

# THE THREE ELIJAH'S

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# THE THREE ELIJAH'S

By Pastor Stephen Bohr

# LESSON #1 – THE HISTORICAL ELIJAH

We are going to talk about three Elijah's: **Historical**, **Prophetic** [New Testament], **Apocalyptic** [which has **two stages**]

The story of three fold alliance of **a king** [political leader], a **harlot woman** and **her false prophets** who deceived and controlled **God's people** enticing them to **worship** the **sun god** Baal. It's about the prophet which God raised up to denounce this apostasy. Let's begin with **Elijah's enemies** 

I Kings 16:30-31: King fornicates with Jezebel and imposed false worship to the sun god Baal

"Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. 31 And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him."

# 1 Kings 21:8-10: The harlot was the evil figure who controlled the king. The death of Naboth

"And she wrote letters in Ahab's name, sealed them with his seal, and sent the letters to the elders and the nobles who were dwelling in the city with Naboth. 9 She wrote in the letters, saying, Proclaim a fast, and seat Naboth with high honor among the people; 10 and seat two men, scoundrels, before him to bear witness against him, saying, "You have blasphemed God and the king." Then take him out, and stone him, that he may die."

**1 Kings 21:25:** Jezebel was the **shadow ruler** of Israel. She had an **enormous influence** on Ahab, the **civil ruler** 

Ahab had a **weak character** which was easily **manipulated** and controlled by the **strong-willed** Jezebel

"But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the LORD, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up."

"Ahab was weak in moral power. His union by marriage with an idolatrous woman of decided character and positive temperament resulted disastrously both to himself and to the nation. Unprincipled, and with no high standard of rightdoing, his character was easily molded by the determined spirit of Jezebel." <u>PK</u> 115

**I Kings 18:21**: She imposed a **syncretistic religion** upon Israel—a **mixture** or amalgamation of Yahweh worship and Baal worship.

"And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word."

# Hosea 2:8: Baal thought to have creative power.

"Nor she did not know that I gave her grain, new wine, and oil, and multiplied her silver and gold--which they prepared for Baal."

"Their pleadings are mingled with cursings to their **sun-god** that he does not send fire for their altars." <u>Testimonies for the Church</u>, volume 3, p. 282

# I Kings 18:4: Jezebel a murderer of God's prophets

"For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)"

#### I Kings 19:1, 2: Promised to murder Elijah after Mt. Carmel but was not able

"And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

II Kings 9:22: Jezebel was a harlot and a witch [occult] and she was called the mother.

"Now it happened, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" So he answered, "What peace, as long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcraft are so many?"

**I Kings 18:19**: She sustained a **priesthood of false prophets** who extended the **religion of Baal** throughout the entire nation

"Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

I Kings 21:22: The triple union controlled the people of Israel and led them into apostasy. They deceived the people

"I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and made Israel sin."

I Kings 19:10: The people were influenced to seek Elijah and the prophets to kill them

"So he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

The mission of Elijah is to **God's people** who have been **deceived by the triple alliance**. It is to those who **claim to serve the true God** and not to the pagan nations. Elijah was **not an innovator** who brought new truth but rather a **restorer** of **true worship**, **true sacrifice** and the **commandments** of God. His message was not to the **unchurched** but rather to the churched.

Malachi 4:5, 6: The role of Elijah is to bring God's people back to the Lord—to bring them out of apostasy to worship the true God once more.

"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."

**I Kings 18:37**: The succinct message of Elijah was to bring **Israel back** to the Lord their God. Elijah is thus a **restorer**, not an **innovator**.

"Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."

Luke 1:16: Bring God's people back

"And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God."

Matthew 17:11: Restore all things

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

I Kings 18:30: Elijah repaired the altar of the Lord.

"Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down."

#### I Kings 18:31, 32: Elijah was restoring true Israel by restoring the twelve stones

"And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name." 32 Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD..."

I Kings 18:36: By appealing to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, Elijah is appealing to the past

"And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. 37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their **hearts back** to You again."

I Kings 19:10: Elijah was restoring the covenant of the Lord which had been broken. The covenant includes two things: Covenant law and covenant sacrifice

"So he said, "I have been very zealous for the LORD God of hosts; for the **children of Israel** have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

I Kings 18:17, 18: Elijah rebuked false worship to the sun god and restored true worship to the creator God

"Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?" 18 And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and you have followed the Baals."

Psalm 95:6: Worship and creation are closely linked

"Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD our Maker."

Revelation 14:6, 7: Impossible to speak about worship without speaking about the Sabbath (also Isaiah 66:22, 23)

"Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people-- 7 saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

I Kings 18:18: Elijah restored the commandments of God (especially the first table)

"And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the LORD and you have followed the Baals."

