



The Three Elijahs and Their Messages

"And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word." 1 Kings 18:21

"And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word." 1 Kings 17:1

There were sad bad days in Israel. Ahab the king had married a heathen princess and priestess of Baal, Jezebel and it was a disaster! Jezebel's name is known even today as a designing, crafty, malicious, revengeful, and cruel woman.

She was the first one on record to really organize persecution against the saints of God. Fearing neither God nor man, she was passionately devoted to her heathen worship, and was known for fierceness and violent temper. This would perhaps tell us why Ahab just allowed her to have her own way. She enforced Baal worship on all in Israel and killed many worshipers and prophets of the True God of heaven.

She spared no pains to uphold idolatry around her in all its splendour. Four hundred and fifty prophets ministered under her care to Baal, besides four hundred prophets of the groves ate at her table. The idolatry, too, was of the most debased kind.

You will see in Revelation 2:20, that her name is used to represent the cruel apostate church of the Middle Ages. Remember that Israel in the time of Ahab, was part of the 'chosen people of God', and yet, led astray by its leaders, it was now serving Satan and persecuting the real people of God.

Elijah's name meant, 'whose God is Jehovah'. He grew up in the wilderness areas of Israel and he served God with all his heart, He prayed and did all he could to fight

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against the terrible wrong Israel was doing in serving Baal. One day God sent him to go to the palace of King Ahab and tell him that because of the wicked ways of Israel there would be no more rain or dew until he said so.

Jezebel is the first one in the Bible record to use make-up and eye shadow. "And when Jehu was come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she painted her face, and tired her head, and looked out at a window." 2 Kings 9:30. The original says she put her eyes in painting. Think about this if you are ever tempted to use such heathen things.



"And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there." 1 Kings 17:2-4

Can you imagine the scene? Here is Ahab on his throne doing the business of his court, and all of a sudden here stands this man dressed in the rough garments of a peasant right in front of the throne. God helped him to be able to walk right past the guards, they did not see him until there he was in front of the king.

Solemnly he announces the words God told him to say, "Because you have forsaken the God of heaven to serve Baal, there shall no rain or dew happen until I say so." The king was astonished, he didn't know what to do or say, and by the time he had recovered enough that he could have yelled for his guards to seize the man, the prophet was gone. Quickly and quietly he walked, again past all the palace soldiers, and out of the city.

God sent him to a place in the wilderness where there was a sparkling stream of water and told him he would use the ravens to bring him food. Now I have heard some people say that the ravens brought him the meat that they would eat. The Bible does not say this at all; it says morning and night they brought him both bread and meat. Now I don't know about you, but I have never seen a raven baking bread.

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So where did the birds get the food? Well I sort of imagine they got it in a very interesting place, I think they got it right off of Queen Jezebel's huge tables, where she fed her almost a thousand priests of Baal every day. We know that she spared no effort to keep her religion going in Israel. To feed so many, no doubt tables were set up out of doors and those pesky ravens would swoop down and select from the table some nice bread and roast, and away they would go over the hills to the little stream where Elijah was waiting for his meal.

Did you know there was somebody else who also was fed from the stores of food that Jezebel had planned for her Baal priests? Yes, the servant who was in charge of the food supplies in the palace was Obadiah, and he was a true worshipper of God. When he learned of Jezebel's intent to kill all the true prophets of God, he took a hundred of them and hid them in two caves. Then he sneaked out every night and brought food to them from the palace supplies.

God can use the very plans of His enemies to help His people. He can turn a curse into a blessing for those who love Him.



"And the word of the LORD came unto him, saying, Arise, get thee to Zarephath, which belongeth to Zidon, and dwell there: behold, I have commanded a widow woman there to sustain thee." 1 Kings 17:8,9

Time went on and gradually things in Israel dried up. Ahab was looking all over for Elijah but he could not find him. Elijah was quite happy down by the little brook, but then the brook began to dry up and he was having a hard time to find any water.

He took the problem to God and was told to go out of Israel to Zarephath, where there was a widow woman who would provide for him. So he went and when he got there he saw a poor woman out in the field gathering sticks with her young son.

