
Doctrine and Covenants 118 — Next Spring from the Temple

A revelation given through Joseph Smith at Far West, Missouri, on July 8, 1838, in answer to the question, 'Show us thy will, O Lord, concerning the Twelve.'

This revelation answers the question *Show us thy will, O Lord, concerning the Twelve* — directing that the vacancies in the Quorum be filled, naming the new Apostles, and appointing them to depart on a mission *over the great waters* the next spring, taking their leave from the temple site at Far West on a fixed date: April 26, 1839.

From the Chapter's Architecture

Six verses, a charge to the Quorum. It opens with the **filling of the Twelve** (vv. 1–2): hold a conference, organize the Quorum, appoint men to replace the fallen. It gives the **commission** (vv. 3–4): go over the great waters next spring and promulgate the gospel. It fixes the **time and place** (v. 5): April 26, 1839, on the building-spot of the temple at Far West. And it **names the new Apostles** (v. 6): Taylor, Page, Woodruff, Richards. The architecture is brief and exact — and the exactness is the point: a date and a place named in advance, kept against every obstacle, so that the keeping became a witness.