

LIFE SKETCH OF DANIEL WILLIAMS AND HIS WIFE, RUTH JONES WILLIAMS

Daniel Williams, a son of Roderick and Elizabeth Evans Williams, was born 23 August 1783 in Breconshire, Llandilorfán, South Wales. His wife, Ruth, a daughter of William and Margaret David Jones, was born in March 1780 in Tri-Abbot, Breconshire, Wales.

They were married 18 December 1802, when he was 19 years and she was 22. They had eight children, all of whom were born on their farm called Blackthorn in Breconshire, Wales.

Ruth was baptized into the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints on 4 November 1849, and Daniel was baptized in 1853, just before they sailed to America. A family historian said he delayed being baptized because if he became a Mormon, nobody would hire him to work for them. He was a basket weaver, farmer, and gardener.

They were able to pay their own fare for the trip to America without help from the Church. They sailed for America in mid-February of 1853 and arrived in New Orleans from which they came to Salt Lake Valley. When they started out across the plains they had a team and wagon, but something went wrong with their wagon and some other wagons. So Daniel walked most of the way and led a horse which Ruth rode. At that time when they arrived, he was 70 and she was 73. They arrived in Salt Lake Valley in October. Their son John J. Williams and his wife Jane Emma Merrifield Williams arrived two weeks later. The parents left England two weeks earlier than John and Jane and were two weeks ahead of them all the way.

Both families settled in Brigham City. Daniel and Ruth had their endowments in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City and were sealed the same day on 14 September 1861. They lived in Brigham City until Ruth died in November 1868. She is buried in Brigham City. At this time Daniel moved to Idaho and made his home with sons and daughters in Samaria and Malad. John J. Williams, the next to the youngest son, had moved with his families to Malad in 1865. They were among the first settlers of Malad. Daniel died 18 December 1870 at Samaria and was buried beside his wife in Brigham City.

Their sons and daughters are:

Roderick Jones Williams, who married Ann Price
William Jones Williams, who married Ann Williams
Reese Jones Williams, who never married
Daniel Jones Williams, who married Margaret Evans and Ann Mason
Ruth Williams, who married John E. Price (they lived in Samaria)
Mary Williams, who married David Price Davis; he came to America
and left Mary in Wales.
John Jones Williams, who married Jane Emma Merrifield and Mary Jones
Samuel Daniel Williams, who married Elizabeth Perry (they lived in
Samaria)

Compiled by LaVeda E. Williams