Now both the faith of Elijah and the faith of the woman were about to be tested. The woman sure did not look like anyone he would think could feed him during the famine, but he asked her for a drink of water. She went to get it and as she was leaving he called and said, 'Bring me, I pray thee, a morsel of bread in thine hand.'

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At this the woman turned back and said sadly, "As the LORD thy God liveth, I have not a cake, but an handful of meal in a barrel, and a little oil in a cruse: and, behold, I am gathering two sticks, that I may go in and dress it for me and my son, that we may eat it, and die."

Now Elijah made a strange request, he asked her to make him a cake first and then make for herself and her son; "For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth."

Now it took faith for the woman to do this, but even though she did not know a lot about Israel's God, she believed in him, and so she did what he asked. Sure enough, every day there was always enough flour and oil to make bread for the three of them for the day. Elijah stayed there in a room in the loft.

God knew that this woman was more worthy of His blessings than most of Israel because she lived up to all that she knew was right. The widow of Zarephath shared what little she had with Elijah, and in return her life and that of her son were preserved. And to all who, in time of trial and want, give sympathy and help to others more needy, God has promise great blessing. He has not changed. His power is no less now than in the days of Elijah. No less sure now than when spoken by our Saviour is the promise, "He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward." Matthew 10:41.



"And it came to pass after many days, that the word of the LORD came to Elijah in the third year, saying, Go, shew thyself unto Ahab; and I will send rain upon the earth. And Elijah went to shew himself unto Ahab. And there was a sore famine in Samaria." 1 Kings 18:1,2

For three years no rain or dew fell in the kingdom of Israel. Conditions were desperate, animals and even people died. Even the king and Jezebel with all her prophets of Baal to feed were having a hard time.

There was great meaning in what the Lord was doing, for the idolaters claimed that Baal the sun god was the one that sent the rain and made things grow on the earth. You can

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imagine that during all this time these priests of Baal were trying every ceremony and sacrifice they could think of to get Baal to make it rain, but nothing happened.

Another thing that this accomplished is that Jezebel did not have as much time to think about hunting and killing God's true people. They did do everything they could think of to try and find Elijah, but they could not. Maybe also, some of the people smartened up and began to see that this idol Baal wasn't really a god at all, and they should go back and worship the real God of heaven. But most of the people just followed their leaders and believed what the leaders told them. They were afraid to step out and be different. The leaders told them that Baal was angry and would not stop being angry until Elijah was found and killed.

Now God saw it was time for a showdown, and Elijah went back into the dried up land of Israel to where he was shown where Ahab was. He met Obadiah, the king's servant who loved God, and asked him to tell Ahab he wanted to talk to him.

Poor Obadiah was afraid that he would tell this to Ahab and God would hide Elijah again and the servant would be killed, but Elijah said not to worry, he would talk to Ahab that day.

"So Obadiah went to meet Ahab, and told him: and Ahab went to meet Elijah. And it came to pass, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel? And he answered, I have not troubled Israel; but thou, and thy father's house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim." 1 Kings 18:16-18

Now the famine was so bad that even the King with his head servant had gone out to try and find water! So Ahab was not far from where Elijah had met Obadiah. When Ahab learned Elijah wanted to see him he was terrified.

Ahab knew that Elijah would not have come to see him at risk of his life unless God had sent him and he was afraid that some more terrible thing was about to happen. So trembling and pale, and with his guards close around him, he went to meet the man of God. He hated Elijah but he did not dare to try and harm him. As he came face to face with the strange prophet, he blurted out, "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?"

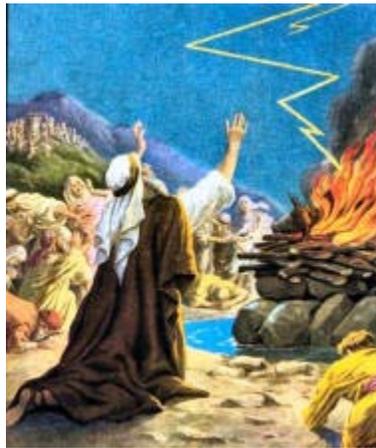
Elijah did not let that pass, but quickly replied that the king and his family had brought the trouble to Israel because they had left the God of Heaven and disobeyed Him to serve idols.

