

The time of the third Elijah

“Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.

Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD: And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.” Mal.4:5-6.

“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.” Luke:1.17

“And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, **and restore all things**. 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. Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of John the Baptist.” Matt.17:10-13.

The work of John was foretold by the prophet Malachi: "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord; and he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers." John the Baptist went forth in the spirit and power of Elijah, to prepare the way of the Lord, and to turn the people to the wisdom of the just. **He was a representative of those living in the last days, to whom God has entrusted sacred truths to present before the people, to prepare the way for the second appearing of Christ.** And the same principles of temperance which John practiced should be observed by those who in our day are to warn the world of the coming of the Son of man. CTBH. Page 039.

From these scripture passages and SOP quotation it is clear that there are three Elijah's, the first is found in the Old Testament and called Elijah, the second in the New Testament and called John the Baptist who would prepare the way for the first coming of Jesus, and the third, a group of people much like the first two whom God is going to use to prepare the way for the second appearing of Christ.

In this study we are not so much going to concentrate on the end-time Elijah(s) as on the historical setting so that we can recognize the times we live in and act accordingly.

What can we find in the life of both Elijah and John the Baptist that is the same or similar?

“And he said unto him, What manner of man was he which came up to meet you, and told you these words? And they answered him, He was an **hairy man, and girt with girdle of leather about his loins**. And he said, It is Elijah the Tishbite.” 2 Kings 1:7-8.

And the same John had his raiment of **camel's hair**, and a **leather girdle about his loins**; and his meat was locusts and wild honey. Matthew 3:4.

These two verses show that both Elijah and John were recognizable by the simple way they dressed. John also was known for his simple diet.

“And Elijah the Tishbite who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word. 1 Kings 17:1. And it came to pass **when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said unto him, Art thou he that troubleth Israel: And he answered, I have not troubled Israel, but thou, and thy father’s house, in that ye have forsaken the commandments of the LORD, and thou hast followed Baalim.** 1 Kings 18:17-18. **And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and withal how he had slain all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger unto Elijah, saying, So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I make not thy life as the life of one of them by to morrow about this time.** And when he saw that, he arose, and went for his life, and came to Beersheba, which belongeth to Judah, and left his servant there.” 1 Kings 19:1-3.

“For Herod had laid hold on John, and bound him, **and put him in prison for Herodias’ sake, his brother Philip’s wife. For John said unto him, it is not lawful for thee to have her.**” Matthew 14:3.

In both these accounts we notice that there is a king, a sinful king, who is being reprovved by the prophet and that a woman is involved in this sin, and that the woman consequently hates the prophet. Both Ahab and Herod represented the civil powers. The women were able to vent their hate because of their alliance to the one who had civil power.

A wicked woman is also found at the time of the third Elijah, she also has formed an alliance with kingly powers:

“And there came one of the seven angels which had the seven vials, and talked with me, saying unto me, Come hither, I will shew unto thee the judgment of the great whore that sitteth upon many waters: With whom the kings of the earth have committed fornication, and the inhabitants have been made drunk with the wine of her fornication. And I saw the woman drunken with the blood of the saints and with the blood of the martyrs of Jesus: and when I saw her, I wondered with great admiration.” Revelation 17:1-2 and 6.

The angel who shows John this whore is one of the seven angels who carries the seven vials or last plagues that are going to fall upon the earth. Hence this whore must be living at the time of the end just before the close of probation. This woman has committed fornication with not one but all the kings of the earth. She represents an apostate church which is being reprovved for her false worship and adultery. She, like Jezebel and Herodias desires the death of the ones who expose and reprove (Revelation 18:1-4) her sins. Hence she would so try to influence the kings that they would take their lives. Jezebel had not succeeded in killing Elijah but Herodias had. What methods had Herodias used in order to get her way?

“But when Herod’s **birthday** was kept, the daughter of Herodias **danced** before them, and pleased Herod. Whereupon he promised with an oath to give her whatsoever she would ask. And **she, being before instructed of her mother,** said, Give me here John Baptist’s head on a

charger. And the king was sorry: Nevertheless for the oath's sake, and them which sat with him at meat, he commanded it to be given her." Matthew 14:6-9:

She had plotted the death of John in advance because the Bible says that she had instructed her daughter beforehand what to ask. This means that she must have arranged this **celebration party**, and her daughter's **dance** for a purpose. Unlike Jezebel therefore, she used subterfuge. Instead of working openly, she kept herself in the background.. So this story introduces a third person, her own daughter who was young and beautiful, but influenced by her wicked mother. What about the end time whore? Is she going to have a daughter also who would do her dirty work for her? Yes, she does, for in Revelation 17: 5, the great whore is called: The Mother of harlots and abominations of the earth.

So there is not only one daughter or harlot, but many, the same as there are going to be many Elijah's.

