that the introduction of polygamy was a mistake. I read to him a list of the apostles at the time that Brother Lyman was president of the Quorum of the Twelve, and showed him that eight of them were the product of polygamy, that three were too old to have been born in polygamy, and only one of the entire twelve who was young enough to have been the product of polygamy, Mathias F. Cowley, was not the product of polygamy, and he lost his standing in the Council because of advocating the practice of plural marriage after the Lord had said stop. It is a fine thing for the people to get it into their heads that when the Lord tells you to do something and then tells you to quit doing it, he should be obeyed in both cases.

Grant Journal p 97

SIC Friday 16 January 1931 President Clawson reported regarding the discussion between Joseph Fielding Smith and B.H. Roberts. He decided that the Twelve should hear the case before reporting to us. As Brother Roberts had appeared before the Twelve and stated his case it is only fair that they should hear Brother Smith also

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