

The Third Elijah Movement

(Sermon based on Peter Gregory's sermon)

1. Malachi 4:5, 6 – God promises to send Elijah the prophet before the great and dreadful day of the Lord.
 - a. Revelation 6:15-17 – The great day of the Lord is the Second Coming of Jesus.
2. Will God actually send Elijah from heaven before the second coming of Jesus? No!
 - a. Matthew 11:4 – Jesus called John the Baptist Elijah!
 - b. Luke 1:13, 15, 17 – Not because John was the literal Elijah, but because he came in the Spirit and power of Elijah.
3. Therefore, the Bible talks about 3 Elijah(s)—O.T. Elijah, John the Baptist, and Elijah the third prior to the second coming of Jesus.
 - a. Our objective is to identify who is the third Elijah.
 - b. Matthew 17:12-13 – The world and the church did not recognize the coming of Elijah.
 - i. When you reject Elijah you also reject Jesus.
4. The way we can identify the third Elijah is by using a Biblical principal of interpretation called history repeats itself.
 - a. Ecclesiastes 1:9; 3:15 – There is nothing new under the sun. Therefore, God requires us to know sacred history in order to understand what is coming.
 - b. In order to understand the Elijah of the last days we need to study the life and ministry of the first and second Elijah.
5. Let's study the ministry of the O.T. Elijah:
 - a. 1 Kings 17:14 – Elijah provided bread and oil for this sincere woman that was hungry.
 - i. We can expect to see the Elijah in the last days providing the Word of God for sincere people who are hungry for truth, and help them to be filled with the Holy Spirit.
 - b. 1 Kings 17:22 – Elijah resurrected the son of the widow. Therefore, the work of Elijah in linked with resurrection, life, and revival for those who are dead in sins and trespasses.
 - c. Elijah restore the worship of the Creator God:
 - i. 1 Kings 18:17, 18 – Elijah's message was worship the Creator by yielding obedience to the commands.
 - ii. 1 Kings 18:21 – Elijah denounces the lack of commitment of the people. They are neither cold nor hot, but lukewarm. Serving two masters, God and Ball.
 - iii. 1 Kings 18:30 – He rebuilds the altar of God that was broken down.
6. Let's take a look on the life and ministry of John the Baptist:
 - a. Matthew 3:2 – The message of John the Baptist was “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”
 - i. John's message was based on the prophetic book of Daniel.
 - ii. The 70-week prophecy in Daniel 9 foretells the time of Jesus' coming.
 - b. John 1:29 – John also had a unique message: Pointing people to the role of Jesus in the sanctuary model.

- c. Matthew 3:4 – John the Baptist simple clothing and simple diet—a lifestyle in harmony with his message.

“John separated himself from friends and from the luxuries of life. The simplicity of his dress, a garment woven of camel's hair, was a standing rebuke to the extravagance and display of the Jewish priests, and of the people generally. His diet, purely vegetable, of locusts and wild honey, was a rebuke to the indulgence of appetite and the gluttony that everywhere prevailed.” Testimonies for the Church, Vol. 3, p. 62

7. The two Elijah's lived in a time of universal apostasy:

- a. Elijah lived in the days of King Ahab and Jezebel—A symbol of Estate and Ecclesiastical powers coming together to impose widespread idolatry.
- b. John the Baptist was beheaded when King Herod was seduced by Salome who was influenced by her mother (Herodias) to kill John the Baptist.
- c. We can expect in the last days to see the union of church and state legislating religious laws which will affect those who want to remain loyal to the Creator.

8. Who is the Elijah in the last the days? Where is he in the Bible?

- a. **Revelation 14:6-12** – Those who preach and live the three angels' messages.
 - i. **Revelation 14:6, 7**
 - **Deuteronomy 8:6** – “Fear God” is related to the keeping of the commandments of God.
 - **1 Corinthians 10:31** – “Give glory to Him” is related to a simple lifestyle message.
 - “For the hour of his judgment” is a prophetic message pertaining to the heavenly sanctuary.
 - **Exodus 20:8, 11** – “Worship Him that Made” is related to the keeping of the Sabbath as a holy day.
 - ii. **Revelation 14:8-10**
 - It denounces a false system of religion
 - It denounces the union of church and state legislating the mark of the beast.
- b. **The characteristics of the third Elijah:**
 - i. **Keep the commandments of God**
 - ii. **Worship the Creator**
 - iii. **Prophetic message pertaining time**
 - iv. **Sanctuary message**
 - v. **Simple lifestyle**

[Malachi 4:5, 6 quoted] “Here the prophet describes the character of the work. Those who are to prepare the way for the second coming of Christ, are represented by faithful Elijah, as John came in the spirit of Elijah to prepare the way for Christ's first advent.” Counsels on Diet and Foods, p. 71

“In this time of well-nigh universal apostasy, God calls upon His messengers to proclaim His law in the spirit and power of Elias. . . we are to give, with no uncertain sound, the message: "Fear God, and give glory to him; for the hour of his judgment is come." With the earnestness that characterized Elijah the prophet and John the Baptist, we are to strive to prepare the way for Christ's second advent.” SDA Bible Commentary Vol.4, 1184