## ELIJAH MESSAGE

## WHAT IS THE ELIJAH MESSAGE FOR THESE LAST DAYS?

Since we are told that the last message is to be an "Elijah Message." — "John came in the spirit and power of Elijah to proclaim the first advent of Jesus. I was pointed down to the last days and saw that John represented those who should go forth in the spirit and power of Elijah to herald the day of wrath and the second advent of Jesus." EW 155.1 And since the 1888 Great Controversy on page 383 says this would be "a Message which is yet Future" it might be well for us, therefore, to study (A) WHAT that Message was, and (B) To WHOM was and is it DIRECTED? (C) What are the RESULTS OF REJECTING it?

WHEN CAN WE EXPECT THIS MESSAGE? We are not left in any doubt as to the TIME for we are told: "In the hour of Greatest Peril, the God of Elijah will raise up human instrumentalities to bear a MESSAGE that will NOT BE SILENCED." RH, November 20, 1913

WHAT IS THE NEED OF THIS MESSAGE? The testimony continues: "In the closing work of God in the earth the standard of his law will be exalted... the voice of stern rebuke will be heard. Boldly will men of God's appointment denounce the union of the church with the world... The hour of His judgment is come. 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. God has not altered the thing that has gone out of his lips. His word will stand fast for-

### WILL THIS MESSAGE BE GIVEN BY THE CHURCH? NO!

The Message comes <u>TO</u> the <u>Church</u>. <u>To</u> the LAODICEANS- <u>NOT</u> "<u>FROM</u>" the Laodiceans; it comes denouncing their LOVE—FEST with the World. "The true state of the church is to be presented before men, and they are to receive the word of God not as something originating with men, but as the word of God. Many have treated the <u>message</u> to the <u>Laodiceans</u> as it has come to them, as the word of man. Both message and messenger have been held in doubt by those who should have been the first to discern and act upon it as the word of God. <u>Had they received the word of God sent to them, they would</u> not <u>NOW</u> be in darkness." 15MR 91

#### WITH WHOM DOES IT BEGIN?

"Somebody is to come in the spirit and power of Elijah, and when he appears, men may say, "You are too earnest, you do not interpret the Scriptures in the proper way. Let me tell you how to teach your message." RH, Feb.18, 1890

Notice the Laodiceans will not TEACH the UNPOPU-LAR Message, for they call it 'YOUR Message.' But they will tell you HOW to preach it and teach it. As one Minister said: "Go into your closet and SHUT THE DOOR and CRY aloud IN SECRET, thus you will receive the seal of God! But He gave not one text of scripture to prove his statement.

#### "A MOVEMENT SHALL COME"

GC88 p.464 HOW DOES IT COME? "Those who have not been living in Christian fellowship (the outcasts and those that have left because of the sin and apostasy within the Church) will draw close to one an-

other. <u>One member</u> working in right lines <u>will lead</u> <u>other members</u> to unite with him in making intercession for the revelation of the Holy Spirit." 8T 251

JUST WHY DO THEY MAKE THIS MOVE? The page before holds the answer, The Adulteress, the Loadicean Harlot, has "Covered up" her "rottenness of Character" and pretends she is "Rich and increased with goods and in NEED OF NOTHING" thus her Minions are saying: "Peace and safety!" at the very time "Purification" is to take place by "sudden destruction coming upon them." 8T 250

Who can truthfully say: "Our gold is tried in the fire; our garments are unspotted by the world"? I saw our Instructor pointing to the garments of so-called righteousness. Stripping them off, He laid bare the defilement beneath. Then He said to me: "Can you not see how they have pretentiously covered up their defilement and rottenness of character? 'How is the faithful city become an harlot!' My Father's house is made a house of merchandise, a place whence the divine presence and glory have departed! For this cause there is weakness, and strength is lacking." 8T 250

The "BODY OF CHRIST" has become a Corporate Business! When a body becomes a business we call her a prostitute! Thus the divine presence has departed from this harlot. Those who love and worship God alone will leave this whore as they realize in deep sadness that the presence and glory <a href="https://past.tense/departed">have</a> (past tense) <a href="https://departed.com/departed">departed</a>. For the Lord has come to the place where He will put up no longer with her "Garments of so-called RIGHTEOUSNESS" as he "Strips them off" to lay bare "the defilement beneath." He is about to bring Ahab down in the War, and feed Jezebel to the

dogs- "...SUDDEN DESTRUCTION IS COMING UPON THEM." 8T 250 Hence the only safety is to get OUT of there, and get OUT FAST! **Go ye OUT to meet Him!**" He will never, never, never, meet you IN that HARLOT CHURCH!

WHAT IS THE LOWEST DOCTRINE TO BE PREACHING AT A TIME LIKE THIS? "Here we see... the church-- The ancient men...who had stood as guardians...of the people...they say: The Lord will not do good, neither will He do evil. He is too merciful to visit His people in judgment. Thus "Peace and safety" is the cry from... These dumb dogs that would not bark are the ones who feel the just vengeance of an offended God. Men, maidens, and little children all perish together. 5T 211

"Thy men shall fall by the sword, and thy mighty in the war." I was shown that this scripture will be strictly fulfilled. Young men and women professing to be Christians, yet having no Christian experience.... They will be brought low in the dust and will long for an experience in the things of God, which they have failed to obtain. 1T 270

The angels of God will let loose the four winds of strife AFTER Christ steps out of the Most Holy Place, probation is already closed, they come down to the WAR! You want a Message of Hope? Here is the ONLY HOPE! OBEDIENCE, OBEY THE 3 Angel's Messages NOW! Go ye OUT to meet Him NOW, with fasting and prayer asking the Lord "What must I do to be saved?" Study the Word of God with humility of mind putting all preconceived ideas aside.

<sup>&</sup>quot;War lifts his helmet to his brow, O God, protect thy people now."

"A day of heart-rending anguish is before us. I was shown that pointed testimonies should be borne, and those who will come up to the help of the Lord, will receive his blessing." RH, Aug. 27, 1861

We cannot have the blessing of God without giving the pointed testimony to the Church. Those that give that straight testimony are the only ones that God will protect.

"For I testify unto every man that heareth the Words of the Prophecy of this book, if any man shall ADD unto these things, God shall ADD unto him the PLAGUES that are written in this book; and if any man shall take away from the Words of the book of this Prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the book of life, and out of the Holy City, and from the things which are written in this book." Rev. 22:18, 19

When we read that some will go "OUT" do we ask ourselves: "Out of WHAT? "OUT" of the Holy City? "OUT" of the book of life? "OUT of the church of heaven? Because they remained "IN" that Church turned harlot, who has gone a whoring after the mighty men of the earth, paying them \$500,000 in "PRIME LAND" so as to weld the deal that made the pact to get the LLU-VA 'Union of church and state complex' up and running. "And thou, son of man, be not afraid of them, neither be afraid of their words... they be a rebellious house." Ezekiel 2:6 "But thou, son of man, hear what I say unto thee; be not thou rebellious like that rebellious house...Ezekiel 2:8 "...eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel." Ezekiel 3:1 "but the house of Israel will not hearken unto thee; for they will not hearken unto me: or all the house of Israel are impudent and hardhearted... they be a rebellious house." Ezekiel 3:7,9.