Now the prophet commanded the King to call all the people of Israel to meet him on a certain day on Mount Carmel, and that all the priests of Baal were to come there also. "Send," he commanded, "and gather to me all Israel unto Mount Carmel, and the prophets of Baal four hundred and fifty, and the prophets of the groves four hundred, which eat at Jezebel's table."

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Elijah seemed to stand in the very presence of God; and Ahab obeyed at once, as if the prophet were monarch, and the king a subject. Swift messengers were sent through the kingdom with the summons to meet Elijah and the prophets of Baal and Ashtoreth. In every town and village the people prepared to assemble at the appointed time. As they journeyed toward the place, the hearts of many were filled with fear. Something unusual was about to happen; else why this order to gather at Carmel? What new calamity was about to fall upon the people and the land?

It is very strange that when people decide to turn away from God and do wicked things and trouble comes to them, they always blame the true people of God who have warned them they are doing wrong!!



ELIJAH & the Priests of Baal

"And Elijah came unto all the people, and said, How long halt ye between two opinions? if the LORD be God, follow him: but if Baal, then follow him. And the people answered him not a word." 1 Kings 18:21

After 3 ½ years of no rain or dew, the land of Israel was like a desert. Then God sent Elijah to Ahab to call a showdown. "Have the people and all the priests of Baal, meet me on Mount Carmel" Elijah commanded and King Ahab, even though he hated the prophet of God, quickly obeyed, from fear of something worse happening, and messengers hurried through the land to call the people to the appointment.

There were altars to Baal on this mountain and before the drought it had been a most beautiful place, where the idol worshippers liked to have their holiday feasts in the groves of trees. Now the trees had no leaves and were withered. Way up on the mountain was an old altar to the God of heaven, long broken down and unused.

God had been greatly dishonoured by the people as they left serving God and worshipped Baal, and by the wicked things done in the groves on Carmel. He chose this area to show His power to them.

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Early on the morning of the chosen day, the hosts of apostate Israel, in eager expectancy, gather near the top of the mountain. Jezebel's prophets march up in imposing array. In regal pomp the king appears and takes his position at the head of the priests, and the idol worshippers shout his welcome.

But there is dread in the hearts of the priests as they remember that at the word of the prophet, the land of Israel for three years and a half has had no dew or rain. They feel sure some fearful crisis is at hand. The gods in whom they have trusted have been unable to prove Elijah a false prophet. For all these months they tried all the tricks they knew, but their frantic cries, their prayers, their tears, their magic rituals, their revolting ceremonies, their costly and ceaseless sacrifices all had done no good at all.

All the so-called power of heathen religions and witchcraft really only comes from Satan and is used to trick people into thinking they have secret powers.

"Then said Elijah unto the people, I, even I only, remain a prophet of the LORD; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men." 1 Kings 18:22

I want you to notice something about the verse in yesterday's reading, it says, "The people answered him not a word". Now don't you think that some of those people knew down in their hearts that all this Baal worship and all the holidays and feasts and stuff that they were doing in worshipping Baal was wrong? Don't you think that down in their hearts they knew that only the God of Heaven was really worthy of their worship and that in turning from what was right and doing the heathen things they were sinning against the Creator of heaven and earth?

I am sure that many of them knew this, in fact maybe most of them did, but they would not stand up and speak out to honour the name of God! They were cowards and just followed their leaders even in what they knew was wrong. We must not be like this!

Now look at Elijah; Facing King Ahab and the false prophets, and surrounded by all the people gathered there, Elijah stands, the only one who is standing for the honor of Jehovah. The whole kingdom has tried to find him for all these months to kill him, and here he is, apparently unarmed before the king of Israel, the prophets of Baal, the men of war, and the surrounding thousands. But Elijah is not alone. Above and around him are the protecting hosts of heaven, angels that excel in strength.

