

THE SPIRIT AND POWER OF ELIJAH
WILL BE RELEASED ALL OVER THE WORLD



Elijah

is coming

SADHU SUNDAR SELVARAJ

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Dedication

This book is worshipfully dedicated to the Heavenly Father
for His grace and mercy, the Lord Jesus Christ for His
revelation of precious truths, and the Holy Spirit for His
inspiration and guidance in writing this book

And

To all Precious and Beloved Brothers and Sisters who
greatly desire to learn how to walk in the Spirit.

Acknowledgements

I want to humbly express my deep thanks and profound gratitude, and acknowledge the sacrifices of labor and love of the following dear brothers and sisters who helped make this book a reality:

Amutha Arnasalam
Jeremiah Godsman
Johnny Lim

And to

Bartek Muszynski
for their painstaking labors of love in editing this book.

Preface

Over the past 36 years of my ministry, of which 35 years have been spend walking with God in visions and revelations, the Lord God, out of His great kindness and mercy, has favored me to received many visitations from the saint Elijah.

During such visitations, similar to the one where he and the saint Moses visited the Lord Jesus to speak with Him about His decease that He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem (Lk 9:30-31), the saint Elijah brought with him messages and counsels from the Lord. Let me share a few:

1. November 13, 2007: While I was deeply meditating the Scriptures, my spiritual eyes were opened and I saw the saint Elijah come into my living room in a chariot. The horses that pulled the chariot came to a screeching halt. The saint Elijah looked at me while still holding the reins of the horses in his hand as if he was in a hurry to immediately go to another place. He said, "You will be taken to the third heaven very soon to receive instructions. Prepare; be pure and clean."

Then he took off. As the chariot was leaving, he turned back and repeated twice: "Be pure and clean for the visitation. I will come to take you."

2. December 11, 2007: The Lord specifically asked me to go and pray on Mount Carmel. While praying on Mount Carmel for the first time in my life, I saw the saint Elijah come down from heaven in a golden chariot. During the visitation, he pointed to the Valley of Jezreel and spoke about the future Battle of Armageddon.
3. March 4, 2013: I was in Nashville, Tennessee to attend the National Religious Broadcasters' Conference. While praying in the morning, I saw the saint Elijah in the Spirit. He said to me, "Can we count on you to begin a TV channel in Hebrew? On it you must broadcast programs related to end-time events and prophecies related to Israel, the Middle East, Gog and Magog, and the coming of the four horses as described both in Revelation and Zechariah.

This resulted in the birth of Angel TV | Hebrew channel in 2014.

4. October 2, 2016: While praying in Jerusalem on the eve of Rosh Hashanah, the Word of the Lord came unto me: "The Spirit of Elijah will be released all over the world. People will report seeing Elijah coming to them with scrolls. They will ask you what this means. You shall teach them the ways of the Lord. Prepare them to be prophets for God in these last days."

During our annual Open Heaven Prophetic Conference which was held in Jerusalem in June 2017, the Lord Jesus specifically mandated me to hold the last day (June 8) of the conference on Mount Carmel. I present here an overview of what I shared there:

"God is going to release something wonderful today. Not only upon all of you who are gathered here, but also upon the

whole world. That is why the Lord moved my heart to have a live telecast here on Mount Carmel. This is the third time we have gathered on Mount Carmel for this conference over the years. We did not have any live broadcasts then. But from the time we began this conference in Jerusalem I felt a strong stirring in my spirit that the event on Mount Carmel should be televised live.

Over the past few days, the Lord showed me why. It is because there is going to be a worldwide outpouring of a special anointing. And what is going to take place here will have a ripple-effect throughout the world. All those who are watching live through television and through the Internet are also going to get the same blessing and anointing as you are.

When the Word of the Lord came unto me that Elijah is coming, the Lord also said to me, "People all over the world will report seeing Elijah and they will write to you." Subsequently, I have received letters from many nations of the world from people testifying they have been visited by Elijah. Why is he visiting? It is to fulfil his last days' ministry as is prophesied in Malachi 4:5-6. The spirit and the power of Elijah is going to be released.

We read in the Bible that the spirit and power of Elijah came upon two prophets: *Elisha* and *John the Baptist*. However, in these last days the spirit and power of Elijah will come upon *all*. That is why you have been brought here. You are going to receive this anointing today. Not only you, but also all those who are afar off – watching by television and Internet."

What happened next – during the prayer time – was phenomenal. You may read some of the testimonies at the end of the book.

Perchance – if God is willing – you, too, will be filled with the *spirit and power of Elijah* and receive a visitation from the saint,

even as you read these pages. That is the *sole* reason why the Lord Jesus told me to write this book.

The saint-prophet Elijah is coming before the great and terrible day of the Lord! Believe with all your heart and you shall *surely* receive the spirit and power of Elijah!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Sundar Selvaraj' in a cursive style.

Sundar Selvaraj
March 2018

CHAPTER 1

Prophet Elijah

Elijah was an important Israelite prophet. He was born at a time when gross darkness was hovering over Israel.

