

Elijah's future work of Restoration

Malachi 4: Armageddon and God's judgment on the nations. Elijah leads the Second Exodus.

v1 Armageddon is described as a heap of sheaves in a valley for judgment, a day of fire and burning, **Rev 16v16; Joel 3v13-16; Micah 4v12-13; Isa 30v27; Ezek 38v22.**

v2 Christ (like a sunrise) comes to **heal** the brokenhearted, **Isa 61v1-2, Luke 4v18.** The saints will heal the nations in the future, **Rev 22v2.** We need to heal our ecclesias today, providing "meat in due season", **Matt 24v45.** That's what the angel did for Elijah, **1 Kings 19v5-8.** That's what Elijah should have been doing for the ecclesia. That's the lesson God taught him. The same for us: **Rev 3v2.**

v3 Jehu treading down Jezebel (**2 Kings 9v33**) is a type of Christ and the saints treading down the Roman Catholic system, **Rev 10v1; 19v15.**

v4 Moses and Elijah often mentioned together eg. **Matt 17v1-5.** **Moses** was a true shepherd of Israel, one who gave his life for the sheep, **Isa 63v11; Exod 32v30-32.** Moses was a wonderful type of Christ, making "**atonement**" for Israel's sin.

v5-6 Elijah is best equipped for the work of turning Israel to God. This was Elijah's earnest prayer and desire, **1 Kings 18v37.** The lesson Elijah learnt is the one Israel will **also** learn. That is to eliminate self-sufficiency and put all their trust in God. Elijah learnt to be **a father**, a true **shepherd** of the flock. God worked with him. He learnt to be like Moses!

Historical background: **1 Kings 19v1-14** Elijah fled from Jezebel. He ran to Horeb (Mt Sinai) in a state of depression, wanting to run away from it all. When he came to Sinai he pleaded for God to bring about the "great and dreadful day of Yahweh". He fled to "the cave" that Moses had been in many years before. He wanted God to bring judgment upon Israel. Elijah "made intercession **against** Israel" at Sinai, **Rom 11v2.** But God taught him a very important lesson. The power God has to change people lies in the gentle spirit of persuasion, the still small voice.

Lesson for us: God is going to send Elijah **BEFORE** the day of Yahweh, not to bring it about. To **save**, not destroy! We cannot force people to follow God's ways. But we can gently lead them to God by **the love of Christ.** If we earnestly seek to **save others**, then God will give us the desire of our hearts in the future age, **Psa 37v4.** We can save others in the Kingdom, bringing them to Christ, **Rev 14v6-7.** John the Baptist came in the Spirit and power of Elijah, **Lk 1v17.** He prepared the way for Israel's Messiah, who cares for his lambs like a father, **Isa 40v11.** John was the still small voice, **Lk 3v4.**

MALACHI 4.

x God's judgment on the wicked, 2 and his blessing on the good. 4 He exhorteth to the study of the law, 5 and telleth of Elijah's coming and office.

FOR, behold, ²the day cometh, ³that shall burn as an oven; and all ⁴the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, ⁵shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither ⁶root nor branch.

² ¶ But unto you ³that fear my name shall ⁴the Sun of ⁵righteousness arise ⁶with healing in his wings; and ye shall go forth, and ⁷grow up as calves of the stall.

³ And ⁴ye shall tread down the wicked; for ⁵they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that ⁶I shall do ⁷this, saith the LORD of hosts.

⁴ ¶ Remember ye ⁵the law of ⁶Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him ⁷in Horeb for all Israel, ⁸with ⁹the statutes and judgments.

⁵ ¶ Behold, I will send you ⁶Elijah the prophet ⁷before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

⁶ And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, ⁷lest I come and ⁸smite the earth ⁹with a curse.

Key words: "before" / "lest"

Ezekiel 20v33-38: The final showdown between Elijah (Zion) and Jezebel (Rome). The Jews return to Zion to meet their Messiah with joy.

v33-34 Return of Jews to Zion after Armageddon. The Saints (Yahweh) will rule over Israel.

v35-36 The one other reference to a "wilderness of people" is in **Rev 17v3,14-15.** That is a vision of Europe after Christ's return when Catholicism prepares to fight Christ. Elijah brings the Jews through Europe to teach them what God has done for them, to change them.

