

## Greater Works Christian Church

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**Recap:** Last week we looked at how Jesus is-

- ***The Lamb of God***- suffering servant; sacrifice
- ***The Lion of the Tribe of Judah***- ruling King

We found that most know Jesus as The Lamb, but few know Him as the Lion. We see Jesus as mild and sometimes weak, but in reality, He is sitting on the Throne as a King, a Lion.

In order for us to understand who we are we must understand who Jesus is. If we see Jesus as weak and timid, we will be weak and timid. If we see Jesus as strong and ruling as a King, we will be strong and take authority as we should.

### **The Spirit of Elijah**

#### ***Elijah the Prophet:***

- Stands Before God- 1 Kings 17:1 and 1 Kings 18:15
- Prophesies Drought (drought lasts 3 ½ years)- 1 Kings 17
- Fed Miraculously by Ravens- 1 Kings 17
- Miraculously Increases a Widow's Meal and Oil- 1 Kings 17
- Raises Widow's son from the Dead- 1 Kings 17
- Confronts Ahab and the Priests of Baal- 1 Kings 18
- Calls Fire from Heaven- 1 Kings 18
- Executes 450 Prophets of Baal- 1 Kings 18
- Prophesies Rain (rain comes in abundance)- 1 Kings 18
- Outran the Horses of Ahab- 1 Kings 18
- Fed Miraculously twice by Angels- 1 Kings 19
- Meets with God on a Mountain- 1 Kings 19
- Calls Down Fire Twice consuming 102 Men- 2 Kings 1
- Supernaturally Divides the Jordan- 2 Kings 2
- Carried Away into Heaven by a Whirlwind- 2 Kings 2

#### ***Was Elijah a Lamb or a Lion?***

**Introduction:** There are many ideas and doctrines on the "End-Times". There are debates over; books written; lectures; etc. all on the end-times. After studying the end time doctrines, and hearing many of the discussions, I have come to only one solid conclusion concerning the end-times. That conclusion is that something wonderful "MUST" take place before the second coming of Christ. There must be a full restoration of everything Godly, before Christ can return.

### **Malachi 4:5-6**

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.

6 And 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.

**Note:** Notice that Elijah must come before Christ comes. Here we see the possibility of two separate events (or days).

- ***The first day, "the great... day of the Lord."***
- ***The second day, "the dreadful day of the Lord."***

Many see this as the same day, but I hope to show at least the possibility that two separate days were in the mind of God when He moved upon Malachi to write this book.

At any rate, we can see that Elijah must come before the, "day of the Lord." Whether this is merely a single event, or two events remains to be seen.

When Elijah comes something wonderful takes place. There is a restoration that occurs with his coming. Here we see that relationships between Fathers and their children are restored. Because of this the family will be radically changed and restoration will come. This will in turn keep a curse from coming on the earth (or land).

### **John the Baptist was the Elijah to Come**

**Note:** Notice that Elijah is to come and restore ALL THINGS. John the Baptist restored SOME THINGS. That was only the beginning. The spirit of Elijah working through us will complete the task.

### **Matthew 17:10-13**

10 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

11 Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, ***Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.***

12 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."

13 Then the disciples understood that He spoke to them of John the Baptist.

**Note:** As we can plainly see, Elijah comes to, "restore all things." Jesus also said, "Elijah is coming", and, "Elijah has come already".

*The Elijah that had already come they knew to be John the Baptist. So, what about the Elijah that is coming?* Elijah (in the form of John the Baptist) already came before the, "great... day of the Lord." Great because salvation had come to man.

We can expect Elijah to come again before the, “dreadful day of the Lord”: dreadful because the second coming of Christ brings about the end of the age. This day will not be dreadful for believers, but to those who have rejected Him as Lord and Savior.

### **Elijah, at the “End of the Age”**

**Remember-** Jesus said Elijah “IS” coming, And that he “HAS” come (Matt 17:11-12).

### **Speaking of John the Baptist**

#### **Luke 1:17**

He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, '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."

John came in the “spirit and power of Elijah” to bring a level of restoration to the earth, so that Messiah-Jesus could come forth. This was the FIRST TIME the spirit of Elijah came to bring the needed restoration for Christ to manifest in the earth.

***John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way of the Lord so Jesus could be revealed as the Savior of Mankind.***

***The spirit and power of Elijah MUST come again before Jesus comes to be revealed as the King of kings and the Lord of lords.***

***Before Jesus comes and establishes His Kingdom in its fulness, the Spirit of Elijah MUST come first.***

### **The Restoration of All Things**

Elijah came on the scene to bring Israel to repentance. John the Baptist (with the spirit and power of Elijah) came preaching repentance. Here we are told to Repent, before Jesus can return.

#### **Acts 3:19-21**

19 Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,  
20 and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before,  
21 whom **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.

**Note:** Notice that Christ will remain in heaven until the, “restoration of all things.” One thing is for certain, when we discuss end-time theology, we know that Jesus will not return until Elijah comes, and all things are restored.

From v.21) **Receive (1209)** dechomai

1) to take with the hand

1a) to take hold of, take up

**Restoration (605) *apokatastasis***

1) restoration

1a) of a true theocracy

1b) of the perfect state before the fall

From the use of the language and these words, Jesus will remain in heaven until the restoration of all things prophesied by the Holy Prophets. This is profound since it shows us that we will do extraordinary things before Jesus' return.

### **All of Creation is Waiting for Elijah to Come**

#### **Romans 8:18-21**

18 For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

20 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope;

21 because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.

**Note:** Creation itself is waiting for you and me to come into our, "son-ship", and redeem it from the, "bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God." In other words, we are to be the Elijah's that rise and restore all things. We are to be as John the Baptist and prepare the way of the Lord. We do this by bringing the restoration of all things into the earth. We restore the entire earth back to its original design and purpose.

Don't look for a single Elijah, or John the Baptist to emerge on the scene, but instead look in the mirror (at yourself) and those around you. These will be the ones going forth in the spirit and power of Elijah, that will bring the restoration of all things before Christ can return to the earth.

***You and I are the Elijah to come!***