The name “Elijah” in Hebrew is *Eliyahu*, meaning *My God is Yahu/Jah* or *my Lord is Jehovah*. No background for the prophet Elijah is given except that he is a “Tishbite”, that is, from the village of Tishbeh, located within the territory of Gilead—a tribal division closely affiliated with or the same as Manasseh.

He was of the sojourners from Gilead (1Kg 17:1), so he was of the Trans-Jordan Jews. He was a Benjamite. The tribe of Benjamin produced several heroes and mighty warriors. Besides these details, nothing is known of his family or birth.

His name meaning “My God is the Lord”, may be a title applied to him because of his challenge to the worship of Baal. The prophet Elijah is also thought to be the prophet Ahijah’s choice disciple.

When Did Elijah Live?

Elijah was a prophet and a miracle worker who lived in the northern kingdom of Israel during the reign of King Ahab

Elijah Is Coming

(9th Cent. B.C.). The Bible also describes him as having lived during the reigns of Israelite kings Ahab, Ahaziah, and Jehoram.

His first appearance is about half-way through the reign of King Ahab, son of Omri (who founded the northern kingdom in Samaria), which would put him at about 864 B.C.

Where Did Elijah Live?

He is called the *Tishbite*, meaning he was from Tishbeh, probably East of the Jordan River, though possibly in Naphtali. A Tishbeh in Upper Galilee in Naphtali is known from the apocryphal book of Tobit. So it's possible that the prophet Elijah's family had resided in Naphtali and had been displaced to Gilead during the Aramean wars of King Baasha's reign

The prophet Elijah's ministry was confined to the northern kingdom of Israel. Once, he is recorded as having to flee from King Ahab's wrath, first taking refuge by the brook Cherith, and second, in Zarephath, a Phoenician city. On another occasion, he fled for his life from Queen Jezebel who threatened to behead him, and took refuge at a cave in Mount Horeb, *aka* Mount Sinai.

What Did Elijah Do?

The main ministry of the prophet Elijah was his battle against the Canaanite god Baal and Baal's various priestly representatives—the 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets Aserah. King Ahab had formed strong ties with Phoenician states and, in the process, had become lax in maintaining strict religious purity.

He even went so far as to marry Jezebel, daughter of the king of Sidon, who was also a priestess and worshipper of foreign gods. He allowed her to promote her religion in Israel leading a whole nation into apostasy.

Prophet Elijah

The Lord God also performed many miracles through the prophet Elijah, including raising the dead (1 Kg 17:17-24), multiplication of food (1 Kg 17:8-16), and bringing fire down from the sky (1 Kg 18:36-38; 2 Kg 1:10,12). All this established the prophet Elijah as a mighty and revered prophet in Israel.

He also established a school of prophets known as “the sons of the prophets” (2 Kg 2:3,5,7,15). Before his ascension, he anointed Elisha as prophet in his stead—his successor. The prophet Elisha, his most devoted disciple, then took over his role as leader of this school.

What Was Elijah Like?

The prophet Elijah was a human being just like any of us—a man of similar hopes and dreams, weaknesses and shortcomings, but also a man of deep faith in God. He was a bold, direct-to-the-point prophet of God. By unflinchingly speaking forth the words of God, he made fierce enemies, but his enemies could not overpower him.

The apostle James would later speak of the prophet Elijah’s faith saying, “Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit” (Jas 5:17-18).

Why Was Elijah Sent?

In his novel, *A Tale of Two Cities* (1859) Charles Dickens wrote: “It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness, it was the epoch of belief, it was the epoch of incredulity, it was the season of Light, it was the season of Darkness, it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair, we had everything before us, we had nothing before

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us, we were all going direct to Heaven, we were all going direct the other way..." Likewise, during the darkest period of Israel's history the Lord sent His greatest light – the prophet Elijah.

Elijah is regarded as a "reformer" prophet—his purpose was to call the Israelites back to the worship of Yahweh and away from the evil pagan religious cults that were growing in popularity. In 1 Kings 18, the prophet Elijah championed the worship of the true living God over that of the Canaanite deity Baal.

The prophet Elijah's challenge is bold and direct. At that time, King Ahab and his beautiful but evil wife, Queen Jezebel, served the most despicable Canaanite idols, Baal and Ashtoreth, demons that demanded human sacrifices which also included the offering of blood as drink-offering, sexual immorality and perversion.

Baal was the Canaanite god responsible for rain, thunder, lightning, and dew. Queen Jezebel even built altars to these idols and masterminded the killing of God's true prophets. In their place, she appointed false prophets, prophet-priests for Baal and temple prostitutes.

The prophet Elijah not only challenged Baal on behalf of God Himself, but he also challenged Queen Jezebel, her priests, King Ahab and the people of Israel. He was sent by God with one specific mission: *to turn an entire nation back to serve the one and only true living God.*

ELIJAH IN THE END-TIMES

The Book of Malachi foretells the prophet Elijah's return "before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD" (Mal 4:5-6). The Lord Jesus made it clear that the prophet John the Baptist was "the Elijah" who had been promised to come (Matt 11:14). The New Testament describes how this "Elijah" was thought, by some,

Prophet Elijah

to be the Messiah (Lk 3:15). The prophet Elijah appears, together with the prophet Moses, during the Transfiguration of the Lord Jesus (Matt 17:3).

