

THE RESTORING MINISTRY OF ELIJAH BEFORE JESUS RETURNS

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John the Baptist prepared the Way of the Lord for Jesus' first coming.

It is written, "In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, and saying, **"Repent, for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!"** For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness; **"Prepare the way of the Lord; make His paths straight."** *Matthew 3:1-3,*

The Angel Gabriel, who announced to Zacharias that he and Elizabeth would have a son John, said that he would go before the Lord in the Spirit and power of Elijah, "to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children," (*Malachi 4:5,6*), and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord. *Luke 1:17.*

Jesus spoke about John in *Matthew 11:4 – 14*, and said in verses 13 and 14, "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come." *Malachi 4:5,6.*

Jesus spoke more about Elijah and John the Baptist in *Matthew 17:10-13*. "And His disciples asked Him saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?" Jesus answered and said to them, **" Indeed Elijah is coming first AND HE WILL RESTORE ALL THINGS."** "But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of man is also about to suffer at their hands." "Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist."

So here we have Jesus speaking about **another Elijah figure**, coming before His Second Coming, **to restore all things**. This may be an individual, as John the Baptist was before Jesus' first coming, or it may be a company of people raised up in the "spirit and power of Elijah." *Luke 1:17.*

In *Acts 3:21*, it says, "Whom (Jesus Christ), the heaven must receive until the times of **restoration of all things**, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began." That is, Jesus will not come again until this **Elijah ministry of restoration** has come to pass.

There are some very awesome prophecies in the Word of God yet to be fulfilled.

The Restoration of Families

It is written, "behold, **I will send you Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord. **He will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a curse."** *Malachi 4:5,6.*

"then the Lord said: "but truly, as I live, **all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord ."** *Numbers 14:20,21, Habakkuk 2:14,*

"For the Lord shall build up Zion; **He shall appear in His glory."** *Psalms 102:16.*

"So the nations/gentiles shall fear the Name of the Lord, and all the kings of the earth Your glory." *Ps 102:15.*

"All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations/gentiles shall worship before You. For the Kingdom is the Lord's, and He rules over the nations." *Psalms 22:27,28.*

"Be still, and know that I am God; **I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!"** *Ps 46:10.*

"Arise, shine; for your light has come! and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; **but the Lord will arise over you, and His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising."** *Isaiah 60:1 – 3.*

"Sing and rejoice , O daughter of Zion! For behold I am coming and I will dwell in your midst," says the Lord. **"Many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and they shall become My people.** And I will dwell in your midst. Then you will know that the Lord of Hosts has sent Me to you." *Zechariah 2:10,11.*

"Ask of Me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for your possession." *Psalms 2:8.*