"Son of man... give them WARNING from me." Ezekiel 3:17, ...and his blood will I require at thine hand." Ezekiel 3:18. "I will lay the dead carcasses of the children of Israel before their Idols... and the slain shall fall in the midst of you, and ye shall know that I am the Lord. Yet will I leave a REMNANT that ye may have SOME that shall ESCAPE the SWORD." Ezekiel 6:5,7,8. "An END, the END is come upon the four corners of the land." Ezekiel 7:2

"Son of man, cause Jerusalem (the 'church' not the world, thus doing away with their cry of "Do not criticize the church, Brother!") <u>JERUSALEM to know her ABOMINATIONS...</u> Thou hast played the WHORE also with the Assyrians... they give GIFTS to all WHORES" but thou givest thy GIFTS (\$500,000 worth of prime land at LLU-this was done in 1975) to all thy lovers, and hirest them that they may COME UNTO THEE on every side for thy WHOREDOM... Thou art CONTRARY." Ezekiel 16:2, 28, 33,-34.

"SOMEBODY is to come in the Spirit and power of ELIJAH." The Church sure does need him now! But just as in former days the Church leadership and pew warmers at large will not listen to the message that God sends them. For prophets have NEVER been popular with the Church, in Moses' day, the leadership "Princes of the people" rose up against Moses because he condemned the sins of the congregation. The cry of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram was "This congregation is HOLY, EVERY ONE of them!" The people with itching ears liked that message and when GOD killed those leaders they nearly killed Moses. The professed people of God have never wanted the prophets, they love their sins and would like to think that just because they are a member of the established church that they can go to heaven in their sins and rebellion

against the God of heaven. Thus it has ever been; Isaiah was sawn in two; Elijah had to hide for years from the conference president and the church of his day; Jeremiah was cast into a miry pit of slim in which he sat for days; John the Baptist was beheaded; Peter was crucified upside down; James was thrust into prison and then killed; John was boiled in oil.

Naming the experiences of just a few of these prophets will clearly show us that the church has NEVER, EVER been willing to listen to the Prophets sent of God! "Somebody is to come in the Spirit and power of ELIJAH." RH, February 18, 1890 par. 16

Should he join the General Conference? We might as well ask; Did Elijah join the General Conference? No, that is not God's order! For he needs one who is FREE to speak the Word of the LORD, not one who is so tied down to the commandments of men that he cannot move. Here is God's Order: "If a brother is teaching error, those who are in responsible positions ought to know it; and if he is teaching truth, they ought to take their stand at his side." 1892 GW 130; TM 110 "It is the DUTY of the Ministers to RESPECT the judgment of their Brethren." TM 503 {RH, June 3, 1884 par. 3} "Ministers who are preaching the PRESENT TRUTH should not neglect the solemn Message TO the Laodiceans. The Testimony of the True Witness is not a smooth message. The Lord does not say to them, "You are about right...." The true witness declares that: you are in NEED OF EVERYTHING... Those who will not ACT when the Lord calls upon them, but who WAIT for more CERTAIN evidence and more favorable opportunities, will WALK IN DARKNESS, for the LIGHT will be withdrawn... may never be repeated." 3T. 257-258; & 1893 GW 87.

When Elijah gave the message for his time they,

the church, thought that he must have lost his senses, because he denounced THEM, the favored people of God!

"Those whom God has chosen for an important work have ever been received with distrust and suspicion. Anciently, when Elijah was sent with a message from God to the people, they did not heed the warning. They thought him unnecessarily severe. They even thought that he must have <u>lost his senses</u> because he denounced them, the <u>favored people of God</u>, as <u>sinners</u> and their crimes as so aggravated that the judgments of God would awaken against them. <u>Satan and his host have ever been arrayed against those who bear the message of warning and who reprove sins.</u> The unconsecrated will also be united with the adversary of souls to make the work of God's faithful servants as hard as possible." 3T 261

Yet there is a difference between the "people of God" and the "PROFESSED people of God!"

"Those who have step by step yielded to worldly demands and conformed to worldly customs (Easter, Christmas, Halloween, Etc...) will not find it a hard matter to yield to the powers that be, rather than subject themselves to derision, insult, threatened imprisonment, and death. The contest is between the commandments of God and the commandments of men. In this time the gold will be separated from the dross in the church. (Notice that the GOLD is taken from that mixed multitude, not the dross, for the dross remains in the Church) "True godliness will be clearly distinguished from the appearance and tinsel of it. Many a star that we have admired for its brilliancy will then go out in darkness. Chaff like a cloud will be borne away on the wind, even from places where we see only floors of rich wheat. All who assume the ornaments of the sanctuary, but are not clothed with Christ's righteousness, will appear in the shame of their own nakedness." 5T 81

"When trees without fruit are cut down as cumberers of the ground, when multitudes of false brethren are distinguished from the true, then the hidden ones will be revealed to view, and with hosannas range under the banner of Christ. Those who have been timid and self-distrustful will declare themselves openly for Christ and His truth. The most weak and hesitating in the church (Notice church is not spelled with a capital, -a capital 'C' indicates a corporation) will be as David--willing to do and dare. The deeper the night for God's people, the more brilliant the stars. Satan will sorely harass the faithful; but, in the name of Jesus, they will come off more than conquerors. Then will the church of Christ appear "fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners." 5T 81

## HOW VITAL IS THE STRAIGHT TESTIMONY TO THE LAODICEANS?

"The solemn testimony upon which the <u>destiny of</u> the church hangs." 1T 181; EW 270

The destiny of the church hangs on how this message of rebuke is taken. "I saw that the testimony of the <u>True Witness</u> has not been <u>half heeded</u>. The solemn testimony upon which the destiny of the church hangs has been lightly esteemed, <u>if not entirely disregarded</u>. This testimony must work <u>deep repentance</u>; all who truly receive it will obey it and be <u>purified</u>. EW 270

#### DO GOD'S REQUIREMENTS FOR

SALVATION CHANGE?
This question has never satisfactorily been an-

swered. People play around with "OLD" and "NEW" Covenants; which is the stamping ground of Babylon, but anyone looking only CASUALLY through the INDEX will see that there is NO DIFFERENCE! God has ever required OBEDIENCE to His laws for salvation. 'Word to the Little Flock' page 28- has never been defined by anyone.

Here there is a DIFFERENCE in the CHANGING REQUIREMENTS OF GOD, but OBEDIENCE was demanded in each changing requirement! Listen to this:

- [1] In the days of Noah. "There was a SHUT DOOR in Noah's day. A message was sent from Heaven to the world in Noah's day, and their SALVATION DE-PENDED upon the manner IN WHICH they treated THAT MESSAGE. Because they rejected the WARNING, the Spirit of God was withdrawn from the sinful race, and they perished in the waters of the flood." WTF 28; 4SP 270
- [2] In the days of Lot: "In the time of Abraham, mercy ceased to plead with the guilty inhabitants of Sodom, and all but Lot with his wife and two daughters were consumed by the fire sent down from heaven." WTF 28; 4SP 270
- [3] So in the days of Christ. The Son of God declared to the unbelieving Jews of that generation, "Your house is left unto you desolate." [Matthew 23:38.] WTF 28; 4SP 270

In each and every case their Salvation depended on coming OUT from under the influence of clergy and sin loving people, leaving the great multitude behind no matter how near and dear they were.

Adventists claim Christ "never left the church"

Well read this: The Sanhedrin had rejected Christ's message and was bent upon His death; therefore Jesus departed from Jerusalem, from the priests, the temple, the religious leaders, the people who had been instructed in the law, and turned to another class to proclaim His message, and to gather OUT those who should carry the gospel to all nations. DA 232 Note: This was some time before His death on the cross or final probation end, that He departed from the 'Church'.