Unashamed, unafraid, the prophet stands before the crowd, fully aware of his task to carry out the divine command. Anxiously the people wait for him to speak. Looking first upon the broken-down altar of Jehovah, and then at the people, Elijah cries out in clear, trumpet-like tones, "How long halt ye between two opinions? If the Lord be God, follow Him: but if Baal, then follow him."

The people answer him not a word. Not one in that large crowd dares to show loyalty to Jehovah. Like a dark cloud, deception and blindness had spread over Israel. Not all at once had this fatal apostasy closed about them, but gradually, as from time to time they

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had failed to pay attention to the words of warning and reproof that the Lord sent them. Each going away from right doing, each refusal to repent, had deepened their guilt and driven them farther from Heaven. And now, in this crisis, they still refused to take their stand for God.

This can happen to us, if we choose to ignore what the Bible and the Spirit of Prophecy tells us is right, we will end up like Israel, doing wickedly until finally God destroyed that kingdom. People who won't stand up and speak for truth in such times, but just keep quiet are disgusting to God!

"Let them therefore give us two bullocks; and let them choose one bullock for themselves, and cut it in pieces, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: and I will dress the other bullock, and lay it on wood, and put no fire under: And call ye on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the LORD: and the God that answereth by fire, let him be God. And all the people answered and said, It is well spoken." 1 Kings 18:23,24

Read this story carefully and notice that Elijah gave them every advantage. He would leave them with no chance to say they had been treated unfairly. He let them have first chance, he let them choose the animal they wanted for their offering, and prepare it in any way they wanted to.

The test Elijah tells them about is so fair and so right that they all have to agree to it. The prophets of Baal dare not refuse to make the trial or they would show clearly to the people that they were frauds.

Outwardly bold and defiant, but with terror in their guilty hearts, the false priests prepare their altar, laying on the wood and the victim; and then they begin their incantations. Their shrill cries echo and re-echo through the forests and the surrounding heights, as they call on the name of their god, saying, "O Baal, hear us." The priests gather about their altar, and with leaping and writhing and screaming, with tearing of hair and cutting of flesh, they beseech their god to help them.

The morning passes, noon comes, and yet there is no evidence that Baal hears the cries of his deluded followers. There is no voice, no reply to their frantic prayers. No fire comes from Baal.

Now Elijah knows he has to watch them carefully, as if they could somehow cheat and set the fire themselves, they would! It is interesting that witches believe they can bring down fire, of course Satan can do this for them, but on mount Carmel, Satan was prevented from doing this. Satan has no power against God's true people, unless he can get them to disobey God, and then he can lead them into evil.

God has had heroes, and He has them now—those who, like Joseph and Elijah and Daniel, are not ashamed to say that they are His peculiar people.

"And it came to pass at noon, that Elijah mocked them, and said, Cry aloud: for he is a god; either he is talking, or he is pursuing, or he is in a journey, or peradventure he sleepeth, and must be awaked. And they cried aloud, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded." 1 Kings 18:27-29

At last, their voices hoarse from shouting, their clothes stained with blood from self-made wounds, the priests become desperate. In frenzy they now mingle with their pleading, terrible cursing of their sun-god, and Elijah still watches intently for any trick.

Evening draws on. The prophets of Baal are weary, faint, confused. One suggests one thing, and another something else, until finally they cease their efforts. Their shrieks and curses no longer sound over Carmel. In despair they give up the contest.

All day long the people have watched the baffled priests leaping round the altar, as if they would grasp the burning rays of the sun to serve their purpose. They have looked with horror on them cutting themselves with knives, and have had time to think about how foolish idol worship is. Many in the throng are weary of the exhibitions of demonism, and they now await with deepest interest the movements of Elijah.

It is the hour of the evening sacrifice, and Elijah tells the people, "Come near unto me." As they tremblingly draw near, he turns to the broken-down altar where once men worshiped the God of heaven, and repairs it. To him this heap of ruins is more precious than all the fancy altars of heathendom. He carefully repairs it following the rules God had given for His altars.

