Comments on Doctrine & Covenants 114

1 Verily thus saith the Lord: It is wisdom in my servant David W. Patten, that he settle up all his business as soon as he possibly can, and make a disposition of his merchandise, that he may perform a mission unto me next spring, in company with others, even twelve including himself, to testify of my name and bear glad tidings unto all the world.

2 For verily thus saith the Lord, that inasmuch as there are those among you who deny my name, others shall be planted in their stead and receive their bishopric. Amen.

v1 Patten is to conclude his worldly business dealings, and turn to full time missionary work.

v2 Those whom reject the Church are to be removed from the rolls of the Church and have other faithful members replace them in their callings.

Historical Material pertaining to Doctrine and Covenants 114

While Patten intended to follow the dictates of this section, he was killed during the Battle of Crooked River in Missouri on October 25, 1838.

This section was first published in the Deseret News, volume 3, number 9, page 33, dated March 19, 1853. It was published in the Millennial Star, volume 16, number 10, pages 147, dated March 11, 1854. It was first published in the Doctrine and Covenants in 1876, page 376.

Excerpt from Church History and Modern Revelation

On April 17, 1838, the Prophet received a revelation for David W. Patten who had for some time been located in Missouri and with Elder Thomas B. Marsh was maintain a steady influence amidst the opposition of disaffected brethren, including the three who had been appointed to preside, David Whitmer, William W. Phelps and John Whitmer. The Lord called upon Elder Patten to settle up his business as soon as possible, make a disposition of his merchandise, and prepare to take a mission the following Spring, in the company with other to preach the Gospel to all the world. (Joseph Fielding Smith, Church History and Modern Revelation, 1949, page 114)

Copyright © 2021 by S. Kurt Neumiller <kurt.neumiller@gmail.com>. All rights reserved. No part of this text may be reproduced in any form or by any means for commercial gain without the express written consent of the author. Digital or printed copies may be freely made and distributed for personal and public non-commercial use.