I Kings 18:30, 36: Elijah restored the true sacrifice of the lamb (the everlasting gospel)

"30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down. 36 And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word."

#### I Kings 18:5: Famine in the land. Natural calamities

"And Ahab had said to Obadiah, "Go into the land to all the springs of water and to all the brooks; perhaps we may find grass to keep the horses and mules alive, so that we will not have to kill any livestock."

# II Chronicles 7:13, 14: The reason for the calamities

"When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

I Kings 18:17: Elijah blamed for the calamities. If we could just get rid of Elijah, our troubles would cease

"Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

"Jezebel utterly refused to recognize the drought as a judgment from Jehovah. Unyielding in her determination to defy the God of heaven, she, with nearly the whole of Israel, united in denouncing Elijah as the cause of all their misery. Had he not borne testimony against their forms of worship? If only he could be put out of the way, she argued, the anger of their gods would be appeased, and their troubles would end." <u>PK</u> 126

# I Kings 18:10: Three fold union seeks Elijah to kill him If Elijah is killed, Baal will be appeased and prosperity will return

"As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you."

"For three years the messenger of woe was sought for in city after city and nation after nation. At the mandate of Ahab, many rulers had given their oath of honor that the strange prophet could not be found in their dominions. Yet the search was continued, for Jezebel and the prophets of Baal hated Elijah with a deadly hatred, and they spared no effort to bring him within reach of their power. And still there was no rain." <u>PK</u> 137

I Kings 17:1-7: Elijah fled to the wilderness and was sustained by God

"And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word." 2 Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 3 "Get away from here and turn eastward, and

hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. 4 And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there." 5 So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. 6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook. 7 And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land."

**I Kings 18:4**: Elijah and the prophets are **on earth during the tribulation** and the **death decree**. He is translated after the death **decree**, **flight** to the wilderness and the **tribulation** (II Kings 2:11, 12). God's end time Elijah will go through the tribulation and the death decree, they will not be raptured.

I Kings 18:21: Elijah calls for a **clear cut decision**. No one could stand on **the fence**. Only **two groups** would be left after the test on **Mount Carmel**. No power in the **message** without the **fire**.

"And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the LORD is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word."

"Facing King Ahab and the false prophets, and surrounded by the assembled hosts of Israel, Elijah stands, the only one who has appeared to vindicate the honor of Jehovah. He whom the whole kingdom has charged with its weight of woe is now before them, apparently defenseless in the presence of the monarch of Israel, the prophets of Baal, the men of war, and the surrounding thousands. But Elijah is not alone. Above and around him are the protecting hosts of heaven, angels that excel in strength." <u>PK</u> 147

#### I Kings 18:26-29, 36, 37: The worship style of the prophets of Baal

"So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But there was no voice; no one answered. And they leaped about the altar which they had made. 27 And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened." 28 So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them. 29 And when midday was past, they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice. But there was no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention."

And it came to pass, at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near and said, "LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word. 37 Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that You are the LORD God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."

**I Kings 18:38, 39**: The **fire from heaven** with the message brings **conviction**. Mt. Carmel shone with the glory of God.

"Then the fire of the LORD fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench. 39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The LORD, He is God! The LORD, He is God!"

"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. The brilliancy of the blaze illumines the mountain and dazzles the eyes of the multitude. In the valleys below, where many are watching in anxious suspense the movements of those above, the descent of fire is clearly seen, and all are amazed at the sight. It resembles the pillar of fire which at the Red Sea separated the children of Israel from the Egyptian host." <u>PK</u> pp. 152, 153

I Kings 18:40: The end of the false prophets of Baal (the people who had admired them most slew them)

"And Elijah said to them, "Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!" So they seized them; and Elijah brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there."

"The priests of Baal witness with consternation the wonderful revelation of Jehovah's power. Yet even in their discomfiture and in the presence of divine glory, they refuse to repent of their evildoing. They would still remain the prophets of Baal. Thus they showed 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 the 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. They seize the priests, and take them to the brook Kishon, and there, before the close of the day that marked the beginning of decided reform, the ministers of Baal are slain. Not one is permitted to live. <u>PK</u> 153, 154

**1 Kings 21:23-24**: Prophecy about the end of **Ahab and Jezebel**. The king hates the harlot and has her **thrown down** and she is eaten by **dogs** 

"And concerning Jezebel the LORD also spoke, saying, "The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.' 24 "The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the field."

#### I Kings 22:37, 38: The end of Ahab

"So the king died, and was brought to Samaria. And they buried the king in Samaria. 38 Then someone washed the chariot at a pool in Samaria, and the dogs licked up his blood while the harlots bathed, according to the word of the LORD which He had spoken."