The priests of Baal watch quietly, they hate Elijah worse than ever, but they are helpless. The calm, quiet ways of the prophet of God are so different from the wild frenzy of the followers of Baal. The ways of those who leave the God of Heaven are loud and flashy but the ways of God are calm and quiet.

But now Elijah does even more; he digs a trench around the altar and then he puts the wood on it and prepares the bullock and puts the pieces on the wood. Then he did something that seemed crazy! He told the people to pour water over it all; four barrels of water from the nearby sea, and he told them to do it three times, until the trench was full and everything was dripping wet. Humanly, there was no way any fire could burn that offering.

Elijah was making sure that no one could say that he cheated and set fire to the altar himself.

"And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said, LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that thou art God in Israel, and that I am thy servant, and that I

have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou hast turned their heart back again. Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench." Kings 18:36-38

Elijah calls upon the people to humble their hearts and turn to the God of their fathers, that the curse upon the land of Israel may be removed. Then, bowing reverently before the unseen God, he raises his hands toward heaven and offers a simple prayer. Baal's priests have screamed and foamed and leaped, from early morning until late in the afternoon; but as Elijah prays, no senseless shrieks resound over Carmel's height. He prays as if he knows God is there, a witness to the scene, a listener to his appeal. The prophets of Baal have prayed wildly, without making sense. Elijah prays simply and earnestly, asking God to show His superiority over Baal, that Israel may be led to turn to Him.

Silence, solemnly, rests upon all. The priests of Baal tremble with terror, aware of their guilt in deceiving the people.

Suddenly, flames of fire, like brilliant flashes of lightning, descend from heaven upon the altar, burning up the sacrifice, the water in the trench, and even the stones of the altar. The brightness of the blaze lights up the mountain and dazzles the eyes of the multitude. In the valleys below, where many are watching the movements of those above, the fire is clearly seen coming down from heaven, and all are amazed at the sight. It is like the pillar of fire that at the Red Sea separated the children of Israel from the Egyptian host.

"And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD, he is the God." 1 Kings 18:39

The people fall on their faces in awe before the unseen God. They dare not continue to look at the Heaven-sent fire. They fear that they themselves will be burned up for their sins. They cry out together, "The Lord, He is the God; the Lord, He is the God." The cry sounds over the mountain and echoes in the plain below.

At last Israel sees how greatly they have dishonored God. The character of Baal worship, in contrast with the reasonable service required by the true God, stands fully revealed. The people recognize God's justice and mercy in withholding the dew and the rain until they have been brought to confess His name. They are ready now to admit that the God of Elijah is above every idol.

The ways of the heathen are foolish, but when people want their own way and refuse to obey God, they can't see the truth any more.

"And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for there is a sound of abundance of rain. So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went

up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees." 1 Kings 18:41,42

After this, Elijah ordered the prophets of Baal to all be executed. You see, they knew what they were doing was wrong; they knew they were lying to the people to get the people to serve the idols.

After this was over, Elijah told Ahab to hurry up and eat his picnic lunch because God was soon going to send a great rain, so things could grow again. Now when he said this there was not a cloud in the sky.

Elijah goes to the top of the mountain and begins to pray for rain. Notice he just doesn't say, "Oh, God will now send rain, I don't have to do anything about it." No, he goes and asks for the desperately needed rain. He prays and then asks his servant to go look and see if any clouds were coming. The servant said no, there was nothing.

Again Elijah prayed and again sent his servant to see whether there were any visible sign that God had heard his prayer. Each time the servant returned with the word, "There is nothing." The prophet did not become impatient or lose faith, but continued his earnest pleading. Six times the servant returned with the word that there was no sign of rain. Elijah did not give up and prayed again and sent him forth once more; and this time the servant said, "Behold, there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea like a man's hand."

He did not wait for the whole sky to grow dark, he knew by faith God was answering his prayer. Quickly Elijah sent his servant to Ahab with the message, "Prepare thy chariot, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not."