"As the light and life of men was rejected by the ecclesiastical authorities in the days of Christ, so it has been rejected in every succeeding generation. Again and again the history of Christ's withdrawal from Judea has been repeated. When the Reformers preached the word of God, they had no thought of separating themselves from the established church; but the religious leaders would not tolerate the light, and those that bore it were forced to seek another class, who were longing for the truth. In our day few of the professed followers of the Reformers are actuated by their spirit. Few are listening for the voice of God, and ready to accept truth in whatever guise it may be presented. Often those who follow in the steps of the Reformers are forced to turn away from the churches they love, in order to declare the plain teaching of the word of God. And many times those who are seeking for light are by the same teaching obliged to leave the church of their fathers, that they may render obedience." DA 232

"The Disciples had long hoped for a POPULAR MOVE-MENT....They could not endure the thought that all this ENTHUSIASM should come to NOTHING. The Multitudes...To His followers this seemed the GOLDEN OP-PORTUNITY to establish their beloved master on the throne of Israel. In the glow of this new AMBITION it was hard for them to go away by THEMSELVES... their LONG-CHERISHED HOPES, based on a popular delusion." DA 231-2, 378-9

[4] Looking down the stream of time to the last days: "I was shown in vision, and I still believe, that there was a SHUT DOOR in 1844... and those who RE-JECTED the LIGHT (of the 1st and 2nd angel's messages) were LEFT in DARKNESS." WTF 28

WHAT DO WE SEE ABOUT EACH AND EVERY ONE OF THOSE "SHUT DOORS?" It was based on the giving of a NEW MESSAGE.

- [1] Days of Noah= Build an Ark and get into it!
- [2] Days of Lot= Get OUT of the City!
- [3] Days of Christ= Leave the Church!
- [4] Days of 1844= Cease to worship with those in the first apartment—accept a NEW MESSAGE! ". . . and their SALVATION depended on the manner in which they treated THAT MESSAGE." 4SP 270
- [5] Days of the "STRAIGHT TESTIMONY TO (not FROM) THE LAODICEANS" "Some will not bear this STRAIGHT TESTIMONY. They will RISE UP against it, and THIS is what WILL cause a SHAKING among God's people. . . the solemn TESTIMONY upon which the DESTINY of the church HANGS." 1T 181; EW 270

"Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee." {Isaiah 60:1} To those who <u>GO OUT</u> to meet the Bridegroom is this message given. . . While all the world is plunged in darkness, there will be light in <u>every dwelling</u> of the saints. They will catch the first light of His second appearing." COL 420

THE OMEGA OF APOSTASY: "The Scriptures pointing forward to this time declare that Satan will work with

all power and "with all deceivableness of unrighteousness." 2 Thessalonians 2:9, 10. His working is plainly revealed by the rapidly increasing darkness, the multitudinous errors, heresies, and delusions of these last days. Not only is Satan leading the world captive, but his deceptions are leavening the professed churches of our Lord Jesus Christ. The great apostasy will develop into darkness deep as midnight, impenetrable as sackcloth of hair. To God's people it will be a night of trial, a night of weeping, a night of persecution for the truth's sake. But out of that night of darkness God's light will shine. . . At this time a message from God is to be proclaimed, a message illuminating in its influence and saving in its power. His character is to be made known." COL 414, 415

"A MESSAGE that will AROUSE the Churches is to be proclaimed. . . as we near the close of time." {TM 117} "A great MOVEMENT – a work of Revival- going forward in many places- our – people - were – moving – into – line." TM 515

"We do not so much need the grand church EDI-FICE, the worshipers ADORNED in costly ARRAY to harmonize with the church; this will not move one soul toward the kingdom of heaven. We need faith, obedience, genuine love for God and for humanity. This alone will exert the heaven-born influence that will move the hearts of men. There are moral icebergs in our churches. There are plenty of formalists who can make an imposing display, but cannot shine as lights in the world. God looks with pitying tenderness upon a church whose worshipers, although poor and ignorant, are sincere. They may be scorned and neglected by the world, but they are beloved of God. The glory of the church of God is in the piety of its

members; for there is the hiding of Christ's power. The influence of the sincere children of God may be esteemed as of little worth, but it will be felt throughout time, and rightly revealed in the day of reward. The light of a true Christian, shining forth in steadfast piety, in unwavering faith, will prove to the world the power of a living Saviour. In his followers Christ will be revealed as a well of water, springing up into everlasting life. Although scarcely known to the world, they are acknowledged as God's peculiar people, his chosen vessels of salvation, his channels whereby light is to come to the world. RH, March 24, 1891

These <u>faithful few</u>— cast out of the churches for their love of the truth— are that procession —OUT THERE— that pass by the sleeping virgins proclaiming: "Behold the BRIDEGROOM cometh, GO YE OUT TO MEET HIM! This is the message of this hour.

#### HOW EASY IS IT TO BE LOST?

"As they REJECT the teachings of His Word, God WITHDRAWS HIS SPIRIT, and LEAVES them to the DE-CEPTIONS which they love." 4SP 270

Some will return to God and His truth.

How much is hidden in these words! "Some, I saw, would gladly return. Others will not let this message to the Laodicean church have its weight upon them." 4bSG 29.2

(Cry out that: "No one was ever won by finding fault with them!" Decent Children heed the finding "fault" with them, spoiled brats do not! People of upright characters and noble aspirations welcome the WARNING OF DANGER in their path. Only a fool would fail to give it, or appreciate it. No one was EVER won to God WITHOUT finding FAULT with them! Letting them know that ALL have sinned and

come short of the glory of God; telling them that THEY ARE A SINNER IN NEED OF A SAVIOUR. It was the finding of FAULT that caused the disciples and all the holy men of God from the beginning of time to SEPARATE from the prevailing EVIL We do not expect the WICKED to UNDERSTAND this principle. "They shall DO wickedly, and NONE of the wicked shall UNDERSTAND. But the WISE WILL UNDERSTAND." Daniel 12:10 The LAST MESSAGE as embodied in the Revelation 18 is the greatest "Fault Finding" message ever given to the world. As the Saints of God obey the Divine edict and "Show them ALL their ABOMINA-TIONS" - they will leave the ABOMINATIONS and the ones that perform them! The Straight Testimony TO (NOT FROM) TO the Laodiceans swells into the Loud Cry, and BOTH are a message to "GO YE OUT TO MEET HIM!" Matt. 25:6. The wise will not waste time with arguments, they will obey and "Come apart and be ye SEPARATE!" 2 Cor. 6:17.

"Some, I saw, would gladly return. Others will not let this message to the Laodicean church have its weight upon them. They will glide along, much after the same manner they have, and will be spued out of the mouth of the Lord. Those only who zealously repent will have favor with God." {4bSG 29.2} . . ." leaving them with their evil traits unsubdued, to the control of evil angels. Those who come up to every point, and stand every test, and overcome, be the price what it may, have heeded the counsel of the True Witness, and they will be fitted by the latter rain for translation." 2SG 225 (as was Elijah)

THE SHAKING— In the Crisis, in the shaking, sifting time – who will be shaken OUT???? And OUT OF WHAT ARE THEY SHAKEN? Out of the Church?

(Spelled with a Capital— business Corporation) OR OUT of the TRUTH? OUT of the book of life in Heaven? OUT of the mouth of God? OUT of the light? OUT of the Third Angel's MESSAGE? OUT into MIDNIGHT DARKNESS? Read it again. Read it this time from 1st. Testimony pages 180-182 with the missing footnotes, read and realize this:

- [1] A Straight Testimony <u>TO</u> the Laodiceans. NOT FROM THEM!
- [2] By a "Company" 100 to 300 is a company in an army of men.
- [3] In the heat of battle- some "COWARDLY" take the the side of the "OPPOSERS" and go BACK to the poor abused Laodiceans. Hence go into MIDNIGHT DARK-NESS! 1T. 180-182.