# II Kings 9:8-10: Prophecy about Jezebel's end

"8 For the whole house of Ahab shall perish; and I will cut off from Ahab all the males in Israel, both bond and free. 9 So I will make the house of Ahab like the house of Jeroboam the son of

Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah. 10 The dogs shall eat Jezebel on the plot of ground at Jezreel, and there shall be none to bury her.' " And he opened the door and fled."

# II Kings 9:30, 31: The end of Jezebel

"Now when Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she put **paint on her eyes** and **adorned her head**, and looked through a window. 31 Then, as Jehu entered at the gate, she said, "Is it peace, Zimri, murderer of your master?"

**II Kings 9:32-37**: The **end of Jezebel**. The king of Israel comes to **hate the harlot and throws her down**. She has a **fall** just like Babylon. She has a **physical fall** because she is spiritually fallen.

32 And he looked up at the window, and said, "Who is on my side? Who?" So two or three eunuchs looked out at him. 33 Then he said, "Throw her down." So they threw her down, and some of her blood spattered on the wall and on the horses; and he trampled her underfoot. 34 And when he had gone in, he ate and drank. Then he said, "Go now, see to this accursed woman, and bury her, for she was a king's daughter." 35 So they went to bury her, but they found no more of her than the skull and the feet and the palms of her hands. 36 Therefore they came back and told him. And he said, "This is the word of the LORD, which He spoke by His servant Elijah the Tishbite, saying, 'On the plot of ground at Jezreel dogs shall eat the flesh of Jezebel; 37 and they shall not say, "Here lies Jezebel." ' "

# II Kings 9:7: God's servants avenged

"You shall strike down the house of Ahab your master, that I may avenge the blood of My servants the prophets, and the blood of all the servants of the LORD, at the hand of Jezebel."

# I Kings 18:42-44: The cloud

"And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees, 43 and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again." 44 Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'"

# II Kings 2:11, 12: Elijah translated from among the living in a chariot of fire

11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. 12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces."



# THE THREE ELIJAH'S Pastor Stephen Bohr Sermon Notes

# **LESSON #2 – THE PROPHETIC ELIJAH**

# Malachi 4:5, 6:

The Old Testament ends in **expectancy**. The **coming of the Messiah** will be **heralded** by the arrival of Elijah the prophet.

"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."

# The New Testament Elijah

# Luke 1:17: John was Elijah in spirit

"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."

#### Matthew 17:10-13: John was Elijah

"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."

#### Matthew 11:11-14: John was Elijah

"Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come."

#### His mission is to God's people. A different kind of apostasy: Legalism

Luke 1:16: Turn the hearts of God's people back to God

*"And he will <u>turn</u> many of the <u>children of Israel</u> to the Lord their God." Luke 1:17: Put the fathers and the children in harmony* 

"He will also go before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah[**not Elijah in person. John denied** that He was Elijah but Jesus said that he was], '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."

# Matthew 11:10: Make ready a people for the Lord's coming

"For this is he of whom it is written: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You.'

# Luke 3:4-6: Prepare people for the Messiah's coming

"... as it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD, make His paths straight. 5 Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill brought low; the crooked places shall be made straight and the rough ways smooth; 6 and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

"Anciently, when a king journeyed through the less frequented parts of his dominion, a company of men was sent ahead of the royal chariot to level the steep places and to fill up the hollows, that the king might travel in safety and without hindrance. This custom is employed by the prophet to illustrate the work of the gospel" <u>The Desire of Ages</u>, p. 135.

"The work of reformation here brought to view by John, the purging of heart and mind and soul, is one that is needed by many who today profess to have the faith of Christ. Wrong practices that have been indulged in need to be put away; the crooked paths need to be made straight, and the rough places smooth. The mountains and hills of self-esteem and pride need to be brought low. There is need of bringing forth "fruits meet for repentance" (Matt. 3:8). When this work is done in the experience of God's believing people, "all flesh shall see the salvation of God" (Luke 3:6) God's Amazing Grace, p. 249

#### Matthew 17:11: Restore all things

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

# Matthew 3:1-3: Call God's people to repentance. Repent of what? We are Abraham's children.

"In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, 2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" 3 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.'"

#### John 1:29: Jesus as the lamb of God. Salvation through the blood of the lamb

"The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"

# Mark 6:18: Preached the seventh commandment against adultery

"For John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

# Matthew 3:8-10: Called God's people to bear fruit that flows from repentance

"Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, 9 and do not think to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones. 10 And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

# John 15:8: Fruit of the Holy Spirit

"By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples."