It was getting dark and the rainstorm burst upon the land. Ahab had not time to get home before it hit and now, God gave special strength to Elijah and he ran before the king's chariot guiding him safely to the gate of the city.



Even though he had just been used by God to perform a wonderful miracle, the Prophet did not refuse to turn around and do the work of a common servant.

Now when Ahab got home he told Jezebel all about what had happened. Ahab really thought that she would be glad to know that God was really the true God and Elijah was a true prophet. He thought she would realize the truth and start and worship the true God also. But Jezebel did not care who was God and who was a true prophet—she just wanted her own way and she angrily sent a message to Elijah that she was going to have him killed! She was not able to kill Elijah though, but she sure wanted to!

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Malachi 4:5, 6

Elijah represents the people who will be alive on this earth when Jesus comes and they will go to heaven with Him without ever dying. We call this 'translation'. Elijah was one who was sent to speak with Jesus just before He went to the cross, on the mountain of transfiguration. Moses was there also, and he represented the people who will be raised from the dead and then go home with Jesus.

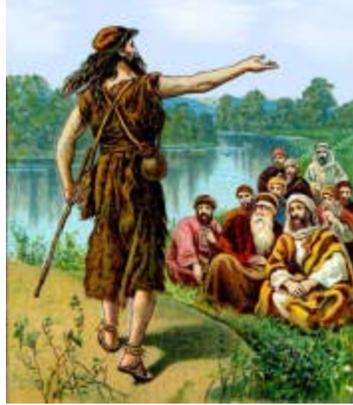
There is another important thing that we are told about Elijah, we are told that we who are faithful to God in these last days are going to have a message like the message Elijah carried to Israel!

What was Elijah's message? He told the people that there was only one true God, the God of creation. And he warned them to turn from their idol worship and repent of their selfish indulgence in heathen religion and holidays and serve God and He would forgive them and be their God. He told them to worship the true God and to obey Him in all things. He also warned those who would not repent, that they would have a terrible end!

This is the same as God's true Bible-believing people today, they call on all people to serve the God of Creation, that it is now a time of judgement and we are to repent and obey God. They tell us to come away from those who are not interested in obeying God's Word and be separate and not take part in their doings. They warn us that those who choose to obey men's ideas instead of the God of heaven's commandments are going to have a terrible end! But the message also tells us that if we repent, God will forgive us and teach us His ways.

"In such a time as this, every child of God should be actively engaged in helping others. As those who have an understanding of Bible truth try to seek out the men and women who are longing for light, angels of God will attend them. And where angels go, none need fear to move forward. As a result of the faithful efforts of consecrated workers, many will be turned from idolatry to the worship of the living God. Many will cease to pay homage to man-made institutions and will take their stand fearlessly on the side of God and His law."

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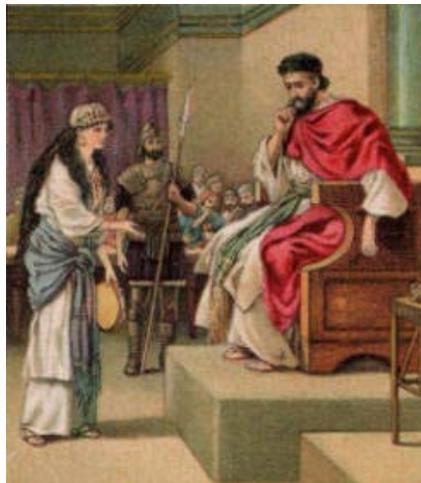


But there was another prophet that was called an Elijah Prophet. It was John the Baptist. Jesus said of him, "But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet. For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come." Matthew 11:9, 13, 14.

John was a lot like Elijah. He brought a message for the people to repent and put away sin and get their hearts ready for Jesus' ministry. This was a time when Israel was all caught up in their ceremonies and rituals and were not serving God with their hearts. They thought they could buy God's blessing with money and by offering lots of lambs on the altars of the temple. They were not thinking about what their daily lives were like.

