VIII. The Nauvoo Temple

Conductor's Score and all parts

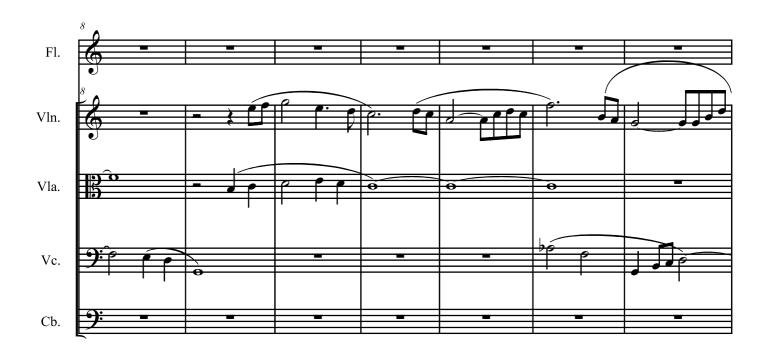
ed robbins

Narrator (underscore): In Nauvoo, the Mormons set to work building a temple. The Nauvoo temple would not be a chapel or a meeting house. It would, however, answer a question posed for centuries by those seeking to understand the doctrine of Christ: If baptism truly is essential, what of the millions upon millions of people who have lived upon the earth without ever having heard of Jesus Christ, let alone accept his baptism. The prevailing answer in Joseph's day was that the souls of these people were simply lost. But through revelation Joseph knew otherwise. In the Nauvoo temple, the ordinance of baptism for the dead, a practice Paul mentions in First Corinthians would be performed. Through this ordinance, the living are baptized, by proxy, for those who have died without baptism and these have the choice of accepting baptism just as if they had done so during their lives.

Also in the temple, marriages, not just "until death do you part" but for time and for all eternity would be performed. Family ties thus created would endure beyond this life and throughout the eternity of life to come [end "The Nauvoo Temple"]



Copyright 2011 L. Edward Robbins
Thank you: Joseph L. Townsend and William Clayson,
Oh, What Songs of the Heart,melody adapted
Copying for non-commercial purposes is permitted.







Narrator (no underscore): In the Old Testament, the Prophet Malachi prophecied of the turning of "the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers....," Malachi 4:6. Mormons believe that this prophecy is fulfilled through the work which takes place in modern day temples. It is for this reason that members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints embrace genealogy work--why today the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints sends teams throughout the world to copy birth, marriage and death records--why today the Church's genealogy library in Salt Lake City, Utah is the foremost genealogical research facility in the world.