"THE NUMBERS OF THIS COMPANY HAD LESS-ENED." 1T. 182

We must have the picture very clear in our minds in order to shake off laodicean tradition. Laodicean ranks will swell, not lesson; for it is the <u>small</u> company that came out and stand in the light of truth that lost members that went back to the laodiceans.

- [1] Is the Church in this hour not in MIDNIGHT DARKNESS? IMPENETRABLE as sackcloth of hair? "The great apostasy (omega) will develop into darkness deep as midnight, impenetrable as sackcloth of hair." COL 414
- [2] If the record reads that the Church is in MID-NIGHT DARKNESS- the 10 Virgins are sound asleep— "In the last hours of probation... careless and stupid, and ministers have NO POWER to AROUSE them; they are asleep themselves. "sleeping preachers preaching to a sleeping people!" 1892 Gospel Workers 121; 2T 337.2

- [3] Then the LITTLE 'COMPANY" standing in the "Light" go among this SLEEPING people who are having some marvelous dreams about what they shall do by and by, and here probation is about to close. The "PROCESSION" that starts the "Loud Cry" is already on its way; as the saint see this picture with ALARM, the best that they can do for the sleeping virgins is to get a grunt out of them, as they shuffle off in the wrong direction to take another drink from Babylon, going in the opposite direction from the door of mercy about to be forever closed.
- [4] IS it crystal clear that the parable reveals the Church in MIDNIGHT DARKNESS? And any LIGHT at all is from that "LITTLE COMPANY" OUT THERE WITH CHRIST. As they carry the torch of truth once delivered to the saints- If any leave this SMALL 'COMPANY' who ONLY are in the "LIGHT" if any leave them and go BACK to sympathize with the LAODICEANS –thinking that they are the true church, then they go "OUT" of the COMPANY; "OUT" of the TRUTH, "OUT" of the LIGHT- to lay down and go to sleep with the "Sleeping preachers preaching to a sleeping people." Which is all that the self-confessed: "Awakening" accomplished. "The LIGHT which flames up for a time soon dies out- leaving the DARKNESS more DENSE than before." GC88 463; 4SP 294

NOW READ AND UNDERSTAND— "I was shown the people of God, and saw them mightily SHAKEN... SOME.... seemed INDIFFERENT and CARELESS (couldn't care-less). They were NOT RESISTING the DARKNESS around them, and it shut them in like a thick cloud. The Angels of God LEFT THESE.... the angels LEFT those who made NO EFFORT... My attention was then turned to the COMPANY... The NUMBERS of this COMPANY had LESSENED. (this swelled the ranks of the Laodiceans! All across the country the

only "LESSENING" has been in ranks of this small "company" who have the truth, live the truth, and strive with all their power to overcome through the blood of the Lamb. So the) "Straight Testimony TO the Laodiceans" has all but STOPPED: "THE church APPEARS about to fall, but it does NOT fall, the SINNERS in ZION are SHAKEN OUT!" As they go BACK TO the Laodicean Church, believing that even though her leadership has cut the cable and she has drifted "out to sea without CHART or COMPASS", RH, July 24, 1888— she will glide safely into harbor by and by.

"THE NUMBERS OF THIS COMPANY HAD LESS-ENED"— 1T 82, 187; EW 271

"Some had been shaken OUT, and left by the way. ...and they were LEFT behind in DARKNESS... Leaving them with their sinful traits UNSUBDUED, to the CONTORL of EVIL ANGELS." 1T 182, 187; EW 271

CLEAR AS A BELL— That is what 16 years of battle with the awakening was all about! They tried to sell us the very thing here revealed- 'DO NOT RESIST" – neither self, nor the devil! Be sure to make 'NO EFFORT!" This was their Babylonish song picked up in the back streets of Moab.

NOTE: The Awakening was the movement of Robert Brinsmead, Fred Wright, and several other men who went round the world in the 1960s, though the 1980s teaching a very subtle form of once saved always saved, no effort needed. These men turned many who had come out of Laodicea to follow the Word of the Lord back to the apostate Church.

Hoehn goes on to say: JUST THINK OF THIS: —ANY Old boat or tub can go down stream, or with the wind. It requires sleek lines, and a good Captain to

make it Up-stream. Just IMAGINE coming to a hardened old salt with years of experience with the swells, and waves, and eddies, and whirlpools, and rip-tides, and currents, and all. You try and tell him that he is all wrong in how he handles the long boat, with a crew of 12-24 men who fight the current. It requires ALL from EVERY MAN! Rowing at their best-to make it to the destination, but now try to tell him to STOP the OAR on ONE SIDE-!!!! And go it by "FAITH ALONE! STOP THAT OAR OF "WORKS" and that boat will make it up the stream just fine. I wonder what those trained SAILORS would think or DO! They would probably put some turpentine in the right place, and head you in the right direction! For NO TRAINED OARSMAN would attempt to go anywhere with just ONE OAR! Yet many preachers sneer at this necessity still today.

The word of God is very clear:

James 2:20 "But wilt thou know, O vain man, that faith without works is dead?"

James 2:26 "For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also."

Many of us know a lot more of the requirements of God than we practice. Let us bring our lives up to the standard of Christian perfection that we might be able to stand when He comes in the clouds of heaven to take the waiting saints home.

Some think that we have gone far afield from the Elijah message. So let us go to the scriptures and take a look at the story of Elijah and focus in for a closer look.

Question: What was the condition of the church in Elijah's day? Was it pure and holy before God, with leaders that were doing a good job of keeping the people in the truth of the Lord?

1 Kings 16:25—33 "But Omri wrought evil in the eyes of the LORD, and did worse than all that were before him. <sup>26</sup>For he walked in all the way of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin wherewith he made Israel to sin, to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger with their vanities. <sup>27</sup>Now the rest of the acts of Omri which he did, and his might that he shewed, are they not written in the book of the chronicles of the kings of Israel? <sup>28</sup>So Omri slept with his fathers, and was buried in Samaria: and Ahab his son reigned in his stead. <sup>29</sup>And in the thirty and eighth year of Asa king of Judah began Ahab the son of Omri to reign over Israel: and Ahab the son of Omri reigned over Israel in Samaria twenty and two years. 30 And Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD above all that were before him. 31And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him. 32And he reared up an altar for Baal in the house of Baal, which he had built in Samaria. 33And Ahab made a grove; and Ahab did more to provoke the LORD God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel that were before him.

It is clear from a reading of this passage that over the course of time things went downhill in the church, because of the sins and apostasy of the leaders. When Ahab came to the throne there had already been such sin in the church that it had provoked the Lord to anger, yet Ahab did not tremble in fear of the judgments of God as outlined in Moses' writings. He, as new Conference President did not realize the danger that the church was in for he had the mistaken idea that God had raised up the church and therefore the blessings of God would continue upon that

church no matter what they did. He felt that the curses did not apply to the church, but were for the nations round about them. So he boldly took a wife from Zidon and together they took the church deep into Baal worship.

Isaiah 3:12 tells us: "As for my people, children are their oppressors, and women rule over them. O my people, they which lead thee cause thee to err, and destroy the way of thy paths."

Poor foolish Ahab! Any servant of the Lord —who believed the Word of the Lord could have told him that when women are set in leadership positions things go downhill fast. A woman, being the weaker vessel, for the most part will not have the fortitude and strength to lead the church in the ways of right-eousness. Women tend to spoil and be too soft.

In a short amount of time, Jezebel was in full control of the spiritual affairs of the church and Ahab was the one taking care of the business/money matters of the government.