The prophet Elijah is mentioned four other times in the New Testament. The Lord Jesus, using him as an example of rejected prophets, said, “No prophet is accepted in his own country,” and then mentions the prophet Elijah, saying that there were many widows in Israel, but Elijah was sent to none other than the one in Phoenicia (Lk 4:24-26).

In the Epistle to the Romans, the apostle Paul cites the prophet Elijah as an example of God’s never forsaking his people—the Israelites (Rom 11:1-5). Hebrews 11:35 says, in part, “Women received their dead raised to life again...” referring to the prophet Elijah raising the son of the widow of Zarephath and the prophet Elisha raising the son of the woman of Shunem, citing both prophets as Old Testament examples of faith. In James 5:16–18, the apostle James says, “The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much,” and then cites the prophet Elijah’s prayers which started and ended the drought and resulting famine in Israel as examples.

The prophet Elijah is one of the most interesting and colorful persons in the Bible. The Lord God used him during an important time in Israel’s history to oppose a wicked king and turn an apostate nation back to worshipping the true living God in the land of Israel. His ministry marked the beginning of the end of Baal worship in Israel. His life was filled with power and turmoil.

At times, he was bold, fearless, decisive and resolute. But, at other times, fearful, timid, vulnerable and tentative. He alternately demonstrates victory and defeat, followed by recovery. He knew both the awesome and incredible power of God and the depths of wavering faith and depression (1 Kg 19:1-18).

Elijah Is Coming

It is believed that the prophet Elijah shall return to Earth prior to the millennial Day of the Lord (Mal 4:5-6). The depth of the impression made by the prophet Elijah “on the mind of the nation” of modern Israel can be judged from the prevailing belief that the prophet Elijah would again appear for the relief and restoration of the country in the last days.

In the following chapters, we shall study further the coming of the prophet Elijah as a precursor to the arrival of the Messiah (and sometimes as harbinger of the apocalypse).

CHAPTER 2

Timing

Now that we know the prophet Elijah is coming back again, the obvious question we need to explore is when?

MALACHI 4:5-6

5 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."

I took some time to carefully study Malachi 4:5 in different translations of Scripture. The four other Bible translations that I read had very diverse and rich interpretations. I took the best of all and combined them to get the most complete meaning possible. Here is my compilation:

MALACHI 4:5

5 "See, I will send you another prophet like Elijah to clear the way before the great, dreadful and decisive judgment day of God arrives.

Observe carefully the timing of the arrival of the prophet Elijah. He will come before the *great and terrible day of the Lord*.

Elijah Is Coming

That is not the day of the earthly ministry of the Lord Jesus. Let us consider two very important Scriptures to conclusively show that the days that the Lord Jesus Christ ministered here on earth was not the “day of the Lord” mentioned in Malachi 4:5.

ISAIAH 61:1-2

1 The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God;

LUKE 4:16-19

16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read.

17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed;

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

After His baptism, the Lord Jesus Christ, filled with the Holy Spirit, went into the wilderness to fast for 40 days. After the fast, while visiting Nazareth – his hometown – on the Sabbath, He went into the synagogue as was His custom.

Timing

The rabbi at the synagogue, obviously guided by the Holy Spirit, took the scroll of Isaiah and handed it to the Lord Jesus to read the Scripture portion for the day. The Lord opened the scroll, His hands carefully guided by the Spirit of the Lord, to the passage of Isaiah 61 and began to read. This incident is carefully recorded in Luke 4:16-19.

By careful comparison, we can see that Luke 4:18 is a direct quotation of Isaiah 61:1. However, observe Luke 4:19: “And to preach the acceptable year of the Lord.” After reading that portion of the verse, the Lord Jesus handed the scroll back and sat down. Take a close look at Luke 4:19 and compare it with Isaiah 61:2.

LUKE 4:19

19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”

ISAIAH 61:2

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God;

Are they two Scriptures the same? *No*, I hear you say. Why did the Lord Jesus stop before completing the whole verse? Because when the Lord Jesus came the first time, it was not the *end of times* when the vengeance of God would manifest. It was not the “day of the Lord” spoken of in Malachi 4:5.

The Lord Jesus came to bring grace—the forgiveness of sins. It was not the time of the judgment of the Lord yet. Even the demons knew that. Look at this Scripture where a demon screams at the Lord saying, “What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us *before the time?*” (Matt 8:29). There is a time for that—the end-times, the dreadful day of the Lord. But that was not the time when the Lord Jesus was physically here on earth.

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The Lord Jesus came to bring grace and truth and preach the way by which man can be accepted by God (Jn 1:17). That is why He very deliberately stopped reading Isaiah 61:2 half-way through the verse and left out the phrase "...and the day of vengeance of our God".

This point is also illustrated by the following incident:

LUKE 9:51-56

51 Now it came to pass, when the time had come for Him to be received up, that He steadfastly set His face to go to Jerusalem,

52 and sent messengers before His face. And as they went, they entered a village of the Samaritans, to prepare for Him.

53 But they did not receive Him, because His face was set for the journey to Jerusalem.

54 And when His disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do You want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them, just as Elijah did?"

