Part 3-Malachi 4

So has God promised us a prophet in this day? Look at this passage of scripture:

**Mal 4:5-6**

Mal 4:5 Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Mal 4:6 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.

This scripture here was even confusing to the apostles and Pharisees. Everyone was looking at this scripture, and was trying to figure out where it fit in the whole plan of God:

**Mat 17:9-10**

Mat 17:9 And as they came down from the mountain, Jesus charged them, saying, Tell the vision to no man, until the Son of man be risen again from the dead.

Mat 17:10  **And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come?**

**Mat 27:46-49**

Mat 27:46 And about the ninth hour Jesus cried with a loud voice, saying, Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani? that is to say, My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?

Mat 27:47  **Some of them that stood there, when they heard that, said, This man calleth for Elias.**

Mat 27:48 And straightway one of them ran, and took a spunge, and filled it with vinegar, and put it on a reed, and gave him to drink.

Mat 27:49  **The rest said, Let be, let us see whether Elias will come to save him.**

Even to them, they did not see the fulfillment of this scripture. Even the Pharisees questioned John the Baptist on that scripture:

**Joh 1:19-21**

Joh 1:19 And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou?

Joh 1:20 And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ.

Joh 1:21 And they asked him, What then? **Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not**. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No.

Though John said we was not Elijah, lets look at another scripture:

**Luk 1:15-17**

Luk 1:15 For he shall be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink; and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb.

Luk 1:16 And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God.

Luk 1:17 And he shall go before him **in the spirit and power of Elias,** **to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children**, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

Even Jesus was being called Elijah

**Mat 16:13-14**

Mat 16:13 When Jesus came into the coasts of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, saying, Whom do men say that I the Son of man am?

Mat 16:14 And they said, Some say that thou art John the Baptist: some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets.

Though John said he was not Elijah, the angel that proclaimed his conception said that he would come in the spirit and power of Elijah. Notice the wording here. "...turn the hearts of the fathers to the children…" That is also in Mal 4:6. So John fulfilled that part of the scripture. But what about "...turn the hearts of the children to the fathers…"? If John the baptist only fulfilled the first part of the scripture, who fulfills the next part? Could there be two comings of Elijah in Mal 4:5-6? Notice this scripture:

**Mat 17:10-13**

Mat 17:10 And his disciples asked him, saying, **Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come?**

Mat 17:11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things.**

Mat 17:12 But I say unto you, **That Elias is come already**, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.

Mat 17:13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.

Interesting wording our Lord used here. He said that there is an Elijah TO COME, but there was an Elijah ALREADY COME. So that would mean that there is TWO COMINGS of Elijah stated here. So we see here that John did fulfill the fist part, but he did not fulfill "restore all things." We can see in the scripture that John was to "prepare" the way of the Lord.

**Isa 40:1-5**

Isa 40:1 Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God.

Isa 40:2 Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins.

Isa 40:3 **The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God.**

Isa 40:4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain:

Isa 40:5 **And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed**, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

**Mal 3:1**

Mal 3:1 Behold**, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me:** and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

**Mat 11:7-19**

Mat 11:7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

Mat 11:8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

Mat 11:9 But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and **more than a prophet.**

Mat 11:10 **For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.**

Mat 11:11 Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

Mat 11:12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.

Mat 11:13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John.

Mat 11:14 **And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come.**

**Mark 1:2-3**

Mar 1:2 **As it is written in the prophets,** Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.

Mar 1:3 The voice of one crying in the wilderness, **Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.**

**Luke 7:24-28**

Luk 7:24 And when the messengers of John were departed, he began to speak unto the people concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness for to see? A reed shaken with the wind?

Luk 7:25 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? Behold, they which are gorgeously apparelled, and live delicately, are in kings' courts.

Luk 7:26 **But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? Yea, I say unto you, and much more than a prophet.**

Luk 7:27 **This is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.**

Luk 7:28 For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.