What can we therefore expect these daughters of this apostate church to do for the mother church?

They would use their charms through dance and music and wine (false doctrines) to influence the kings of the earth to kill the end-time Elijah.

We know that the great whore is the Roman Catholic System and her daughters therefore must be those protestant denominations which have not severed themselves fully from mother church and are steadily retreating back to her. These will therefore entice the kings of the earth but not just the kings, they will also entice its inhabitants (see Revelation 17:2). And that could include you and me!

Now let us look back again at the time of the first Elijah and compare it with the second one. What kind of influences were part of Baal worship that we also see reflected in the story of John?

"And they took the bullock which was given them, and they dressed it and they **called on the name of Baal from morning even until noon**, saying, O Baal, hear us. But there was no voice, nor any that answered, **and they danced about**, (margin) **the altar** which was made. And **they cried aloud**, and cut themselves after their manner with knives and lancets, till the blood gushed out upon them. And it came to pass, when midday was past, and they continued their folly (margin) until the time of the evening sacrifice, that there was neither voice, nor any to answer, nor any that regarded." 1 Kings 18:26 and 29.

We see that dancing was part of the Baal rituals to get their god or gods to hear them. Also shouting and as a last resort the cutting of their own flesh so that blood flowed.

Now we must remember that these priests were accepted by the Israelites as priests and shepherds of the living God and Creator. It was only through the demonstration of the fire that came down from heaven that it became apparent they had been worshipping false gods.

Now if we go back to the beginning of this study, we notice from the quotation taken from Malachi 4 that God links the coming of the third Elijah with the giving of the Ten Commandments at Horeb. And as a people we have indeed been upholding the Sabbath and God's law and it is our duty to make this known to the whole world just as God gave His law at

Sinai. Sadly though, something took place at Sinai at the very same time of the giving of God's law that is taking place in God's beloved church of today also. The people substituted the true worship system of the God of heaven with a false system which came straight out of Egypt and which honoured Egyptian gods, hence devils. (Deuteronomy 32:17)

“And when the people saw that Moses delayed to come down out of the mount, the people gathered themselves together unto Aaron, and said unto him, Up, **make us gods**, which shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man that brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we wot not what is become of him. And Aaron said unto them, Break off the golden earrings, which are in the ears of your wives, of your sons, and of your daughters, and bring them unto me. And all the people brake off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them unto Aaron. And he received them at their hand, and fashioned it with a graving tool, after he had made it a **molten calf**: and **they said: These be thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt**. And when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it: and Aaron made a proclamation and said, **To morrow is a feast to the LORD**.

And they rose up early on the morrow, and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; **and the people sat down to eat and drink**, and rose up **to play**. **And the Lord said** unto Moses, go get thee down; for **thy people**, which thou broughtest out of the land of Egypt, **have corrupted themselves**.

And when Joshua heard the noise of the people as they **shouted**, he said unto Moses, there is a noise of war in the camp, And he said, It is not the voice of them that shout for mastery, neither is it the voice of them that cry for being overcome; but the noise of them that **sing** do I hear. And it came to pass, as soon as he came nigh unto the camp, that he saw the calf, and the **dancing**; And Moses' anger waxed hot, and he cast the tables out of his hands, and brake them beneath the mount.” Exodus 32:1-7 and 17-19.

In this historic account we notice several things:

- The Lord was displeased and said that **the people had corrupted themselves**.
- There was **eating and drinking** as part of this corrupting act
- They **played**.
- There was a noise as of **shouting**, but it was also **singing or both**.
- There was **dancing**,
- There was the offering of burnt offerings and peace offerings mixed with these evil acts.
- Aaron, who was their leader in the absence of Moses, told them that **they would have a feast (celebration) to the LORD**. And notice that the people had actually asked for him to make them gods to go before them. They were still with their minds in Egypt where they had witnessed and where some had partaken of the heathen worship styles that went on there.

Aaron did not want them to worship the gods of Egypt, and in order to withdraw their hearts from those gods, he accepted the worship styles they wanted introduced and used them to worship the God of heaven. But this was not acceptable to God.

What was part of the worship of the Baal priests? **Shouting repetitive phrases and dancing**.

What did Herodias use of in order to influence the senses and mind of Herod so that he would be trapped into fulfilling her desires?

- A **celebration** party.
- **Dancing** done by a beautiful young woman. See Matthew 14:6.
- **Eating and drinking**, see Matthew 14:9.
- **Music**.