55 But He turned and rebuked them, and said, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of."

56 For the Son of Man did not come to destroy men's lives but to save them."

Sensing that the coming of the Lord Jesus as Messiah signaled the end of times, the disciples wanted call down fire to destroy the Samaritan village just as the prophet Elijah had done to two separate groups of soldiers (2 Kg 1:10,12). But the Lord Jesus restrained them, saying, "You do not know what manner of spirit you are of." By that he was inferring that the Spirit He possessed which was also imparted to the disciples was the Spirit of Grace (Jn 1:16). Then, He said, "For the Son of Man did not

Timing

come to destroy men's lives but to save them." To judge and destroy sinners is something that God will do in the dreadful day of His vengeance.

This means that the coming of the prophet Elijah during the "great and terrible day of the Lord" was not the time of the first coming of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Dreadful Day of the Lord

The prophet Elijah will come at a time before the great and dreadful day of the Lord. What will be the signs – both in society and in the church – that will signal to us that we are living in those times?

The Bible is full of Scriptures to give us clear sign-posts about that time.

1. The Army of the Lord will rise up and do great exploits – Joel 2:1-11
2. There will signs in the sun, moon and the stars – Joel 2:31
3. The nations of the world will do much harm to Israel – Obad 15
4. Idolatry like in the day of the prophet Elijah will increase – Zeph 1:4-7
5. The call to repentance (Revelation 14:6-7) will be powerfully preached all over the world – Zeph 2:2-3
6. The nations will gather to war against Israel – Zech 14:1-2
7. False teachers will be proclaiming that the judgments of God will not come and that we are living in peace and safety – 1 Thes 5:2

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8. Apostasy and believers falling away from the truth will be rampant in the church – 2 Thes 2:2-4
9. Heart attitudes of people in society will change drastically for the worse – Isa 2:12; 2 Tim 3:1-8

What will happen when the dreadful day of the Lord manifests? Let us look at the following Scriptures...

1. Destruction will come from the Lord – Isa 13:6-9; Joel 1:15
2. God will take vengeance on behalf of His people – Isa 34:8; Jer 46:10
3. Despair will come upon the nations – Ezek 30:3
4. God will fight with the nations by bringing them together for war – Joel 3:14; Obad 15; Zeph 1:7-18; Zech 14:3-4
5. Nuclear war among nations – 2 Pe 3:10

Taken together, all these Scriptures prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that the dreadful day of the Lord was not during the time when the Lord Jesus was on this earth. If that is so, then the day of the Lord must be some time in the future—*the last days*! It is in *these* last days that Malachi 4:5 is going to be fulfilled.

END-TIMES APPEARANCE

Wait a minute, I hear you say; What about the Lord Jesus' references to John the Baptist being Elijah? Let us look at the following Scriptures...

MATTHEW 11:7-10

7 As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind?"

8 But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

9 But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to you, and more than a prophet.

10 For this is he of whom it is written: "Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, Who will prepare Your way before You."

Verse 10 is a quotation from Malachi 3:1. The Lord was testifying that the "messenger" prophesied in Malachi 3:1 is none other than the prophet John the Baptist. The Lord Jesus further stunned His hearers when He said: "And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come" (Matt 11:14).

What did the Lord Jesus mean by that statement? Surely He is not referring to reincarnation, is He? Certainly not! What did He mean, then? The answer is found in the following passage:

LUKE 1:13-17

13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.

14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.

15 For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.

16 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."

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The angel Gabriel appeared before the priest Zechariah and said that his wife will conceive and give birth to a son. This boy will be of special birth because “he will go before [the Messiah] in the spirit and power of Elijah.” What does that mean? It means that the anointing and the grace of God that was upon the prophet Elijah will now come and rest in similar degree and fashion upon the prophet John the Baptist.

We read of a similar incident in the Old Testament when the Lord God took the Spirit that was upon the prophet Moses and laid it upon the elders of Israel.

NUMBERS 11:16-17

16 So the Lord said to Moses: “Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

17 Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.

Because the spirit of Elijah was upon the prophet John the Baptist, his lifestyle and mannerism was similar to the prophet Elijah. The prophet Elijah was “a hairy man, wearing a leather belt around his waist” (2 Kg 1:8). Like his predecessor, the prophet John the Baptist was dressed in camel’s hair, which would make him look “hairy”, and wore a leather belt around his waist (Matt 3:4; Mk 1:6). Though the prophet John the Baptist did not perform any miracles like his predecessor, yet the fearless power of the prophet Elijah was upon the prophet John the Baptist to denounce sin and rebuke kings.

Timing

We also read of another incident where the prophet Moses laid his hands upon Joshua, his successor, and the Spirit of Wisdom that was upon the prophet Moses came upon Joshua (Deu 34:9). Not only that, even the honor, power and authority that was upon the prophet Moses came upon Joshua, the new leader (Num 27:20).

Furthermore, before the prophet Elijah was to be caught up to heaven, his designated successor, Elisha, asked for a double portion of Elijah's spirit (2 Kg 2:9). When the prophet Elisha received the mantle of his predecessor, he wanted to test it (similar to how many Christians pray for second, third, and even fourth confirmations today).