God stepped in and sent a man; one who believed the "Word of the Lord."

Deuteronomy 11:16—22 "Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them; <sup>17</sup>"And then the LORD'S wrath be kindled against you, and he shut up the heaven, that there be no rain, and that the land yield not her fruit; and lest ye perish quickly from off the good land which the LORD giveth you. <sup>18</sup>"Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes. <sup>19</sup>"And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when

thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up. <sup>20</sup>"And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates: <sup>21</sup>"That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth. <sup>22</sup>"For if ye shall diligently keep all these commandments which I command you, to do them, to love the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, and to cleave unto him."

Deuteronomy 28:24 "The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed."

Elijah was a student of the Word, and as he studied the Word of the Lord, and saw the church mingling the abominations of idol worship with the worship of God he was filled with indignation and grief. He was a man subject to like passions as we are, yet desired to see repentance and reformation in his beloved church. What could he do? The more he earnestly prayed and studied the more he desired to see the people brought to their knees.

There was no thundering voice from heaven to tell him to go into the Conference Office and tell the President that unless there was a change of things there would be no rain. He simply prayed that God would hear his prayer, then he went to Ahab with this message of rebuke, and God did the rest.

James 5:17—18 "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he <u>prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months." 18"And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit."</u>

1Kings 17:1-5 "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. (Note: NO voice from heaven commanded him to do this, he simply believed the Word of the Lord and prayed earnestly that it would not rain, then went to the King-THEN came the Word of the Lord to hide him.) 2"And the word of the LORD came unto him. saying, 3"Get thee hence, and turn thee eastward, and hide thyself by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan. 4"And it shall be, that thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have commanded the ravens to feed thee there. 5"So he went and did according unto the word of the LORD: for he went and dwelt by the brook Cherith, that is before Jordan.

God is waiting for a people who will believe His WORD. Not THOUGHT inspiration, but in the WORD of the LIVING GOD enough to give the Elijah message of this hour.

Will I step out of my comfort zone and do it? Will YOU? Do we believe that this apostasy will be overlooked by God and that He will "save the Churchlock, stock and rebellion" as they are teaching? This peace and safety message must be shut up by the Elijah's of today, people must be made to see, that without repentance and reformation to the strait and narrow path of the Lord, there is NO SALVATION! The apostate Church of today is bound for hell. (See-RH Aug. 1 1893) Do you love your family and friends enough to warn them to 'GO YE OUT TO MEET HIM" before it is too late?

1Kings 18:1-20 "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. And Ahab called Obadiah, which was the governor of his house. Now Obadiah feared the LORD greatly: For it was so, when Jezebel cut off the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah took an hundred prophets, and hid them by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water. And Ahab said unto Obadiah, Go into the land, unto all fountains of water, and unto all brooks: peradventure we may find grass to save the horses and mules alive, that we lose not all the beasts. So they divided the land between them to pass throughout it: Ahab went one way by himself, and Obadiah went another way by himself. And as Obadiah was in the way, behold, Elijah met him: and he knew him, and fell on his face, and said, Art thou that my lord Elijah? And he answered him, I am: go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here. And he said, What have I sinned, that thou wouldest deliver thy servant into the hand of Ahab, to slay me? As the LORD thy God liveth, there is no nation or kingdom, whither my lord hath not sent to seek thee: and when they said, He is not there; he took an oath of the kingdom and nation, that they found thee not. And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here. And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from thee, that the Spirit of the LORD shall carry thee whither I know not; and so when I come and tell Ahab, and he cannot find thee, he shall slay me: but I thy servant fear the LORD from my youth. Was it not told my lord what I did when Jezebel slew the prophets of the LORD, how I hid an hundred men of the LORD'S prophets by fifty in a cave, and fed them with bread and water? And now thou sayest, Go, tell thy lord, Behold, Elijah is here: and he shall slay me. And Elijah said, As the LORD of hosts liveth, before whom I stand, I will surely shew myself unto him to 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.

"The king heard the message with astonishment, mingled with terror, that Elijah, whom he feared and hated, was coming to meet him. He had long sought for the prophet, that he might destroy him, and he knew that Elijah would not expose his life to come to him, unless guarded, or with some terrible denunciation. He remembered the withered arm of Jeroboam, and he decides that it is not safe to lift up his hand against the messenger of God. And with fear and trembling, and with a large retinue, he hastened with imposing display of armies to meet Elijah. And as he meets the man he has so long sought for, face to face, he dared not harm him. The king, so passionate, and filled with hatred against Elijah, seems to be powerless and unmanned in his presence. As he met the prophet, he could not refrain from speaking the language of his heart, "Art thou he that troubleth Israel?" Elijah, indignant and jealous for the honor and glory of God, answers the charge of Ahab with boldness, "I have not troubled Israel, but thou and thy father's house in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the Lord."" RH, September 30, 1873

"The prophet, as God's messenger, had reproved their sins, and denounced the judgments of God because of their wickedness. Elijah, standing alone in conscious innocence, firm in his integrity, surrounded by the train of armed men, shows no timidity, neither does he show the least reverence to the king. The man whom God has talked with, who has a clear sense of how God

regards man in his sinful depravity, has no apology to make to Ahab, nor homage to give him. Elijah, now as God's messenger, commanded, and Ahab obeyed at once the command, as though Elijah was monarch, and he subject." RH, September 30, 1873

Let all beware of making the mistake of equating the teaching of deadly doctrine with "Finding Fault" with personal weaknesses and mistakes in others- if you value your soul- you will NOT be tolerant with poisonous doctrine or medication. You will be like Elijah as he boldly spoke to the Conference President of His Church. When we attack the sins of false doctrine and poisonous medicine – no matter by whom they come- no one needs take it personally, all they need do is agree so that they will not be recorded in the books of heaven as guilty of aiding and abetting the worst crime against God that is possible to commit.

"There is many a man in the humble walks of life today whom the Lord might designate as He did Abraham: "The friend of God." Such men approve that which God approves and condemn that which He condemns. In their presence even the sinner feels a sense of awe, a restraint; for God is with them. 4T 615

"In the work of reform to be carried forward today, there is need of men who, like Ezra and Nehemiah, will not palliate or excuse sin, nor shrink from vindicating the honor of God. Those upon whom rests the burden of this work will not hold their peace when wrong is done, neither will they cover evil with a cloak of false charity. They will remember that God is no respecter of persons, and that severity to a few may prove mercy to many. They will remember also that in the one who

rebukes evil the spirit of Christ should ever be revealed. PK 675

1Kings 18:21-24 "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. <sup>22</sup>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. <sup>23</sup>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: <sup>24</sup>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."

"Reminding the people of the long-continued apostasy that has awakened the wrath of Jehovah, Elijah calls upon them 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 knew Jehovah was there, a witness to the scene, a listener to his appeal. The prophets of Baal had prayed wildly, incoherently. Elijah prays simply and fervently, asking God to show his superiority over Baal, that Israel may be led to turn to him.

"Lord," the prophet pleads, "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."

A silence, oppressive in its solemnity, rests upon all. The priests of Baal tremble with terror. Conscious of their guilt, they look for swift retribution.

No sooner is the prayer of Elijah ended than flames of fire, like brilliant flashes of lightning, descend from heaven upon the upreared altar, consuming the sacrifice, licking up the water in the trench, and consuming even the stones of the altar... All are amazed at the sight. It recalls to their minds the pillar of fire which at the Red Sea separated the children of Israel from the Egyptian host.

