# STUDY GROUP 6 (MALACHI 4) "PREACHING IN THE KINGDOM"

**ELIJAH: STUDY GROUP 6 - SUMMARY OF MAIN POINTS** 

#### **REMEMBER THE BIG PICTURE:**

God educated Elijah by personal experience to be:

1. A Shepherd (like God): Psalm 23v1-6; Isa 40v11.

2. A Father (like God): Psalm 103v7-12 (key quote)

#### **JOHN THE BAPTIST:**

He came in the Spirit and power of Elijah (Luke 1v17).

He came to prepare the way of the Lord. To prepare them for Christ.

The SPIRIT of Elijah: To save lives and not destroy them cp. Luke 9v54-55 "spirit"

The POWER of Elijah: The compelling voice of persuasion, John 10v41 (John did "no miracle")

**Preaching:** How does this affect the way we preach the gospel NOW?

Elijah learnt: 1 Kings 19 - The WORD OF YAHWEH allured him out of the cave. Important to link back to 1 Kings 19 - the lesson Elijah learnt. Also his prayer in 1 Kings 18v36-38 Jesus Christ is that Word – His presence in Zion will emotionally affect them.

When Elijah was at Sinai he addressed God as **Yahweh Elohim of Armies**. He thought God would **enforce** his covenant on people by force. **Rom 11v2** – "intercession **AGAINST** Israel"

Read the final 3 page conclusion to the notes.

Elijah the man **best qualified** to bring Israel home – He learnt the same lesson in a wilderness. He had an earnest **desire to save others** but needed to learn. The **best people to send** are those who learnt the same lesson themselves. Trust in Yahweh and throw off all self sufficiency.

## **VISION OF THE KINGDOM:**

# Questions to ask:

- Transfiguration Why the need for Christ to meet with Moses and Elijah?
- What is our Vision of the Kingdom? What do we want to do to help others?
- Why do we need a vision of the Kingdom for encouragement?
- What can we do to help others towards the Kingdom now?
- Can we see ourselves preaching in the Kingdom? How will we do it? Rev 14v6-7.
- If we really want to save others, God will give us the desire of our hearts: Psa 37v4.
- What can we do now to encourage our friends into the Kingdom?
- What will it be like to see Christ and speak with him? To experience the love of God?
- How can we be shepherds now? John 10v1-15. How can we be shepherds in the Kingdom?

**Imagine** being with all our friends in the Kingdom – What can we do together? **Ask all** members of the group to give their vision of the Kingdom (only if they want).

### **RETURN OF ISRAEL TO ZION:**

Key to Israel's conversion: Personally/emotionally affected...

wilderness / shepherd / heart / inward parts / speak comfortably / allure her / the rod

How does the gospel affect **us personally**?

Israel's Salvation will be one of the most amazing events to have occurred on earth's surface. **Gen 45v1-7**; **50v17-21** Joseph and his brethren a type of Israel's repentance. Much emotion.

Israel shepherded back to Zion – Look up:

Mal 4v4-6 Key words – BEFORE / LEST

Jer 3v15-17 Saints will be shepherds – this is our future! Isa 40v1-11 Key!! Jesus Christ is the glory of Yahweh.

Ezek 20v33-39 Jews go through Europe – that they may be personally affected cp. Rev 17v3

Rev 19v13-15 Final struggle between Elijah and Jezebel.