When he came to the Jordan river, he smote the river with the mantle that fell from the prophet Elijah. Immediately, the water piled up and stopped flowing. The prophet Elisha walked on the dry water bed back home (2 Kg 2:14). When the sons of the prophets saw the miraculous act done by the prophet Elisha, they exclaimed in unison "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha" (2 Kg 2:15). This is similar to the spirit of Elijah resting upon the prophet John the Baptist.

As I was fasting and praying on December 24, 1983, the Lord Jesus appeared before me. Seated beside the Lord I saw the saint Sadhu Sundar Singh. Both the Lord and the saint were seated about 10 feet away from me. The Lord Jesus then explained to me the ministry of Sadhu Sundar Singh. I had been reading many books about the ministry of Sadhu Sundar Singh since May 1982. I still have in my collection many of his books. But what the Lord explained to me that day I had never read anywhere in any book.

After explaining the details of Sadhu Sundar Singh's ministry, the Lord asked me a question: "Will you continue his work?" In my youthful zeal I answered immediately, "Yes, Lord, I will do it."

Elijah Is Coming

The Lord cautioned me, saying, “Wait, don’t rush.” He explained, elaborating in greater detail, the many sufferings, trials and tribulations that this saint had gone through in his ministry in Tibet. Then the Lord asked again, “Now tell Me, will you continue his work? Think carefully.” I was about to say yes, when the Lord cautioned me again, saying, “If you accept this call, you will have to walk the same path of tribulation, trials, pain, hunger, suffering and persecution that he went through.”

Without any hesitation or second thought I humbly answered, “Yes, Lord, I will do it.” The Lord Jesus then got up from where He was seated, took the shawl—or *mantle*—from Sadhu Sundar Singh’s shoulder and walked straight towards me. When He came near me, He said, “Kneel down.” When I knelt before the Lord, He laid Sadhu Sundar Singh’s shawl on my shoulder and said, “From this day onwards continue his work.”

Ever since then, for the 20 years that the Lord had me do this ministry in Tibet, every time I would pray for Tibet and each time I would go to Tibet, I would see in the spirit the saint Sadhu Sundar Singh accompany me. His ministry to me was like that of an angel sent to help the heirs of salvation (Heb 1:14). When the spirit and power of Sadhu Sundar Singh was upon me – which I received through the laying on of his shawl – I felt some of my mannerism and style of ministry and preaching become like his.

Let’s get back to the question whether the birth and ministry of John the Baptist was the fulfilment of the return of the prophet Elijah. Let us consider the following passage:

MATTHEW 17:1-8

*1 Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves;
2 and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light.*

3 And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

4 Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, let us make here three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah."

5 While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and suddenly a voice came out of the cloud, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Hear Him!"

6 And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their faces and were greatly afraid.

7 But Jesus came and touched them and said, "Arise, and do not be afraid."

8 When they had lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

After seeing the vision of the glorified trio of the Lord Jesus and the prophets Moses and Elijah transfigured, the disciples asked the Lord about the teaching concerning the prophet Elijah having to come before the Messiah could appear:

MATTHEW 17:9-13

9 Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead."

10 And his disciples asked him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

11 Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.

12 But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands."

13 Then the disciples understood that he spoke to them of John the Baptist.

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The Lord Jesus' answer to their question revealed the dual aspect of this prophecy. Most of the prophecies recorded in the Bible have at least two major fulfillments, and this one does also. As the Lord Jesus showed that the prophet John the Baptist was the "Elijah who was to come" before His first coming, there remains yet *another* appearance of the prophet Elijah before "the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord" (Mal. 4:5).

Some have been confused regarding this passage, because the prophet John the Baptist himself denied to the Jewish leadership that he was the expected Prophet Elijah:

JOHN 1:19-23

19 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"

20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."

22 Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?"

23 He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said."

In a sense, the prophet John's denial was accurate, because he was *not* the final, full realization of this prophecy. But the prophet John clearly identifies himself with the prophesied messenger who was to come before the Messiah by quoting from Isaiah 40:1-5. Let's examine this passage in detail to see if it was *only* for the prophet John the Baptist's time:

Timing

- 1 *"Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God.*
- 2 *"Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins."*
- 3 *The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*
- 4 *Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth;*
- 5 *The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."*

This prophecy, which the prophet John the Baptist quoted only in part, speaks of the coming of a messenger who heralds the imminent redemption of Jerusalem and the coming of the Messiah in glory. This complete salvation will only occur after the end-time messenger, whom the prophet Malachi identifies as Elijah, has "turned the hearts of the children back to the fathers" just "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD" (Mal 4:5-6).

On September 17, 2017, while praying in the afternoon, I found myself, in the Spirit, in heaven before the Council of the Prophets. The Lord Jesus chaired the meeting. He asked me: "What is the sign of Elijah's coming?" I stared at the Lord with an *I don't know Lord – please teach me* kind of look.

The Lord continued, saying, "It will be during a time of disaster; a time when there will be gross darkness. There will be confusion in society. Children—including young and inexperienced ministers—will be going their own way and doing

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their own thing. The fathers—older ministers—will be settled in their own old ways, though grieving over the waywardness of the young. The fathers and the children—the old and the young ministers—will be divorced from each other, each going their separate ways. They need to be reconciled. The old need the strength of the young and the young need the matured ways of the old.