The false enchantment of the dizzy scene seemed to take away reason and dignity from Herod and his guests, who were flushed with wine. The music and wine and dancing, had removed the fear and reverence of God from them. Nothing seemed sacred to Herod's perverted senses. He was desirous to make some display which would exalt him still higher before the great men of his kingdom. And he rashly promised, and confirmed his promise with an oath, to give the daughter of Herodias whatever she might ask. "And she went forth and said unto her mother, What shall I ask? And she said, The head of John the Baptist. And she came in straightway with haste unto the king, and asked saying, I will that thou give me by and by in a charger the head of John the Baptist." RH.1873-03-11.008

Now notice that the combined elements of **this celebration removed the fear and reverence of God from those who were present. In fact, nothing seemed sacred any more.**

Malachi and also Paul in Hebrews 12 link what took place at Horeb with the time of the end. So we can expect that what took place at the time of Elijah, at Horeb and at Herod's palace to take place in the apostate protestant churches through which the inhabitants of the earth are going to be made drunk and through which they will lose their fear and reverence of God so that nothing will seem sacred any more. We will find there wine, literally (communion) and spiritually, (false doctrines) eating and drinking in church, (such as the serving of coffee and tea and biscuits in between the services, café churches etc), a certain kind of repetitive and loud music and shouting and singing (praise music) and also dancing and playing (drama). As a result those who participate will be so influenced that they will be ready to reject the end-time warning message of Elijah and eventually request the authorities for his head.

Who is going to force the whole world to make an image to the beast and then to have those put to death who will not worship the image? See Revelation 13:11-15. The beast that comes out of the earth. (Prophecy represents Protestantism as having lamblike horns, but speaking like a dragon. RH Jan 1, 1889) Hence a new celebration worship style such as that which was already used in Egypt, and among the Baal worshippers and also found in worldly palaces of kings would be introduced into American Protestantism and influence all other protestants the world over to adopt similar styles which is then going to result in the setting up of the image of the beast in order to do away with the Elijah of the end time.

Just as the Israelites did not use the waiting time (while Moses was enclosed with God) to examine their lives and characters in order to be cleansed and changed and be able to stand in the presence of God, so today while Jesus is being delayed in the Most Holy Place where He is hoping to cleanse and purify our characters from all sins so that we will be able to appear in God's presence, so the majority of Christians today are not examining themselves either. They are tired of an invisible God, of worship styles that seemingly have no relevance to worldlings, and demand the gods of the world instead, such as the gods of eating and drinking, the gods of entertainment and drama, the gods of contemporary music and dancing and sport instead.

The apostle Paul tells us in Hebrews 12 that a great shaking is going to take place at the time of the end. A much greater shaking than what took place at Horeb. Was Paul referring to the literal shaking of the mountain? No, because verse 25 says that some escaped not who refused Him who spoke on earth. This must refer to the destruction of those who apostatized at Horeb. This shaking must therefore refer to incident with the golden calf when three thousand men lost their lives. In that context he said that the end –time shaking would remove everything that can be shaken and that only that what cannot be shaken shall remain. And thus he admonishes that we are to have “grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear, for our God is a consuming fire.” Hebrews 12:28.

The people at Horeb did not have grace and were therefore unable to serve God with reverence and godly fear. They, like Herod, had lost their dignity and their fear and reverence of God through this imitation worship and through its sensuous appeals. We, like them, will through the incoming false worship styles, adopted from apostate Protestantism, which it is our duty to proclaim as fallen, will lose our dignity, our fear and reverence for God and will lose our lives if we do not repent. And hardly anyone realizes that mother church, the papacy, (just like Herodias) has planned it all in advance in the second Vatican Council in 1962! (If you want the evidence of this then write and I will send it to you)

Friends, we are right in the middle of the shaking the book of Hebrews has warned us about! More so, we have already moved into the Sunday law crisis but most of us do not even realize it because it makes its way forward in the dark!
When are we going to wake up? When it is forever too late?

We are right in the middle of the greatest crisis our beloved church has ever faced. Ellen White says of the crisis at Horeb with reference to Aaron:
“Such a crisis demanded a man of firmness, decision, and unflinching courage; one who held the honor of God above popular favor, personal safety, or life itself. But the present leader of Israel was not of this character. Aaron feebly remonstrated with the people, but his wavering and timidity at the critical moment only rendered them the more determined. The tumult increased. A blind, unreasoning frenzy seemed to take possession of the multitude. There were some who remained true to their covenant with God, but the greater part of the people joined in the apostasy. **A few who ventured to denounce the proposed image making as idolatry, were set upon and roughly treated, and in the confusion and excitement they finally lost their lives.** Aaron feared for his own safety; and instead of nobly standing up for the honor of God, he yielded to the demands of the multitude.” PP.316 and 317.

So we can expect a repeat of this scenario to take place today. But does it have to happen like this? Can we not chose to repent and make a complete turn around with God’s help?

But there is more to come. What else can we expect to happen in relation with these new worship styles?

“And it came to pass at the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice, that Elijah the prophet came near, and said: LORD God of Abraham, Isaac, and of Israel, let it be known this day that I am thy servant, and that I have done all these things at thy word. Hear me, O LORD, hear me, that this people may know that thou art the LORD God, and that thou has turned their heart back

again. **Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that was in the trench. And when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he is the God; the LORD; he is the God.”** 1 Kings 18:36-39.