The people on the mount prostrate themselves in awe before the unseen God. They dare not continue to look upon the heaven-sent fire. They fear that they themselves will be consumed; and convicted of their duty to acknowledge the God of Elijah as the God of their fathers, to whom they owe allegiance, they cry out together as with one voice, "The Lord, he is the God; the Lord, he is the God." ... At last Israel is aroused, undeceived, penitent. At last the people see 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. They 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 <u>priests of Baal witness with consternation</u> the wonderful revelation of Jehovah's power. <u>Yet even in their discomfiture and in the presence of divine glory, they refuse to repent of their evil-doing. They would</u>

still remain the prophets of Baal. Thus they show themselves ripe for destruction. That repentant Israel may be protected from the allurements of those who have taught them to worship Baal, Elijah is directed by the Lord to destroy these false teachers. The anger of the people has already been aroused against these leaders in transgression, and when Elijah gives the command, "Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape," they are ready to obey his word. They seize the priests, and take them to the brook Kishon, and there, with his own hand, Elijah slays these idolatrous priests, allowing none to live." RH, September 25, 1913

No wonder that there is no Elijah message being given today! With this man of faith we see unflinching courage, we see an unbending fortitude! We see a message that was so lacking in love sick sentimentalism that it drew out of every single person within hearing range the full and complete decision to either follow God or fully refuse to repent! This was no halfway work done by this man of God. But full and complete.

#### The Three Elijah's...

ELIJAH OF THE OLD TESTAMENT— There was an Elijah of the Old Testament, let us now ponder some of the points of his story.

- 1 Kings 16:29-33 He was a man of like passions: "Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are,..." James 5:17
- He was a man of prayer: "and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months.
   And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain,

and the earth brought forth her fruit." James 5:17,18

- He was a man of faith believing the Word of God: "If ye walk in my statutes, and keep my commandments, and do them; Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit." Lev 26:3,4
- He believed the Word of God enough to walk in before the Conference President of the professed church of God and announce to him that because of his leading the church into deep apostasy there would be no dew nor rain but according to HIS word:
- "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
- God was so pleased with him stepping out in faith that He tells him where to hide from all the soon to be angry Seventh Day Adventists: "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." 1Kings 17:2-4
- Elijah rebukes the G.C. President and refuses to take blame for the drought: "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." 1Kings 18:18
- Unafraid of death or failure, He commands the G.C. President to gather all the people to the top of Mt. Carmel for a contest: "Now therefore send, 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. "So Ahab sent unto all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together unto mount Carmel." 1Kings 18:19
- At high noon, when the sun is the strongest, he mocks the pastors of the church for their gods not answering them: "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." 1 kings 18:27
- He cut off the rebellious influence of those miserable preachers of unrighteousness just below their ears: "And Elijah said unto them, Take the prophets of Baal; let not one of them escape. And they took them: and Elijah brought them down to the brook Kishon, and slew them there." 1Kings 18:40
- The "woman" sends him a message of doom: "Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time." 1Kings 19:2
- Elijah ran and struggled for his faith in the wilderness: "And when he saw that, he arose, and

went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there. But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers. And as he lay and slept under a juniper tree,..." 1 Kings 19:3-5

• An angel of God feeds and waters him there: "behold, then an angel touched him, and said unto him, Arise and eat. And he looked, and, behold, there was a cake baken on the coals, and a cruse of water at his head. And he did eat and drink, and laid him down again. And the angel of the LORD came again the second time, and touched him, and said, Arise and eat; because the journey is too great for thee. And he arose, and did eat and drink, and went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights unto Horeb the mount of God." 1 Kings 19:5-8

#### POINTS TO PONDER:

He came with a cutting message against sin in the church. Boldly he rebuked Ahab for breaking the 10 commandments.

- He called Israel to repentance and announced a drought.
- He was a true prophet
- He restored true worship of God unmixed with heathen customs and traditions.
- He forced the whole church to a decision for or against God.
- He prayed for rain.
- He was persecuted by the "Woman".
- He was put under death sentence.
- His faith was severely tested.

- He maintained a simple diet.
- He was taken to heaven without seeing death.

# THE ELIJAH OF THE NEW TESTAMENT "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:" Malachi 4:5

The scribes in the days of Christ taught that when the Messiah came he would come with power and great glory and free them from the Roman oppression that they were under. Hence the application of the prophecy of Malachi 4:5

"And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. 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. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist." Mat 17:10 -13

Jesus points them to John the Baptist and tells them that he fulfilled the prediction of Elijah's coming.

Matthew 3:1 -4 "In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, And saying, Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet saias, saying, The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. And the same John had his raiment of camel's hair, and a leathern girdle about his loins; and his meat was locusts and wild honey."

He preached repentance toward God.

Matthew 3:5—12 "Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan, And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance: And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham. And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will throughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

Matthew14:1—11 "At that time Herod the tetrarch heard of the fame of Jesus, And said unto his servants, This is John the Baptist; he is risen from the dead; and therefore mighty works do shew forth themselves in him. For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, and put him in prison for Herodias' sake, his brother Philip's wife. For John said unto him, It is not lawful for thee to have her. And when he would have put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet. But when Herod's birthday was kept, the daughter of Herodias danced before them, and pleased Herod. Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. And she, being before instructed of her

mother, said, Give me here John Baptist's head in a charger. And the king was sorry: nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her. And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison. And his head was brought in a charger, and given to the damsel: and she brought it to her mother.

"See John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ, standing alone to rebuke the pride and formalism of the Jewish nation." COL 78

"Christ declared John the Baptist to be one of the greatest of the prophets, and He showed His hearers that they had had sufficient evidence that John was a messenger from God. The words of the preacher in the wilderness were with power. He bore his message unflinchingly, rebuking the sins of priests and rulers, and enjoining upon them the works of the kingdom of heaven. He pointed out to them their sinful disregard of their Father's authority in refusing to do the work appointed them. He made no compromise with sin, and many were turned from their unrighteousness." COL 278

"John the Baptist was a reformer. To him was committed a great work for the people of his time. And in preparation for that work, all his habits were carefully regulated, even from his birth. The angel Gabriel was sent from heaven to instruct the parents of John in the principles of health reform. He "shall drink neither wine nor strong drink," said the heavenly messenger; "and he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost." Luke 1:15; CTBH 38

"John separated himself from his friends, and from the luxuries of life, dwelling alone in the wilderness, and subsisting upon a purely vegeta-

ble diet. The simplicity of his dress — a garment woven of camel's hair — was a rebuke to the extravagance and display of the people of his generation, especially of the Jewish priests. His diet also, of locusts and wild honey, was a rebuke to the gluttony that everywhere prevailed." CTBH 38

"The work of John was foretold by the prophet Malachi: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord; .... [Malachi 4:5, 6.] John the Baptist went forth in the spirit and power of Elijah, to prepare the way of the Lord, and to turn the people to the wisdom of the just. He was a representative of those living in the last days, to whom God has intrusted sacred truths to present before the people, to prepare the way for the second appearing of Christ. And the same principles of temperance which John practiced should be observed by those who in our day are to warn the world of the coming of the Son of man." CTBH 39

"In the time of John the Baptist, greed for riches, and the love of luxury and display had become widespread. Sensuous pleasures, feasting and drinking, were causing physical disease and degeneracy, benumbing the spiritual perceptions, and lessening the sensibility to sin. John was to stand as a reformer. By his abstemious life and plain dress he was to rebuke the excesses of his time. Hence the directions given to the parents of John,--a lesson of temperance by an angel from the throne of heaven. . . . "CC 271

"What was it that made John the Baptist great? He closed his mind to the mass of tradition presented by the teachers of the Jewish nation, and opened it to the wisdom which comes from above. {CT

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"John the Baptist met sin with open rebuke in men of humble occupation and in men of high degree. He declared the truth to kings and nobles, whether they would hear or reject it. He spoke personally and pointedly. He reproved the Pharisees of the Sanhedrim because their religion consisted in forms and not in righteousness of pure, willing obedience.... He spoke to Herod in regard to his marriage with Herodias, saying, It is not lawful for thee to have her.