It will be during a time when an idolatrous generation will seek witchcraft and demon worship by building altars of Baal all over the world. False prophets and prophets of Baal will rise and set up their bases of operation even in churches.”

Isn't such a time as this in which we are living ripe for the prophet Elijah to come?

I was working on this book on November 4, 2017 when I had a strong stirring and impression in my spirit of the presence of someone standing behind me. When I turned around I was pleasantly surprised to see the saint Elijah standing there with a benign smile. I knelt before the presence of God and greeted the saint. Looking at me with a father's delight, he said, “I have brought something for you.”

Upon saying that, he placed a small green box on my chair. It looked like the kind of small box when you buy a ring from a jeweler. When I looked at the box, a Scripture – Malachi 4:5 – was seen floating in it. The saint Elijah said to me, “Say boldly: the time has come for the fulfilment of Malachi 4:5. Do not be afraid.” This Scripture says, “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.”

CHAPTER 3

Man of Obedience

One of the greatest qualities that God expects from His servants is obedience. This quality was exemplified in the life of the prophet Elijah. He not only had incredible faith in God but also unwavering and absolute trust in the God Almighty. In all the things that the Lord God called him to do, the prophet Elijah loyally and obediently carried out His instructions.

Hiding at Cherith

Let us look at a specific example where the prophet Elijah's obedience was tested. The Lord God told him to go and hide himself (1 Kg 17:3). The word "hide" in Hebrew is *cathar*, a primitive root word meaning: *to hide (by covering): be absent, conceal, hide (self), (keep) secret*. Collins Dictionary defines this word as: *If you hide something or someone, you put them in a place where they cannot easily be seen or found*. To hide is to conceal. *If you hide or if you hide yourself, you go somewhere where you cannot easily be seen or found*.

So why did the Lord God tell him to hide? You want to hide from someone or something when your life is in danger. In this case, what was the danger that the prophet was facing? King Ahab conveyed Elijah's prophecy about the coming drought to his manipulative and evil wife Jezebel.

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She was furious because this prophecy was a slap in the face and an insult to their devotion to Baal, the god of rain. She was also furious because she thought that she had already killed all true propjets of the Lord; how, then, could this one man—Elijah—have survived? So she wanted to have him killed too. This is the reason why God told Elijah to hide.

1 KINGS 17:2-6

2 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

3 "Get away from here and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.

4 And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there."

5 So he went and did according to the word of the Lord, for he went and stayed by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan.

6 The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning, and bread and meat in the evening; and he drank from the brook.

Look at the attitude of the prophet Elijah's obedience: *he went and did according to the word of the Lord* (v.5) – that is *implicit obedience*. An obedience that does not question but merely follows obediently as a sheep will follow – blindly – its shepherd. "Obey" in Hebrew is *shama'* meaning *to hear, hearken, listen, obey*. You cannot really obey God if you don't set your heart to truthfully listen to what He will say to you no matter what the price is to pay.

When you set your heart to obey God, He makes provision for you to obey Him. In this case, the prophet Elijah was asked by God to leave the comforts of home where food was readily available and to go and stay at a secluded place, far from prying eyes. In today's technological terms we would say that he was

told to go “off the grid” – to cut himself off from cellphones, the Internet and all other forms of communication.

The Lord God gave him clear direction where to hide. The “brook Cherith” or the “ravine Kerith” was one of the many wadis or ravines that emptied its waters into the Jordan from the mountains to the east. The prophet Elijah was commanded to depart from Samaria, to turn eastward across the Jordan, and to hide there. The word “Cherith” in Hebrew is *kerith* meaning *a cutting*, a place cut by some type of catastrophe like an earthquake, or more likely, by years of water flowing down from the hills to the Jordan.

The prophet Elijah was sent by the Lord God to the brook Cherith. By the meaning of its name, we understand that the prophet was brought to a place where he was *cut off* from his accustomed place of safety and security. Now, he was all alone and cut off from the rest of the world. Being cut off from a familiar place of provision, the prophet had to totally rely on the Lord God Jehovah Jireh to provide for him and protect him from danger.

Not only did God provided him a secure place of temporary residence, but He also made sure that the basic necessities of life—food and water—were provided for. Water was provided to God’s obedient prophet in the form of clear and fresh water from the Brook Cherith. Food was provided for him, *home-delivery style*, in a very strange manner.

Every day—each morning and evening—*ravens*, at least two of them, brought him bread and meat. The common raven, *Corvus corax*, is a large black passerine bird. Found across the Northern Hemisphere, it is the most widely distributed of all corvids. There are at least eight subspecies with little variation in appearance. It is one of the two largest corvids, alongside the thick-billed

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raven, and is possibly the heaviest passerine bird; at maturity, the common raven averages 25 inches (63 cm) in length and 2.6 pounds (1.2 kg) in mass. Common ravens can live up to 21 years in the wild. Young birds may travel in flocks but later mate for life, with each mated pair defending a territory.