God will **allure** Israel like Hosea did with his wife Gomer, **Hos 2v14,19; 3v5; Isa 40v1-3.** Hosea brought her into a "**wilderness**" and spoke comfortably to her (**to her heart**). That is the spirit and power of Elijah, to gently persuade with love.

v37 The rod of correction, also judgment on Rome, **Rev 2v27; 19v15** ("rule" = Gk. *shepherd*). It is also the shepherd's rod. With Elijah, the saints will be shepherds for Israel, to bring them home to Zion, **Jer 3v15-18; 51v9; Mic 7v14-15.** Jesus is the good shepherd who gives his life for the sheep, **John 10v1-15.** At the end of his life, Elijah learnt to be **a father**, a true **shepherd** who **nurtures** his children, **Hos 11v3; Isa 40v10-11** (context! **v1-10**). Key verses: **2 Kings 2v12; 1 Cor 4v15.**

"Bond of the covenant" explained in **Jer 31v31-34.**

Two stages in Israel's restoration: **1. Armageddon** - Jews in the land saved by Christ; **2. Winepress of God's wrath** - Elijah brings Israel home to Zion through Europe.

World Jewry returns to Zion after Christ's victory at Armageddon:

Gen 45v1-7 Joseph and his brethren a type of Israel's future repentance.

Gen 50v17-21 Joseph's brothers plead for forgiveness. He shows love and grace to them.

Isa 11v11-16; 27v12-13 Israel's route back into the land

Isa 40v1-2 Speak to the heart of Jerusalem - She is forgiven, her warfare is accomplished.

Isa 51v2-3,11,17,22-23 Jews have been persecuted for 1900 years. This will be reversed!

Jer 3v12-18; 30v3-5,10-11; 31v31-34 Jews return, new covenant with Israel and Judah.

Jer 33v6-9 Israel to be cured, cleansed, forgiven. God gives them prosperity.

Hos 2v14-19 Hosea "allured her" - as Elijah was allured out of the cave by Yahweh's voice.

Micah 2v12; 5v2; 7v14-20 Jesus is Israel's shepherd. Israel's exodus from Egypt to Zion was 40 years through the "wilderness". This is a type of the 2nd exodus under Elijah.

Zech 9v12-14 Judah go to scattered Jewry after Armageddon to help bring them back.

Zech 12v7-14 Jesus saves the tents of Judah first. Jesus comes to Jews in the land first.

Matt 24v30-31 Saints sent out with Elijah to save Israel. **Matt 17v11** Jesus confirms **Mal 4.**

Rom 11v2-5 Elijah tried to force Israel to respond. This is not the way.

Rom 11v24-27 Quoting **Isa 59v19-20.** Israel grafted again into the olive tree.

Colour code: Blue (God & Jesus); Red (sin/devil/judgment of wicked); Green (Kingdom); Orange (important words & phrases); Purple (return of Jews to the land); Yellow (practical exhortation). Prepared for Study Week 2008.

For PDF copy, email Andrew Dangerfield at acdangerfield@webshield.net.au

EZEKIEL 20.

33 ¶ As I live, saith the Lord GOD, surely ¹with a mighty hand, and ²with a stretched out arm, and ³with fury poured out, will I rule over you:

34 And ¹I will bring you out from the people, and ²will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, ³with a mighty hand, and ⁴with a stretched out arm, and ⁵with fury poured out.

35 And I will bring you into ¹the wilderness of the people, and there will ²I plead with you ³face to face.

36 ¶ Like as ¹I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so ²will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. Europe called "Egypt" in Rev 11v8.

37 And ¹I will cause you to pass under the rod, and I will bring you into the ²bond of the covenant:

38 And ¹I will ²purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: ³I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and ⁴they shall not enter into the land of Israel: ⁵and ye shall know that I ⁶am the LORD. Elijah's aim in 1 Kings 18v39.