He spoke to him of a future retribution, when God would judge every man according to his works....

"Then came also publicans to be baptized, and said unto him, Master, what shall we do?" (Luke 3:12). Did he say, Leave your toll and custom houses? No, he said to them, "Exact no more than that which is appointed you" (Luke 3:13). If they were tax gatherers still, they could hold just weights and balances of truth in their hands. They could reform in those things that savored of dishonesty and oppression. "And the soldiers likewise demanded of him, saying, And what shall we do? And he said unto them, Do violence to no man, neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages" (Luke 3:14).... 2SM 150

"The people waited with interest to see what would be the result, never thinking that he would be visited with any severe punishment, as his life was without blame. Herod's purpose to release John from prison was delayed from time to time through fear of displeasing Herodias, who was determined he should be put to death. While he was delaying, she was active, planning how to be revenged in the most effectual manner on the prophet, because he had ventured to tell the truth, and reprove their unlawful life. She knew that although Herod kept John in

prison, he designed to release him, for he honored and feared him, and believed that he was a true prophet of God. John had made known to Herod the secrets of his heart and life, and his reproofs had struck terror to the guilty conscience of the king." 2SP 76

"In many things Herod had reformed his dissolute life. But the use of luxurious food and stimulating drink was constantly enervating his moral as well as physical powers, and warring against the earnest appeals of the Spirit of God, which had struck conviction to his heart, and was urging him to put away his sins. Herodias was acquainted with the weak points in the character of Herod. She knew that under ordinary circumstances, while his intelligence controlled him, she could not compass the death of John." 2SP 76

"She had tried, but unsuccessfully, to gain the consent of Herod to have John slain. Her revengeful spirit was now at work to accomplish her inhuman design by strategy...she covered her hatred as best she could, looking forward to the royal birthday, which she knew would be an occasion of gluttony and intoxication. The king's love of luxurious food and wine would give her an opportunity to throw him off his guard. She would entice him to indulge his appetite, which would arouse passions of the baser order, subvert the finer sensibilities, produce a recklessness of consequences, and an inability to exercise his proper judgment and decision."

"She was acquainted with the effect of these carnivals upon the intellect and morals. She knew that the unnatural exhilaration of the spirits induced by intemperance lowers the moral standard of the mind, making it impossible for holy impulses to enter the heart and govern the excited passions, that festivities and amusements, dances, and free use of wine, cloud the sense, and remove the fear of God; therefore she prepared everything to flatter his pride and vanity, and

indulge his passions. She made the most costly preparations for feasting, and voluptuous dissipation." 2SP 77

"When the great day arrived, and the king with his lords was feasting and drinking in the banqueting hall, Herodias sent her daughter, dressed in a most enchanting manner, into the royal presence. Salome was decorated with costly garlands and flowers, sparkling jewels and flashing bracelets. With little covering, and less modesty, she danced for the amusement of the royal guests. To their perverted senses, she seemed a vision of beauty and loveliness, and charmed away the last remnants of self-respect and propriety. Instead of being governed by enlightened reason, refined taste, and sensitive conscience, the baser qualities of the mind held the guiding reins. Virtue and principle had no controlling power." 2SP 77

"The mind of Herod was in a whirl. His faculties were confused, judgment and reverence were dethroned...In the recklessness of the moment he was desirous to make some display...and he rashly promised, and confirmed his promise with an oath, to give the daughter of Herodias whatever she might ask." 2SP 78

"The object for which she had been sent into the royal presence was now gained. Having obtained so wonderful a promise, she ran to her mother, desiring to know what she should ask. The mother's answer was ready--the head of John the Baptist in a charger. Salome was shocked. She did not understand the hidden revenge in her mother's heart, and at first refused to present such an inhuman request; but the determination of the wicked mother prevailed. Moreover, she bade her daughter make no delay, but hasten to prefer her request before Herod would have time for reflection. Accordingly Salome returned to Herod with her terrible petition: "I will that thou give me, by

and by, in a charger, the head of John the Baptist. And the king was exceeding sorry; yet for his oath's sake, and for their sakes which sat with him, he would not reject her." 2SP 78

"Herod was astonished and confounded. The riotous mirth ceased, for his guests were thrilled with horror at this inhuman request. An ominous silence settled down upon the scene of revelry. The king, though drunken and confused, endeavored to summon reason to his aid. 2SP 79

"He had been exalted for constancy and superior judgment, and he did not wish to appear fickle or rash in character. The oath had been made in honor of his guests, and had one of them offered a word of remonstrance against the fulfillment of his promise, he would gladly have saved the life of John. He gave them opportunity to speak in the prisoner's behalf. They had traveled long distances to the mountains in the wilderness to listen to his powerful discourses, and they knew he was a man without crime, and a prophet of God. Herod told them if it would not be considered a special mark of dishonor to them, he would not abide by his oath. 2SP 79

"But though at first they were horror-stricken at the unnatural demand of the girl, they were so far intoxicated that they sat in silent stupor, without reason, reverence, or thought. Though they were invited to release the monarch from his oath, their tongues were dumb. No voice in all that company was raised to save the life of an innocent man, who had never done them harm. Herod, still under the delusion that, in order to maintain his reputation, he must keep an oath made under the influence of intoxication, unless formally released from it, waited in vain for a dissenting voice, but there was none. The life of God's prophet was in the hands of a com-

pany of drunken revelers. These men occupied high positions of trust in the nation, and grave responsibilities rested upon them, yet they had gorged themselves with dainty food, and added drunkenness to surfeiting, until their mental powers were enervated by the pleasure of sense, their brains turned with the giddy scene of music and dancing, and conscience lay dormant. By their silence they pronounced the sentence of death upon the anointed of the Lord, to gratify the horrible caprice of a wicked woman.... This eventful birthday feast should be a lesson of warning to the lovers of pleasure, and an exhortation to Christian temperance." 2SP 80

Now let us look at the points to ponder that we have collected from our study of the first and second Elijah, there we will find a list of things to look for and expect in the third Elijah.

## POINTS TO PONDER: The First Elijah:

- He came with a cutting message against sin in the church.
- He boldly rebuked Ahab for breaking the 10 commandments.
- He called Israel to repentance and announced a drought.
- He maintained a simple diet.
- He was a true prophet, standing ALONE on the Word of God.
- He restored true worship of God unmixed with heathen customs and traditions.
- He forced the whole church to a decision for or against God.
- He prayed for rain.
- He was persecuted by the "Woman".
- He was put under death sentence.

- His faith was severely tested.
- He was taken to heaven without seeing death.

## POINTS TO PONDER: The Second Elijah: John the Baptist:

- He came with a cutting message against sin in the church.
- He boldly rebuked Herod for breaking the 10 commandments.
- He called Israel to repentance and announced "Behold the Lamb of God!"
- He maintained a simple diet
- He was a true prophet, standing ALONE on the Word of God.
- He restored true worship of God unmixed with heathen customs and traditions.
- He urged the whole church to a decision for or against God.
- He prayed for and baptized the people.
- He was persecuted by the "Woman-through her daughter"
- He was put into prison.
- His faith was severely tested.
- The "daughter of the Woman" begged for his death.
- He was killed because the church was too drunk to stand in his defense.