“And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon. And he exerciseth all the power of the first beast before him, and causeth the earth and them which dwell therein to worship the first beast, whose deadly wound was healed. **And he doeth great wonders, so that he maketh fire come down from heaven in the sight of men and deceiveth them that dwell on the earth by the means of those miracles which he has power to do in the sight of the beast;** saying to them that dwell on the earth, that they should make an image to the beast, which had the wound by a sword, and did live.” Revelation 13:11-14.

In the story of the first Elijah we notice that both Elijah and the Baal prophets were simply called prophets. But the one was a true prophet, and the others were false. The majority of people could not discern the difference in spite of the fact that there was a noticeable difference, for they dressed and acted and spoke differently. So it will be at the time of the end. There will be false prophets and genuine prophets, and the majority of people will be unable to discern who represents a false god or gods and who the true God even though there is a noticeable difference. Apostate Protestantism (Willow Creek etc) rising up in America would appear to be God’s prophet and claim to be such. But she would speak as a dragon. (On the Willow Creek web site you will find that they label Seventh Day Adventism as a cult)

We can expect the apostate protestant churches at the time of the end to meet with great success because their gods will be allowed to answer the prayers of their worshippers. They will produce great miracles in answer to prayer to prove that they serve the living God of heaven and earth. These miracles will deceive them that dwell upon the earth and would even deceive the very elect if possible. This means therefore that many Seventh Day Adventists, including ministers are going to be deceived also. As a result these will defect to these protestant churches in droves.

At the time of Elijah, the Baal prophets experienced no miraculous answers to their prayers and as a result they lost their lives.

At the time of the third Elijah the “Baal priests” or false prophets would experience miraculous answers to their prayers and as a result some of God’s people would lose their lives. (See Revelation 20:4 which compares some of the believers who are part of the last Elijah with John the Baptist.)

God is going to allow this “strong delusion” so that “they should believe a lie, that they all might be damned who believe not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.” 2 Thessalonians 2:11. This strong delusion is part of the shaking. And mother church, which has planned in advance that her daughters would seduce the rulers of this earth, would through them receive the head of some of the Elijah’s just as Salome brought the head of John the Baptist to her mother. Like Herod, many kings and rulers will discover that they have been tricked and will execute this request with a sorry heart. (Remember Darius and Daniel?) But they will obey nevertheless because of the oath’s sake, or because of them which sit at meat with them. (Matthew 14:9)

Others will become the bitterest enemies of God's people and betray them into the hand of the authorities.

Friends, much of what we have been studying here is already taking place right within our very own denomination. The seductive influences of the wine of Babylon, the contemporary music and the dancing, the theatrical performances and the mime are being introduced officially by some of the Aaron's in our midst. And history teaches what will be the result.

But,Aaron repented! Yes, many people lost their lives as a result of this apostasy but only those who chose not to repent.! Just as it was not too late for Aaron and others to repent, so it is not too late for us to repent either.

But if we do not....

“Of all the sins that God will punish, none are more grievous in His sight than those that encourage others to do evil. God would have His servants prove their loyalty by faithfully rebuking transgression, however painful the act may be. Those who are honored with a divine commission are not to be weak, pliant time-servers. They are not to aim at self-exaltation, or to shun disagreeable duties, but to perform God's work with unswerving fidelity.” PP page, 323.

We may have been weak like Aaron, but we, like him, can repent. And God will accept us like He accepted Aaron and many of the people who repented with him. But if we do not, then we must know that God considered the sins and idolatry at Sinai of the most grievous. He called these sins treason, apostasy, lawlessness and insubordination, (see PP page 324) and they were visited with instant death.

Today these very same grievous sins have been introduced and are being introduced everywhere within our borders and those people who will not repent, will meet with a similar fate, although not by instant death but by being shaken out or sifted out which would then be followed by the sword. “For lo, I will command, and I will sift the house of Israel among all nations, like as corn is sifted in a sieve, yet shall not the least grain fall upon the earth. All the sinners of my people shall die by the sword, which say, **The evil shall not overtake nor prevent us.**” Amos 9:9-10.

Friends. **Who will we chose to belong to?**

Will we serve our own interests and the things of this world, our wages and good name and livelihood and chose to become Baal priests and be destroyed by the sword here and now and lose eternal life also?

Or will we serve the true God and Creator of heaven and earth and be found among the Elijah's or John the Baptists even though it may cost some us our head but will be rewarded with eternal life afterwards?

May God strengthen us to confess our sins and help us chose to be among the Elijah's and stand on the right hand side of Moses (Jesus) so that we will not be shaken out and destroyed, but will be able to continue on our way to the heavenly Canaan together with our church family.