

Precept Study: The Spirit of Elijah – Who was John the Baptist?

Prepared on: May 02nd, 2017

In regards to: Who was John the Baptist prophetically according to scripture? A brother in the faith reached out to me in regards to this subject centered around the theme of **the Spirit of Elijah**. To the best of my remembrance he presented a few ideas and from there I dived into the study. Here I share with you the information that I prepared to present to him. I pray it blessings you and yours!

As it is written;

- * Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. [Isa 40:1 KJV]
- * Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. [Isa 40:2 KJV]
- * **The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight** in the desert a highway for our God. [Isa 40:3 KJV]

- * Behold, **I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me:** and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. [Mal 3:1 KJV]

- * As it is written in the prophets, Behold, **I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee.** [Mar 1:2 KJV]
- * The **voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.** [Mar 1:3 KJV]
- * John did baptize in the wilderness, and preach the baptism of repentance for the remission of sins. [Mar 1:4 KJV]
- * And there went out unto him all the land of Judaea, and they of Jerusalem, and were all baptized of him in the river of Jordan, confessing their sins. [Mar 1:5 KJV]
- * And preached, saying, There cometh one mightier than I after me, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to stoop down and unloose. [Mar 1:7 KJV]

Who did the Messiah say or imply that John the Baptist was?

- * For I say unto you, Among those that are born of women there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist: but he that is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he. [Luk 7:28 KJV]

- * For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. [Mat 11:13 KJV]

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- * And if ye will receive [it], this is Elias, which was for to come. [Mat 11:14 KJV]
- * He that hath ears to hear, let him hear. [Mat 11:15 KJV]

Seals it:

- * And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? [Mat 17:10 KJV]
- * And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Elias truly shall first come**, and restore all things. [Mat 17:11 KJV]
- * 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. [Mat 17:12 KJV]
- * Then the disciples understood that **he spake unto them of John the Baptist**. [Mat 17:13 KJV]
(The Messiah bears witness that Elijah prophetically had come before the Messiah)

Can a man take on the spirit of another?

- * And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I be taken away from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, **let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me**. [2Ki 2:9 KJV]
- * And when the sons of the prophets which [were] to view at Jericho saw him, they said, **The spirit of Elijah doth rest on Elisha**. And they came to meet him, and bowed themselves to the ground before him. [2Ki 2:15 KJV]
- * But the angel said unto him, Fear not, Zacharias: for thy prayer is heard; and thy wife Elisabeth shall bear thee a son, and thou shalt call his name John. [Luk 1:13 KJV]
- * And many of the children of Israel shall he turn to the Lord their God. [Luk 1:16 KJV]
- * And he shall go before him **in the spirit and power of Elias**, 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. [Luk 1:17 KJV]
(Angel confirmed that John the Baptist would fulfill the prophecy in Malachi 4:5,6)

Did Elijah have to return prior to the Messiah coming?

- (According to the Scribes and the Messiah - Yes)* - * And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? [Mat 17:10 KJV]
- * And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Elias truly shall first come**, and restore all things. [Mat 17:11 KJV]

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Who did John the Baptist say that he was?

- * And this is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? [Jhn 1:19 KJV]
- * And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, **I am not the Christ.** [Jhn 1:20 KJV]
- * And they asked him, What then? **Art thou Elias?** And he saith, **I am not.** Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No. [Jhn 1:21 KJV]
- * Then said they unto him, **Who art thou?** that we may give an answer to them that sent us. **What sayest thou of thyself?** [Jhn 1:22 KJV]
- * He said, I [am] **the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord,** as said the prophet Esaias. [Jhn 1:23 KJV]

(this is how he felt about the Pharisees) - * 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? [Mat 3:7 KJV]

Not reincarnation, but Resurrection:

- * And it came to pass, as he was alone praying, his disciples were with him: and he asked them, saying, Whom say the people that I am? [Luk 9:18 KJV]
- * They answering said, John the Baptist; but some [say], Elias; and others [say], that **one of the old prophets is risen again.** [Luk 9:19 KJV]
- * Now if Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, **how say some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead?** [1Co 15:12 KJV]
- * For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised: [1Co 15:16 KJV]
- * And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent; [Mat 27:51 KJV]
- * And **the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose,** [Mat 27:52 KJV]
- * And came out of the graves **after his resurrection,** and went into the holy city, and **appeared unto many.** [Mat 27:53 KJV]

Who did Israel expect or think John the Baptist to be?

- * And they asked him, What then? Art thou **Elias?** And he saith, I am not. Art thou **that prophet?**

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And he answered, No. [Jhn 1:21 KJV]

* Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? [Jhn 1:22 KJV]

* And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor **Elias**, neither **that prophet**? [Jhn 1:25 KJV]

* The baptism of John, was it from heaven, or of men? [Luk 20:4 KJV]

* And they reasoned with themselves, saying, If we shall say, From heaven; he will say, Why then believed ye him not? [Luk 20:5 KJV]

* But and if we say, Of men; all the people will stone us: for they be persuaded that John was a prophet. [Luk 20:6 KJV]

(Pharisees wouldn't receive it (that John the Baptist was Elijah) - indicated in Matthew 11:14 above

(they appear to have been thinking more literal and failed to believe according the scriptures that they professed that they knew)

Many false doctrines and teachings have been cultivated through misinterpretation of the scriptures. The sections above focus in on some key points that negate many of the false teachings spreading amongst those in “**the knowledge of the truth**”.

Believe according as it is written and your faith will be strengthened in the Word of God and not in the deceit of the “**wisdom of men**”.

Amen & Amen.

So be it.

All praises, glory, and honor be to the Most High God אהיה

the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—in the precious Name of His Son

ישע the Messiah Christ—Our Lord, Savior, King and Redeemer!

Eternal Blessings upon the Elect of God, now and forever!

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