# Matthew 3:10, 12: A message of judgment and separation among God's people

"And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. . . 12 His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

# Elijah never appears alone. When Elijah appears the threefold union appears as well.

# Mark 6:14-16; 27, 28: Thinking Jesus was Elijah resurrected

"Now King Herod heard of Him, for His name had become well known. And he said, "John the Baptist is risen from the dead, and therefore these powers are at work in him." 15 Others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is the Prophet, or like one of the prophets." 16 But when Herod heard, he said, "This is John, whom I beheaded; he has been raised from the dead!" 27 Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, 28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother.

# Mark 6:17: The adulteress woman hates John and gets him imprisoned

"For Herod himself had sent and laid hold of John, and bound him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife; for he had married her."

Mark 6:18: John died for upholding the seventh commandment and **denouncing adultery** of the woman with the king

"For John had said to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."

Mark 6:19: Herodias alone could not kill John. She was restrained. She needed the aid of her daughter to manipulate the king to do her bidding

"Therefore Herodias held it against him and wanted to kill him, but she could not."

Mark 6:20: The king was not a menace to John. He actually respected him. It was when the daughter influenced the king to fulfill her mother's wishes that it all unraveled.

"... for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a just and holy man, and he protected him. And when he heard him, he did many things, and heard him gladly."

Mark 6:21: A convenient day for the mother.

Wine was on the table and he could not think straight

"Then an opportune day came when Herod on his birthday gave a feast for his nobles, the high officers, and the chief men of Galilee."

"The false enchantment of the dizzy scene seemed to take away reason and dignity from Herod and his guests, who were flushed with wine. The music and wine and dancing had removed the fear and reverence of God from them. Nothing seemed sacred to Herod's perverted senses." *Ellen G. White*, <u>Temperance</u>, pp. 50, 51

Talk here about the fall of Babylon in Belshazzar's day and the sin of Nadab and Abihu.

Mark 6:22: The daughter comes into the picture. The mother is the dangerous figure. She is the manipulator and orchestrator of the events. She wants John's death because she hates his voice of rebuke denouncing her adultery. But she can do nothing unless her daughter can get the king to cooperate.

"And when Herodias' daughter herself came in and danced, and pleased Herod and those who sat with him, the king said to the girl, "Ask me whatever you want, and I will give it to you."

Mark 6:23: The king (civil power) allows the daughter to jump on its back to do the biddings of the mother. Image of her mother

"He also swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, up to half of my kingdom."

Mark 6:24: The mother is the dangerous figure. The daughter does everything to please her mother. The mother is the dangerous figure.

"So she went out and said to her mother, "What shall I ask?" And she said, "The head of John the Baptist!"

**Mark 6:25:** The daughter is a **reflection or image** of her mother and has her **same character**. She didn't even **think about it**. She immediately did what her mother told her to do.

"Immediately she came in with haste to the king and asked, saying, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

**Mark 6:26:** The **civil power realizes** that it has been deceived by the mother and the daughter but it is a **wimp**. Herod was just like **Ahab in the Old Testament**. He had placed himself in this **dilemma by marrying** the harlot and by drinking **wine**.

"And the king was exceedingly sorry; yet, because of the oaths and because of those who sat with him, he did not want to refuse her."

Mark 6:27, 28: The state murders the prophet by the influence of the mother and her daughter

"Immediately the king sent an executioner and commanded his head to be brought. And he went and beheaded him in prison, 28 brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl; and the girl gave it to her mother."

# King – Mother – Daughter

Malachi 4:5, 6: We are to expect another Elijah before the second coming

"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."

"The first and second advents are in many respects parallel events. Single prophecies often contemplate them both, the prophetic utterances glancing from one to the other in quick transition. Such prophecies receive a partial fulfillment in the events of the first advent, and a complete accomplishment in events connected with the second. Of such a nature we believe are some of the predictions of Malachi." James White, "Elijah the Prophet", <u>The Adventist Review</u> and Sabbath Herald, April 5, 1870.

"In preparing the way for Christ's first Advent, he [John the Baptist] was a representative of **those** who are to prepare a people for our Lord's second coming." Ellen G. White, <u>The Desire of Ages</u>, p. 101.

When you are dealing with **literal Israel** you deal with a **literal person** on a **local stage**. When you are dealing with **spiritual Israel** you are dealing with a **movement of people** on a **worldwide scale**.