Remember in the story of the 1st Elijah, there was a king who had married a wicked woman that he had no business marrying—that was Jezebel. In the time of John there was another king that was married to a woman he had no business marrying either. This was Herod and Herodias.

Herodias had been the wife of Herod's brother and she left him and married Herod. John told Herod that this was wrong and he had no right to be married to her. This made Herodias so mad that she nagged until she got Herod to arrest John and throw him into prison.



"For Herod himself had sent forth and laid hold upon John, and bound him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife: for he had married her. For John had said unto Herod, It is not lawful for thee to have thy brother's wife. Therefore Herodias had a quarrel against him, and would have killed him; but she could not:" Mark 6:17-19

Herod knew in his heart that John was a true prophet and he often sent for John to hear him preach. Now Herodias was just like Jezebel—a very cruel and wicked woman. She did not care about God and who was a true prophet—she wanted John dead. So she made a terrible plan.

She knew Herod's birthday was coming up and being a Pagan king, he would have a big party so she planned a nice surprise for him. When the day came and Herod and all his guests were drunk, she sent her lovely daughter, Salome, to dance for Herod.

She danced so well and Herod was so pleased that he wanted to show off to his guests. He told the girl that she could have anything she wanted—even up to half his kingdom!

"And she went forth, and said unto her mother, What shall I ask? And she said, The head of John the Baptist. And she came in straightway with haste unto the king, and asked, saying, I will that thou give me by and by in a charger the head of John the Baptist." Mark 6:24, 25.

Herod was shocked, but he had promised and was afraid to stand for right and refuse. So he sent and had John beheaded and gave the head to the girl—who gave it to her wicked mother.

Now just like Ahab had no idea that Jezebel was going to try and kill Elijah, so Herod had no idea when he made his offer to Salome that it would result in the death of John. In both cases the wicked woman was behind the scenes using others to do her dirty work.

Now where Elijah was taken to heaven with out dying, John on the other hand was a martyr. So they represent God's special people who will carry the final 'Elijah message' at the end of the world—some will be martyrs, and some will live through and be taken to heaven without dying.

"Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse." Malachi 4:5, 6

You will notice though in the text about the Elijah message that it is talking about the "Great and Dreadful day" so there is a third Elijah message right at the end of the world.

3 Elijahs and their Messages

So what would that message be? It will combine the messages of the 1st & 2nd Elijah and add something with it.

1st message: The church is apostatized from true worship. A judgment situation. Showing the people Who was the True God. Warning them to leave their false worship and return to the worship of the Creator God.

2nd message: The church is apostatized from true worship. A call to turn back to true worship, put sin out of the life and be ready to meet Jesus at His first coming and ministry. A Judgement situation. John was the one to announce Who the Messiah really was and what His work was. "Behold! The Lamb of God which taketh away the Sin of the world."

Now let's see the 3rd message: Showing Who is the true God.

The church is apostatized from true worship. A Judgement situation.

Return to worship and obedience to the Creator God. The 10 commandments, including the 4th are the sign of obedience to the only true God—the Creator.

Recognise Jesus as the true Messiah and only Saviour

Through faith in Jesus, power to overcome sin is available so all can repent and put away sin and return to loyalty to God.

Get ready because Jesus is soon coming—prepare ye the way of the Lord!



This wonderful final message is found in Revelation 14; here it is!

And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people, Saying with a loud voice, Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come: and worship him that made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and the fountains of waters.

3 Elijahs and their Messages

And there followed another angel, saying, Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication.

And the third angel followed them, saying with a loud voice, If any man worship the beast and his image, and receive his mark in his forehead, or in his hand,

The same shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation; and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, and in the presence of the Lamb:

And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night, who worship the beast and his image, and whosoever receiveth the mark of his name.

Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus. Revelation 14:6-12

You can see it is all there and at the last verse—here you see the people who are giving the message and responding and obeying it themselves. This is the 3rd and final Elijah message!



Then look at Revelation 18 and see the repeat of this message and what happens to those who reject it!

"And he cried mightily with a strong voice, saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and is become the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird." Revelation 18:2