

DOCTRINE AND COVENANTS SECTION 114

DAVID W. PATTEN—A MAN OF FAITH

IMPORTANT GOSPEL PRINCIPLES:

- We should prepare now so we can effectively serve the Lord when called (1).
- The Lord will replace those He calls to serve if they are not faithful (all of 114).

At the time of this revelation, many Church members were criticizing the Prophet Joseph Smith and had fallen away from the Church because of persecution. Some of them were Church leaders. In Doctrine and Covenants 114:2, the Lord said that these men would be replaced. Time has shown that those who apostatize cannot stop the Lord's work from progressing. The Lord will appoint others to replace those who do not do what they are called to do to help in the unfolding kingdom of God. God's work will be accomplished!



In Doctrine and Covenants 114, Elder David W. Patten, a member of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles, received a call to serve. Unfortunately, Elder Patten never served that mission. Six months after he received the call, he was killed in the battle of Crooked River, 25 October 1838. Earlier, Elder Patten had made known to the Prophet that he had asked the Lord to let him die the death of a martyr, at which the Prophet, greatly moved, expressed extreme sorrow, "for," said he to Elder Patten, "when a man of your faith asks the Lord for anything, he generally gets it."