

# William Holmes Walker 1820

by Will Walker

I chose to write about William Holmes Walker for my ancestor because I was named after him. He is my great, great, great, great grandpa. He was born in Vermont in 1820. As I learned about him, I discovered that he was a hard worker. He was a good friend with a person I like, Joseph Smith, a prophet for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

William worked hard by going on two missions, one in South Africa and one in Southern Utah or Dixie. He left his family for three years in Utah, and he went to South Africa. When he went to Dixie, he took his family with him and spent four years settling Toquerville. He helped build the Salt Lake temple and the Nauvoo temple. William's family had to live in a covered wagon box until William built a house for their family with his own hands. That shows how he was a good worker. He also built a flour mill, a saw mill, and he was a farmer, and that got money for his family.

William served in the Mormon Battalion. The Mormon Battalion was a group of Mormon men who were asked by the United States government to help fight the Mexican-American war. War had already started, but William got sick on the way there. The doctor sent him to his family when his family was crossing the plains on the way to Utah. He found his family crossing the plains to Utah.

He had lived with Joseph Smith for three years, and they were good friends ever since. He protected Joseph Smith from when mobs of men were attacking him.

I like William Holmes Walker most because of how I got my name, William Joseph Walker. I got William from his name. I got Joseph because he was good friends with Joseph Smith. I got Walker because the name got passed down. That is how I got my name. I'm glad that he is my ancestor because he is nice, kind, loving, sharing and hard working.