Common ravens have coexisted with humans for thousands of years and, in some areas, have been so numerous that people have regarded them as pests. Part of their success as a species is due to their omnivorous diet; they are extremely versatile and opportunistic in finding sources of nutrition, feeding on carrion, insects, cereal grains, berries, fruit, small animals, and food waste. Some notable feats of problem-solving provide evidence that the common raven is unusually intelligent.

Ravens routinely eat carrion—decaying flesh of dead animals. *Yuck! That's disgusting, not to mention unhygienic*, you may say. So these ravens—these unclean birds—flew around and found bread and meat for the prophet. They would then have to fly long-distance to the brook where the prophet was waiting for his daily bread. When the Apollo space capsule landed on the moon on July 20, 1969, the astronaut Neil Armstrong radioed back to NASA in Houston, Texas, saying, “The Eagle has landed.” Looking at the ravens just as they landed in front of him, the prophet may have lifted up his head to heaven and sighed, “God, the ravens have landed.”

Landing carefully and steadily on the ground, the ravens dropped the bread and the meat before the prophet. Curious, the prophet Elijah just stood there, staring at the ravens and at the food, wondering what to do. Since ravens are unusually intelligent, noticing the prophet's hesitation, they moved their beaks, as if to say, *Go on, eat*. So not only did the prophet Elijah obey God by going to the Brook Cherith, but he also had the

unpleasant task of obeying Him in eating food that was brought from an unconventional source.

A little boy, having read this incident with his widowed mother on a wintry night, as they sat in a fireless room beside a bare table, asked her if he might open the door to allow God's ravens to come in; he was so sure that they must be on their way. The mayor of that German town, passing by, was attracted by the sight of the open door, and entered, inquiring the cause. When he learned the reason, he said, "I will be God's raven," and relieved their need then and afterwards.

Why was the prophet Elijah sent to the place of cutting off? Some think it was for protection from King Ahab. Perhaps that was part of it, but it was not the primary reason because later the Lord God sent him to face the king. More likely, the reason was seclusion and concealment. The Hebrew word for "hide" is *satar*, which means *to hide, conceal, cover*. In the Hebrew text of 1 Kgs 17:3 (...turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith), this verb is in the "reflexive form", something that one does to and for himself. So it means *to hide, conceal yourself*. It refers to a deliberate and decisive choice in obedience to God's command.

Here is an interesting point to take note of for the last days' prophetic generation. The word "Cherith" in Hebrew is *keriyth*, meaning *a cut*. It signifies that though you are cut-off from all, yet the Lord God will be your protection and supply. *Keriyth* comes from *karath*, meaning *to cut; to covenant* (i.e. *make an alliance or bargain, originally by cutting flesh and passing between the pieces*). That signifies that the end-times prophetic generation must make a covenant with the Lord God Jehovah to trust Him at all times for all things. You are not to make any allegiance with the end-times Antichrist government or the false prophet's church.

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Another interesting point for the end-times prophetic remnant is this: King Ahab sent his soldiers to look for the prophet Elijah all over Israel and even in the surrounding nations, but could not find him (1 Kg 18:10). The prophet was just about 25 miles away from Samaria, where King Ahab ruled, yet his soldiers could not find him.

The idea of “hiding (*satar*) oneself” in the place of covenant, then, means to hide and rest in God’s presence as the omniscient One who becomes a hiding place, a shelter for the believer. The following Scriptures affirm this truth:

PSALMS 17:8-9

*8 Keep me as the apple of Your eye; Hide (satar) me
under the shadow of Your wings,*

*9 From the wicked who oppress me, from my deadly
enemies who surround me.*

PSALMS 31:20

*20 You shall hide (satar) them in the secret place of
Your presence from the plots of man; You shall keep
them secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues.*

The Lord God who hid the prophet Elijah from the prying eyes of King Ahab and his soldiers will in like manner hide His end-times prophetic remnant from every manner of sophisticated spy cameras and technologies of the Antichrist government.

Hiding at Zarephath

After the first year of drought and famine, the brook dried up. The Lord God then told the prophet Elijah to go to another place.

1 KINGS 17:8-10

*8 Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying,
9 "Arise, go to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and
dwell there. See, I have commanded a widow there to
provide for you."
10 So he arose and went to Zarephath,*

Once again observe the obedient spirit of the prophet: *he arose and went* (v.10). No questions asked, simply obeyed. The Lord God is more than able to take care of him wherever he was sent to—even into enemy territory.

So the prophet Elijah had to walk a distance of 85 miles from the Brook Cherith to Zarephath. It was a town in the land of Sidon, which happened to be the home of Jezebel, the pagan queen who was married to King Ahab (1 Kg 16:31). The Phoenician village of Zarephath belonged to Sidon and was located in the northern extremity of Canaan (Obad 1:20). Jezebel's father, Ethbaal, was the king of Sidon. Sidon was the center of Baal worship.

The prophet Elijah was sent to honor and bless with his presence a city of Sidon, a Gentile city, and so becomes the first Jewish prophet of the Gentiles. Queen Jezebel was the prophet Elijah's greatest enemy; yet, to show her how powerless was her malice, God found a hiding-place for him even in her own country.

