July 2005 Fort Myers, Florida

Elijah Comes First

Mt 17:10-12; Mk 9:11-13; Lk 1:17; Mal 3:1-6; 4:4-6 — This was speaking first of John the Baptist, who had already come before Messiah, announcing Him in the desert. But our Master confirms in Mk 9:12 the specific and still unfulfilled prophesy of Mal 4:5-6 — *Elijah shall come* — which is said or prophesied after John the Baptist had already come, as Mt 11:14 and 17:10. "Comes first" meant before Messiah's first coming, but Messiah Himself said, "Elijah comes first" to also mean His second coming, that Elijah would come first and restore the Body of Messiah after 2000 years of being misrepresented by the Catholic and Protestant movements, so-called "the Church," with all its divisions which prove that it could not be Messiah's Body (1 Cor 1:13; Mt 12:25).

John the Baptist could not have fulfilled Mt 17:11, as Mk 9:11-12 meant before Messiah's *second* coming, as to inaugurate the millennial reign of His second coming to restore the twelve tribes of Israel during the millennial reign (Acts 3:21). But before this can happen, Heb 10:13 must be done in a restored twelve tribes in this present age, due to the fact that the first church did not produce the fruit of the Kingdom, or bring in a year of Jubilee, or the seventh-day rest, the thousand-year Sabbath rest (Rev 20:3).

That is when Acts 3:21 will be fulfilled, as the apostles asked in Acts 1:6, and the Master answered in verse 7, knowing that Daniel was a sealed prophecy (Dan 12:4,9), and Dan 2:44 could only happen in the lifetime of the ten kings of Dan 7:24 and Rev 17:12, and this is at the *end* of this present age. That is when they bring about Rev 17:16-18, the judgment of the whore (harlot, prostitute), being Rome in control of the so-called church.

This harlot of Rev 17:16 is further illustrated in the Old Testament by that false religion which held 95% of the Jews who were not stirred in their heart to return to the land to restore the temple and the city which was destroyed. Rev 18:2 — *Babylon*

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represents this actual city. Rev 18:15 — Their wealth held the Jews in their comfortable Babylonian dwellings to carry on a religion in the synagogues of Satan.

The prediction fulfilled in John the Baptist, or "Elijah," and the restoration of all things are kept distinct as Messiah said: that Elijah had already come (Mt 17:12), but the one who would restore all things was 2000 years in the future, as Acts 1:6-7 hints at. The life of Acts 2:44 and 4:32 had to be born as a witness and then be dead for 2000 years before it was to be restored as a twelve-tribed nation (Acts 26:7; Jms 1:1; Eph 2:12; Gal 6:16; 1 Pet 2:9; Rev 7:4-8; 21:9,12; 1:6). John the Baptist typified the one who was still to come first before Messiah could come back, because He must return to fulfill Rev 19:7-8, as Mk 9:12 promises.

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