Two kinds of Elijahs: The martyr type and the translated type



# THE THREE ELIJAH'S Pastor Stephen Bohr Sermon Notes

# **LESSON #3 – THE MIDDLE AGES ELIJAH**

"The names of the seven churches are symbolic of the church in different periods of the Christian Era. The number 7 indicates completeness, and is symbolic of the fact that the messages extend to the end of time, while the symbols used reveal the condition of the church at different periods in the history of the word." Acts of the Apostles, p. 585

Hal Lindsey and Dave Hunt say the churches represent Eras of Christian Church history. Jezebel must therefore not be literal but symbolic because during this period literal Jezebel was already dead.

**Ephesus** – The apostolic church **Smyrna**: The persecuted church under the Roman emperors **Pergamum**: The compromising church under Constantine **Thyatira**: The apostate church of the middle Ages

Hal Lindsey and Dave Hunt agree that the seven churches represent consecutive periods of Christian Church history. Jezebel must therefore not be literal but symbolic because during this period literal Jezebel was already dead.

#### **Revelation 2:20-23**

"Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent. 22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds. 23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works."

Jezebel introduced the apostasy. Some period in church history when the church blended paganism and Christianity

I Kings 16:30, 31: Jezebel introduced the apostasy

"Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. 31 And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him." **Revelation 2:20** 

"Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

Some period in the middle of church history when the church blended paganism and Christianity and acted as Jezebel

# Conflict over **law of God** and **worship** and the **Gospel**:

"So they <u>worshiped</u> the dragon who gave authority to the beast; and they <u>worshiped</u> the beast, saying, "Who is like the beast? Who is able to make war with him?"

#### **Daniel 7:25: Sought to change the Law**

"He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time."

Daniel 8:11: Took away the ministration of Jesus and the sanctuary truth

He even exalted himself as high as the Prince of the host; and by him the daily sacrifices were taken away, and the place of His sanctuary was cast down.

#### I Kings 17:1: No rain

"And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the LORD God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

#### **Revelation 11:6: No rain**

"These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy."

#### 2 Chronicles 7:13, 14: Why no rain

"When I shut up heaven and there is no rain, or command the locusts to devour the land, or send pestilence among My people, 14 if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

#### Amos 8:11, 12: Where no rain, famine for the word of God

"Behold, the days are coming," says the Lord GOD, "That I will send a <u>famine</u> on the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of <u>hearing the words of the LORD</u>. 12 They shall wander from sea to sea, and from north to east; they shall run to and fro, seeking the <u>word of the LORD</u>, but shall not find it."

# James 5:17: Length of Famine: Three years and six months

"Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months."

**Revelation 2:21: Jezebel** was given **time to repent** of her fornication. How much time? Remember that this is the **church of the Middle Ages**. This period lasted from 538-1798

"And I gave her time [chronos] to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent."

**Revelation 11:3: 1260 days** are years (if these are 1260 years then Elijah cannot be a literal person but a group of people who live like Elijah and proclaim the message of Elijah

"And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."

# Daniel 7:25: 1260 days is equal to three and a half times

"He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time."

#### I Kings 19:18: A faithful remnant within the apostate church

"Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

#### Revelation 2:24, 25: A faithful remnant within the apostate church

"Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden. 25 But hold fast what you have till I come."

#### I Kings 18:10, 17: Elijah blamed for the calamities and sought out everywhere

"As the LORD your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you. 17 Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

Revelation 12:6: The remnant sought out everywhere. The Waldensians are an example

"Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days.

# I Kings 17:3: Fled to the wilderness

"Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan."

#### Revelation 12:6, 14: Fled to the wilderness

"Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. . . But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent."

# I Kings 17:4, 6: Sustained by God

"And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there. 6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook."

# Revelation 12:6, 14: Sustained by God

"Then the woman fled into the wilderness, where she has a place prepared by God, that they should feed her there one thousand two hundred and sixty days. . . But the woman was given two wings of a great eagle, that she might fly into the wilderness to her place, where she is nourished for a time and times and half a time, from the presence of the serpent."

#### I Kings 16:30, 31 Adulterous relationship between the civil power and the harlot Jezebel

"Now Ahab the son of Omri did evil in the sight of the LORD, more than all who were before him. 31 And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him."

# **Revelation 2:20, 21**: Adulterous relationship with the civil power. According to Revelation 17:2 the kings have committed fornication with her

"Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols. 21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent."

#### James 5:17: Exiled for three and a half years

"Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months."

# Daniel 7:25: Exiled for three and a half years

"He shall speak pompous words against the Most High, shall persecute the saints of the Most High, and shall intend to change times and law. Then the saints shall be given into his hand for a time and times and half a time."

#### I Kings 18:4; 19:1-3: Jezebel massacred God's people allied with the king

"For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the LORD, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)"

"And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword. 2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time." 3 And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there."