So John the Baptist "prepared" the way for the Lord. But this other Elijah coming was to "restore all things." This "restoring all things" is promised in the scripture:

**Joel 1:4**

Joe 1:4 That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpiller eaten.

**Joel 2:25**

Joe 2:25  **And I will restore to you** the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpiller, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

**Mark 9:11-13**

Mar 9:11 And they asked him, saying, Why say the scribes that Elias must first come?

Mar 9:12 And he answered and told them, **Elias verily cometh first, and restoreth all things;** and how it is written of the Son of man, that he must suffer many things, and be set at nought.

**Acts 3:21**

Act 3:21 Whom the heaven must receive until **the times of restitution of all things**, which God hath spoken by the mouth of all his holy prophets since the world began

So if this man is Elijah, then what is this prophet suppose to do. Lets look at the scriptures that apply to his ministry:

**Mal 4:5-6**

Mal 4:5 Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

Mal 4:6 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.

As we have seen, John the Baptist fulfilled the first part of "fathers to the children." This means that he was turning the hearts of the Pharisees to the child like faith of Jesus Christ. (Mat 18:3-4, Mar 10:14-16) So what does this mean, "turn the hearts of the children to the fathers." We must remember that this Elijah's ministry was also a "restoration". So what have the church lost? It was the faith of the Apostolic Fathers. This Elijah would restore the church back to the original Pentecostal Faith.

This prophet would also do another thing:

**Rev 10:7**

Rev 10:7 But in the days of the voice of the seventh angel, when he shall begin to sound, **the mystery of God should be finished, as he hath** **declared to his servants the prophets.**

A couple things in this scripture is worth noting. First off, this is the "seventh angel." That word "angel" simply means "messenger". It does not imply a man with wings and a halo. All an angel is by definition is a messenger. So this must be a man that is sent. If we notice in the 7 Churches mentioned in Rev 2-3, we see that the last one would be the seventh messenger. So we see that the last angel sent to the church is the coming of this Elijah! The Word is perfect! This scripture also shows that he is a prophet, which lines up with Mal 4:5! So this Elijah coming would also reveal the mystery of God! We know that there is a lot of mysteries in the bible, but when this prophet comes, it will solve them all!

The last thought we want to address is that how will we know who this prophet is? We did look at the requirements for prophets, but this prophet is specifically mentioned to be Elijah the prophet. So we can look at the scripture and see what kind of man he will be like. We know that he will not be the same specific man Elijah, but he will have the same spirit, mannerisms, and habits as Elijah did.

We know that God has used this spirit before. He first had it on the first Elijah. The second one was Elisha:

**2Ki 2:9**

2Ki 2:9 And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, **let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me.**

The third was John the Baptist.

**Luke 1:17**

Luk 1:17 And he shall go before him in **the spirit and power of Elias,** to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.

So however these men acted, this Elijah of Mal 4:5 would be similar. Here is a table with all of the traits of him:

**Mal 4 Elijah will act similar to the other people with Elijah's Spirit**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Trait | Elijah | Elisha | John the Baptist |
| Wilderness  Man | 1 Kings 17:1-6  2 Kings 1:8 | 2 Kings 5:1-9 | Mat 3:4  Mark 1:6 |
| Not Apart of  "Religious" sects | 1 Kings 16:30-33  1 Kings 18:1 | 2 Kings 5:1-8 | Mat 3:7-9  Luke 1:80 |
| Lashed out against  Immoral women | 1 Kings 21:19-29 | 2 Kings 9:6-10  2 Kings 9:30-37 | Mat 14:3-4  Mark 6:14-29 |
| Moody guy | 1 Kings 19:1-3  1 Kings 19:11-18 | 2 Kings 2:23-24 | Mat 11:1-4  John 1:29-31 |

Now I do believe that his Elijah coming has happened according to Mal 4:5. But the intent of this bible study is to show that the scripture plainly teaches that there was suppose to be a prophet that come on the scene in this day. If you would want more information about who this man was, contact Living Waters Tabernacle. May God richly bless you!