

The Spirit of Elijah
September 29, 2019 – Billy Humphrey

I. God's plan to pour out His Spirit at the end of the age

Acts 2:17-21 'AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS IN THE LAST DAYS, SAYS GOD, THAT I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL FLESH; YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS. 18 AND ON MY MENSERVANTS AND ON MY MAIDSERVANTS I WILL POUR OUT MY SPIRIT IN THOSE DAYS; AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY. 19 I WILL SHOW WONDERS IN HEAVEN ABOVE AND SIGNS IN THE EARTH BENEATH: BLOOD AND FIRE AND VAPOR OF SMOKE. 20 THE SUN SHALL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS, AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE COMING OF THE GREAT AND AWESOME DAY OF THE LORD. 21 AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS THAT WHOEVER CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED.'

- A. The Lord is going to pour His Spirit on all flesh ("pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind", NASB).
- B. The Spirit of Prophecy is going to come upon the Church across the nations in an unprecedented way (Acts 2:17-18).
- C. There will be wonders in the heavens and signs in the earth (Acts 2:19-20). Unusual things, like manifestations of blood, fire, and smoke.
- D. All who call on the name of the Lord shall be saved (Acts 2:21)
- E. All this will happen before the "Great and Awesome (Dreadful) Day of the Lord"

II. Malachi's Prophecy

Mal 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."

- A. The Lord is going to send Elijah the Prophet
 - 1. John the Baptist came in the "The spirit and power of Elijah". God is going to release this spirit and power upon and entire generation.
 - 2. Turn the hearts of the Father's to the Children (Mal 4:6) – This is a turn from selfish ambition in order to serve the destiny of God in the young. The Fathers embrace the mentality of a servant rather than that of a king.

3. The hearts of the children to the Fathers (Mal 4:6) – This is a turn from rebellion against God to to a radical embrace of the way of righteousness. The angel prophesying about John the Baptist’s ministry called it turning the “disobedient to the ways of the just.”

B. The Lord will do this before the great and terrible Day of the Lord

1. Day of reckoning for the nations - 2Peter 3:7 “Day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men”

2. Day of revelation of Jesus – 1 Peter 1:7, 13

3. Day of restoration for the kingdom – Acts 3:21 “Times of Restoration of all things”

III. John the Baptist as the example

Luk 1:16-17 "And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God. 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."

A. “In the spirit and power” means that He was operating in the same disposition and calling as Elijah. That calling was to turn the nation to God.

B. It’s curious that John the Baptist didn’t do any signs and wonders. He was extremely prophetic, he prophesied Jesus coming and the destruction of Jerusalem, but he did not do one sign and wonder.

C. At the end of the age the Lord is going to pour the spirit and power of Elijah on an entire generation. This will include several dimensions of the power of God being released.

1. The anointing to prophetically preach the gospel that will turn the nation back to God (Luke 1:16). Elijah stood against Jezebel and Ahab and it turned the entire nation to God. John the Baptist was a voice of one crying in the wilderness calling Israel to repentance. God is going to release a power on prophetic preaching that will cause multitudes to turn to the Lord.

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2. Miracles, Signs, and Wonders like the earth has never seen. The power that was released through Elijah will be released across the body of Christ, across the nations of the earth. We are seeing this in a measure now. We will see this in great manifestation across the nations of the earth.
3. Overcoming the spirit of Babylon. Elijah's ministry was hallmarked by His stand against Jezebel. With the spirit of Elijah released in the earth the church will stand with authority against the spirit of the age.
4. The church will ultimately prepare the way for the Lord's second coming. Just as John the Baptist prepared the way for the Lord's first coming, God is sending the spirit of Elijah in order to prepare the way for Jesus second coming.