# I Kings 18:19: False prophets were fed by Jezebel

"Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

#### Revelation 16:13: The harlot has the false prophet who does her bidding

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet."

#### Revelation 17:5: The harlot has daughters

*"And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."* 

**Revelation 2:23**: Jezebel had **children** who were born from her during the 1260 years. The **Protestant** denominations

"I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works."

Malachi 4:1-3: The Elijah of the Middle Ages was not the final Elijah. The conclusion of the story has not been written. Jezebel was not slain, the false prophets were not slain, the great and terrible day of the Lord did not come and the church was not translated. We are to expect the final Elijah to complete the story

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," Says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves. 3 You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this," says the LORD of hosts."

**Revelation 6:9-11:** The post apostolic church has **two stages** of existence because the **harlot has two stages** of existence.

"When He opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the testimony which they held. 10 And they cried with a loud voice, saying, "How long, O Lord, holy and true, until You judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" 11 Then a white robe was given to each of them; and it was said to them that they should rest a little while longer, until both the number of their fellow servants and their brethren, who would be killed as they were, was completed."

**Revelation 13:3:** The harlot has **two stages** of existence and so **Elijah**, the **children** of the harlot and **Ahab** must also have **two stages** of existence.

"And I saw one of his heads as if it had been mortally wounded, and his deadly wound was healed. And all the world marveled and followed the beast."

**Revelation 2:22**: She was cast into her **sickbed** and **those who committed fornication** with her into the **great tribulation** of the **French Revolution** 

"Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds."

Elijah broadens from Israel to Western Europe to the world at the end of time.

**Revelation 12:17**: After the three and a half times God will raise up a people who will keep the commandments of God, have the gift of prophecy, preach true worship to the creator, restore the gospel, denounce Babylon, lead the world to take a stand for the seal of God or the mark of the beast. This will be the end time Elijah with the power from heaven which will enlighten the world with its glory (Revelation 18:1)



# THE THREE ELIJAH'S Pastor Stephen Bohr Sermon Notes

# **LESSON # 4 THE APOCALYPTIC ELIJAH**

# When will the Final Elijah Appear?

#### Malachi 4:5-6:

"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."

#### Malachi 4:1-3: When is this terrible and dreadful day of the Lord?

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up," says the LORD of hosts, "That will leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But to you who fear My name the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings; aAnd you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves. 3 You shall trample the wicked, for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this," says the LORD of hosts."

#### **Principles:**

Elijah must appear **immediately before** the second coming of Jesus. **Where** would we look in the Bible **for this Elijah**? It would have to be in **Revelation**, the last book of the Bible. In revelation, the **trilogy of his opponents** must also appear because Elijah **never appears alone**.

In the Old Testament literal Elijah was sent with a message to literal Israel. His enemy was a literal harlot, who committed literal fornication with a literal king and had literal false prophets who promoted literal worship to the literal sun god Baal. At the end, the geographical, personal and ethnic limitations are removed and the persons in the Old Testament story become symbolic of spiritual and worldwide systems. In other words: Elijah, Israel, Jezebel, Ahab, Baal and his prophets all are symbolic of worldwide systems at the end.

# Let's first of all take a look at Apocalyptic Elijah's enemies

# **Revelation 16:19**

"Now the great city was divided into three parts, and the cities of the nations fell. And great Babylon was remembered before God, to give her the cup of the wine of the fierceness of His wrath."

# **Revelation 16:13**

"And I saw three unclean spirits like frogs coming out of the mouth of the dragon, out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet."

#### The Three Enemies one by one

#### **Revelation 12:4: Dragon**

"And the dragon stood before the woman who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born."

#### Ezekiel 29:3: Pharaoh is the dragon

"Speak, and say, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Behold, I am against thee, Pharaoh king of Egypt, the great dragon that lieth in the midst of his rivers, which hath said, My river is mine own, and I have made it for myself." <u>KJV</u>

"Kings and rulers and governors have placed upon themselves the brand of antichrist, and are represented as the dragon who goes to make war with the saints--with those who keep the commandments of God and who have the faith of Jesus." <u>Testimonies to Ministers</u>, p. 39

# Revelation 13:1, 2: Beast rules three and a half times and kills God's people just like Jezebel

"Then I stood on the sand of the sea. And I saw a beast rising up out of the sea, having seven heads and ten horns, and on his horns ten crowns, and on his heads a blasphemous name. 2 Now the beast which I saw was like a leopard, his feet were like the feet of a bear, and his mouth like the mouth of a lion. The dragon gave him his power, his throne, and great authority."

#### **Revelation 17:1, 5: The literal harlot mother represents a worldwide harlot church**

"Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters. . . 5 And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH.