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

"As he (Wm. Miller) followed down the prophecies, he saw that the inhabitants of earth were living in the closing scenes of this world's history, and they knew it not. He looked at the corruptions of the churches, and saw that their love was taken from Jesus, and placed on the world, and that they were seeking for worldly

honor instead of that honor which cometh from above; ambitious for worldly riches, instead of laying up their treasure in heaven. Hypocrisy, darkness and death he could see everywhere. His spirit was stirred within him. God called him to leave his farm, as Elisha was called to leave his oxen and the field of his labor to follow Elijah. With trembling, William Miller began to unfold the mysteries of the kingdom of God to the people. He gained strength with every effort. He carried the people down through the prophecies to the second advent of Christ. As John the Baptist heralded the first advent of Jesus, and prepared the way for his coming, so also, Wm. Miller and those who joined him, proclaimed the second advent of the Son of God." 1SG 129

"We have, as had John, a message to bear of the things which we have seen and heard. God is not giving us a new message. We are to proclaim the message that in 1843 and 1844 brought us <u>OUT of the other churches</u>. We need the Holy Spirit to kindle in our hearts the zeal and earnestness that were then seen among God's people." RH, January 19, 1905

"Those who are to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ are represented by faithful Elijah, as John came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for Christ's first advent. The great subject of reform is to be agitated, and the public mind is to be stirred. Temperance in all things is to be connected with the message, to turn the people of God from their idolatry, their gluttony, and their extravagance in dress and other things." 3T 62

"Somebody is to come in the spirit and power of Elijah, and when he appears, men may say, "You are too earnest, you do not interpret the Scriptures in the proper way. Let me tell you how to teach your message." RH, February 18, 1890

"In this time of well-nigh universal apostasy, <u>God</u> <u>calls upon His messengers to proclaim His law in</u> <u>the spirit and power of Elias</u>. As John the Baptist, in preparing a people for Christ's first advent, called their attention to the Ten Commandments, so we are to give, with no uncertain sound, the message: "Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come." With the earnestness that characterized Elijah the prophet and John the Baptist, we are to strive to prepare the way for Christ's second advent" **SW March 21, 1905** 

"In the transfiguration on the mount... they there saw the kingdom of Christ in miniature. Jesus was clothed with the glory of Heaven, and proclaimed by the Father's voice to be the Son of God. Moses was present, representing those who will be raised from the dead at the second coming of Christ; and Elijah, who was translated to Heaven without seeing death, represented those who will be living on earth at the time of Christ's second appearing, and who will be changed from mortal to immortal, and be translated to Heaven without seeing death." 3Red 126

## POINTS TO PONDER: The Third Elijah: "We have... a message to bear!"

- (WE) Are to come with a cutting message against sin in the Church and the world; boldly rebuking leaders and people for breaking the 10 commandments.
- (WE) Are to call God's people OUT of the Church that has become joined to the world and announce that she is fallen is fallen, and is become the habi-

- tation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of every unclean and hateful bird. Rev. 18:2
- (WE) Are to maintain a simple diet and lifestyle. Teaching temperance in ALL things.
- (WE) Are to hold to the true prophet, standing upon the Word of God unadulterated or changed by men.
- (WE) Are to restore true worship of God unmixed with heathen customs and traditions such as Easter, Christmas, Images, etc....
- (WE) Are to urge the church to a decision for or against God. Calling for a choice to be made-Christ or the Church! Rev 14:4 "These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins." Not going to Church due to the apostasy there, not wishing to be defiled by corporate responsibility. "Those who have not been living in Christian fellowship will draw close to one another. One member working in right lines will lead other members to unite with him in making intercession for the revelation of the Holy Spirit." 8T 251
- (WE) Are to pray for the former rain and the latter rain. Zach. 10:1
- (WE) Are to be persecuted by the "Woman and her daughters."
- (WE) Some will be put in prison; some will flee to the mountains.
- (WE) All will have their faith severely tested.
- (WE) Death decree will be put forth against all who stand for Christ Alone.
- (WE) Some will be killed; (as was John the Baptist) some will live to see Jesus come, and rise to meet Him (as did Elijah.)

The 3rd Elijah says "Choose the lies of the reli-

gious world around you and you will receive of the plagues." Rev 18:4 "And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues."

In Elijah's time Israel was in bed with "The Woman" Jezebel. The leader was submissive to her, allowing her to dictate her wishes in worship for the whole Church. In John the Baptist's day Israel was in bed with "The Woman" Herodias –Herod's Brother's wife. The leader was submissive to her daughter in killing John the Baptist for his denunciation of their adultery.

In our day the Church is in bed with "The Woman and her daughters" in the ecumenical movement. Allowing THEM to dictate to her their wishes for how the Church should worship God, what can or cannot be preached, and how it should be preached; controlling the minds of the worshipers through demonic music, Pastoral Control, Nero Linguistic Programing, and Spiritual formation.

Many are joined to the church because they have never been joined to Christ. They hate the gospel and refuse to agree with it, it is easier to join a church to look good then to be joined to Christ.

"The gospel of Christ alone can offer pardon. In order to stand forgiven, the sinner must exercise repentance toward God, whose law has been transgressed, and faith in Christ, his atoning sacrifice. Without true repentance, there can be no true conversion. Many are deceived here, and too often their entire experience proves to be a deception. This is why so many who are joined to the church have never been joined to Christ." 4SP 297

Elijah did not wait to see the Word of the Lord fulfilled, in viewing the filthy sin-sickness of his church he took God at His Word and rebuked the wicked leaders of the church, announcing judgment to come from God upon them.

John the Baptist did not wait to see the Word of the Lord fulfilled, in viewing the prophecies of the Word of God, he realized that the time for the Messiah was at hand and he went out and preached repentance and reformation to the people of Israel, urging them to prepare to meet God.

We are not to wait to see the judgments of God fall upon a wicked church and world, we are to repent, reform our lives, study the prophecies, pray for the Holy Spirit, obey the command of God to get out of the corrupt Churches, and urge all that we come in contact with to prepare to meet God.

Are you ready my friend! Are you ready to announce the judgments of God that are about to be poured out on the wicked Churches and impenitent world?

Are you ready to separate from Church friends, family and loved ones who have a form of godliness but deny the power to live pure and holy lives before God? Staying together means you will be slain together! Read Ezek. 9. Jesus said; "He that loveth father or mother more than me is not worthy of me: and he that loveth son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." Matt. 10:37

Are you ready to work your way to poverty for the spreading of this message? Remember that those traveling the narrow path in the vision of Ellen White had to leave the wagons, get OFF THE HORSES, (the

Churches); take OFF THEIR SHOES AND SOCKS before they could swing over into Canaan. Do you expect to get there with no effort on your part at all when we are told:

"All the difficulties, the backsets, the hardships, and the disappointments which God's servants will meet in active labor will only strengthen them in the formation of correct characters." 3T. 494

- We need to be spiritually prepared to be persecuted by the Woman AND HER DAUGHTERS.
- We need not fear the future- but trust in the ONE who holds the universe in His hand.
- We need to prepare to meet the death sentence, and have our faith tested.
- We need to prepare to be translated. Put off all gluttony, and passions that have long stood in between our souls and God.
- We need to prepare our Characters for heaven now, for only our vile bodies will be changed at the coming of the Lord. Our characters must be worked upon here and now, for very soon this verdict will be given: Rev. 22:11 "He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still."

Let us rise up and work for the salvation of our own souls, and the souls of those around us. May God help us to this end.

## Go Ye OUT to MEET HIM! Matt. 25:6