#### **Revelation 17:15: She sits on the waters. She is a global Jezebel**

"Then he said to me, "The waters which you saw, where the harlot sits, are peoples, multitudes, nations, and tongues."

**Revelation 13:11:** This is an **image beast** which does everything to **please the first beast**. This beast does what the **first beast tells it** to do

"Then I saw another beast coming up out of the earth, and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon."

# **Revelation 17:5: Daughters must have been born from her and after her, of course**

*"And on her forehead a name was written: MYSTERY, BABYLON THE GREAT, THE MOTHER OF HARLOTS AND OF THE ABOMINATIONS OF THE EARTH."* 

John XXIII and Paul VI addressed Protestants at the Second Vatican Council as daughters alienated from their mother.

Explain how Roman Catholicism **used the state** to accomplish her purposes. But in **1798 the state bucked her off its back** and therefore she has a deadly wound. (Revelation 13:3) She will get her power back by **persuading her daughters** to influence **the kings** to do what the she wants. The harlot controls the **kings** through her **daughter** and thus she controls the people of God

#### Kings – Mother – Daughters

**Revelation 18:23**: She was involved in **witchcraft** just like Jezebel

"The light of a lamp shall not shine in you anymore, and the voice of bridegroom and bride shall not be heard in you anymore. For your merchants were the great men of the earth, for by your sorcery all the nations were deceived."

#### **Revelation 17:6**: A **murderer** of God's people

"I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. And when I saw her, I marveled with great amazement."

#### **Revelation 18:24**

"And in her was found the blood of prophets and saints, and of all who were slain on the earth."

#### Mission and Message of Elijah

Malachi 4:5, 6: A message for God's people to return to God

"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."

# Revelation 18:4: A message for God's people

"And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues."

# Revelation 14:8: She gives wine to the nations

"And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

# **Revelation 14:6:** Everlasting gospel

"Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth--to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people."

# Revelation 14:7: Call to worship the Creator

"... saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

Revelation 14:9-11: Rebuke to those who worship the beast or his image or receive his mark

# Isaiah 66:22, 23: The Sabbath and worship

- At the end the issue will be the **Sunday** and **not the sun** (Baal).
- Same principle. Serving Christ and at the same time keeping a pagan day in His honor. Where did Israel get Baal worship from? From paganism, of course. Where did the Christian world get Sunday worship from? From paganism, of course. This is really limping between two opinions
- Who made the sun and the first day of the week?

# Revelation 14:12: The commandments of God

"Here is the patience of the saints; here are those who keep the commandments of God and the faith of Jesus."

Revelation 14:8: Rebuke of fornication with the kings

"And another angel followed, saying, "Babylon is fallen, is fallen, that great city, because she has made all nations drink of the wine of the wrath of her fornication."

# Revelation 17:1, 2: Fornication with the kings

"Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and talked with me, saying to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great harlot who sits on many waters, 2 with whom the kings of the earth committed fornication, and the inhabitants of the earth were made drunk with the wine of her fornication." **Revelation 14:7:** The hour of God's **judgment**. Separation of righteous from the wicked. When the **message is finished** there are only **two groups**, one for salvation and the other for destruction: the **grapes** and the **harvest** 

"... saying with a loud voice, "Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water."

#### Very little effect so far

**Revelation 18:1-5**: A **global Carmel** where God's people will be called to make **a decision** for or against the creator

#### **Revelation 18:1-5**

"After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. 2 And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! 3 For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury." 4 And I heard another voice from heaven saying, "Come out of her, my people, lest you share in her sins, and lest you receive of her plagues. 5 For her sins have reached to heaven, and God has remembered her iniquities."

Thousands in the Christian world will be converted to the Lord.

**Revelation 14:14-20** Only **two groups** after this message is preached: Those who have **God's Seal** and those who have the **mark of the beast**, the grapes and the harvest

**Revelation 12:17**: This power will **once again war** against God's people because they have the **gift of prophecy** like Elijah and they **keep the commandments** of God

"And the dragon was enraged with the woman, and he went to make war with the rest of her offspring, who keep the commandments of God and have the testimony of Jesus Christ."

**Matthew 24:6-9**. God's people will be **blamed** for the **calamities** and will have to **flee** like Elijah. This is the **same eschatological time frame** as Revelation because it is dealing with events which lead to the great final tribulation

"And you will hear of wars and rumors of wars. See that you are not troubled; for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet. 7 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. And there will be famines, pestilences, and earthquakes in various places. 8 All these are the beginning of sorrows. 9 Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake."

Matthew 24:15-20 God's people will once again have to flee to desolate places

"Therefore when you see the 'abomination of desolation,' spoken of by Daniel the prophet, standing in the holy place" (whoever reads, let him understand), 16 then let those who are in

Judea flee to the mountains. 17 Let him who is on the housetop not go down to take anything out of his house. 18 And let him who is in the field not go back to get his clothes. 19 But woe to those who are pregnant and to those who are nursing babies in those days! 20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath. 21 For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been since the beginning of the world until this time, no, nor ever shall be."

# God's people will be sustained

"The people of God will not be free from suffering; but while persecuted and distressed, while they endure privation and suffer for want of food they will not be left to perish. That God who cared for Elijah will not pass by one of His self-sacrificing children. He who numbers the hairs of their head will care for them, and in time of famine they shall be satisfied. While the wicked are dying from hunger and pestilence, angels will shield the righteous and supply their wants." <u>The Great Controversy</u>, p. 629

# Revelation 13:15: A death decree against God's people

"He was granted power to give breath to the image of the beast, that the image of the beast should both speak and cause as many as would not worship the image of the beast to be killed."

# The end of the unfaithful pastors (Revelation 16:12)

"The people see that they have been deluded. They accuse one another of having led them to destruction; but all unite in heaping their bitterest condemnation upon the ministers. Unfaithful pastors have prophesied smooth things; they have led their hearers to make void the law of God and to persecute those who would keep it holy. Now, in their despair, these teachers confess before the world their work of deception. The multitudes are filled with fury. "We are lost!" they cry, "and you are the cause of our ruin;" and they turn upon the false shepherds. The very ones that once admired them most will pronounce the most dreadful curses upon them. The very hands that once crowned them with laurels will be raised for their destruction. The swords which were to slay God's people are now employed to destroy their enemies. Everywhere there is strife and bloodshed." <u>The Great Controversy</u>, p. 655, 656

# Revelation 17:16: The end of the harlot system

"And the ten horns [kings] which you saw on the beast, these will hate the harlot, make her desolate and naked, eat her flesh and burn her with fire."

# **Revelation 14:19, 20**

"So the angel thrust his sickle into the earth and gathered the vine of the earth, and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. 20 And the winepress was trampled outside the city, and blood came out of the winepress, up to the horses' bridles, for one thousand six hundred furlongs."

Revelation 19 because you have the same elements such as the trampling of the winepress (19:15), the horses (19:14) and blood (19:21)

# Revelation 19:17, 18: The great banquet of the birds and the beasts

"Then I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the birds that fly in the midst of heaven, "Come and gather together for the supper of the great God, 18 that you may eat the flesh of kings, the flesh of captains, the flesh of mighty men, the flesh of horses and of those who sit on them, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, both small and great."

**Revelation 19:1, 2**: God has **judged and avenged** the blood of His people just like he did with Jezebel in the Old Testament.

"After these things I heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and power belong to the Lord our God! 2 For true and righteous are His judgments, because He has judged the great harlot who corrupted the earth with her fornication; and He has avenged on her the blood of His servants shed by her."

# Revelation 18:20: God avenges the blood of His people

"Rejoice over her, O heaven, and you holy apostles and prophets, for God has avenged you on her!"

"Soon there appears in the east a small black cloud, about half the size of a man's hand. It is the cloud which surrounds the Saviour and which seems in the distance to be shrouded in darkness. The people of God know this to be the sign of the Son of man. In solemn silence they gaze upon it as it draws nearer the earth, becoming lighter and more glorious, until it is a great white cloud, its base a glory like consuming fire, and above it the rainbow of the covenant. Jesus rides forth as a mighty conqueror." The Great Controversy, pp. 640, 641

# Matthew 24:29-31

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 30 Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And He will send His angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they will gather together His elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

#### Psalms 68:17

"The chariots of God are twenty thousand, even thousands of thousands; the Lord is among them as in Sinai, in the Holy Place."

#### **Ezekiel 1** adds to the picture.

# II Kings 6:17

"And Elisha prayed, and said, "LORD, I pray, open his eyes that he may see." Then the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw. And behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha."

"On each side of the cloudy chariot are wings, and beneath it are living wheels; and as the chariot rolls upward, the wheels cry, "Holy," and the wings, as they move, cry, "Holy," and the retinue of angels cry, "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty." And the redeemed shout, "Alleluia!" as the chariot moves onward toward the New Jerusalem." <u>The Great Controversy</u>, p. 645

# I Thessalonians 4:15-17

"For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive and remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16 For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord."

There is a very **simple way** to find Elijah in the last days: Find those who are **preaching the same message** which Elijah preached. Also if you are with the **persecuted** you are on the right side. If you are a **persecutor** you will be on the wrong side!