"Zarephath" in Hebrew is *Tsarephath* meaning: *refinement: place of refinement, smelting place, place of purification with fire*. Smelting is the extracting of precious metals by heat. *Tsarephath* is from the verb *tsaraph*, which describes the metallurgic process of smelting, refining, fusing and testing metals.

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This metallurgic process of refinement involved making fires in kilns and furnaces; the hotter a nation could make its fires (Dan 3:19), the purer it could make its metals, and the stronger it could make its instruments, tools and weapons. In other words: the hotter the fire, the stronger the nation.

The melting point of copper is 1,085 °C. Metallurgy began with the manufacturing of copper and bronze. And whoever, in ancient biblical days, possessed the technology to make metal from stones, was nothing short of a magician (old-world magicians weren't mostly entertainers and certainly not endowed with paranormal talents, they were mostly engineers endowed with proper knowledge of real technology).

Metals are refined by applying fire and God refines His people by the application of the fires of trials, tribulations, instructions and corrections. Hence the verb *tsaraph* is most often used with just that function (Isa 1:25; Dan 11:35; Zech 13:9; Mal 3:3). This refining work is literally what takes place in the man who has been forced to give up depending on his own strength and effort and turn to the purifying fires of the Spirit for renewal.

So what kind of refinement did the prophet Elijah need? A Jewish tradition reveals the prophet Elijah's dislike of having to rely on other people. This is something quite common with prophets who live in isolation. He would even take an oil-lamp and wicks with him when he travelled, so as not to trouble others. The same held true for food.

If this Talmud tradition is true, then one reason the prophet was sent there was so that his soul could be refined from pride. Yes, the prophet Elijah did trust God to provide for him, and God surely did. Sometimes, though, the very providence of God can cause spiritual pride to creep in unawares, making us think that we are entitled to some unique privilege because we are directly

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provided-for by God. One has to die to such hidden spiritual pride. To be under the care and provision of a poor widow is, in itself, an act of debasement and humility.

Furthermore, cooped up in the house like a chicken, there was nothing for him to do except to pray and to wait on God and to wait for God's instruction. At Zarephath, the prophet Elijah was refined. His spirit, soul and body were fused together in oneness with the Spirit of God for his next assignment—the greatest showdown in recorded history—the calling down of fire from heaven before an entire nation as a witness to the veracity of the only true God—Jehovah. To be used by God Almighty for such an awesome display of the supernatural power of God, one must walk in utter humility, touching not the glory that belongs to God alone.

In the midst of the famine that followed the prophet's warning to King Ahab, Elijah was led from the preparation time of isolation at the brook Cherith to Zarephath, near the city of Sidon, the capital of Baal worship. In Zarephath, a place of intense spiritual warfare, he was used to perform a powerful miracle to help a poor widow and her son who was facing starvation. She obeyed the prophet's word and, as a result, her offering of a small amount of flour and oil was turned into an unending supply.

This miracle was eventually followed by another one, in which the prophet Elijah was used by God to raise the widow's son from death, after he had fallen ill. Word of God's anointing on the prophet undoubtedly spread far and wide. This led to another major step in Elijah's ministry as a mighty prophet.

The last days' prophetic remnant people with the Elijah anointing will be despised even by believers. The Lord Jesus spoke this concerning the prophet Elijah:

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LUKE 4:24-26

24 Then He said, "Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country.

25 But I tell you truly, many widows were in Israel in the days of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a great famine throughout all the land;

26 but to none of them was Elijah sent except to Zarephath, in the region of Sidon, to a woman who was a widow.

Why was the prophet Elijah not sent to some other widow's house in Israel? There was much suffering all throughout the land of Israel because of the scarcity of food, which was chiefly due to his prophecy. The people were angry at him and despised him. He was not welcomed in their homes. They would have turned him in to be executed by King Ahab who was looking for him. That was why God sent him to Zarephath, a gentile town in Sidon. A non-Jewish poor widow received him into her home and took care of him for two-and-a-half years.

Similarly, it was a gentile woman, Corrie ten Boom, a Dutch Christian who, along with her father and other family members, helped many Jews escape the Nazi Holocaust during World War II by hiding them in her closet. She and her family saved approximately 800 Jews. Likewise, in the last days, God will have such righteous non-Christians to help the end-times' remnant.

Stand before the King

1 KINGS 18:1-2

1 And it came to pass after many days that the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth."

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2 So Elijah went to present himself to Ahab; and there was a severe famine in Samaria.

After about two-and-a-half years of his comfortable stay at the widow's house at Zarephath, once more, the prophet Elijah was pushed out of his place of security. When an adult eagle wants to teach its baby eagles how to fly, it will push them out of the nest. While falling down, the little eaglet will flap its wings in desperation and thereby learn to fly. When it learns to fly, it is now ready to face whatever storms that will come against it. Similarly, the prophet Elijah, who always stood in the presence of God, had ample time to be refined and fused with heaven's presence, power, and glory to face his foe.

The prophet was told by the Lord God, the One who continually watches over him, to go and stand before King Ahab. King Ahab had been searching high and low for him in every place he could think of. One reason might have been to imprison him for bringing famine upon all of Israel. The other reason might have been to pacify him and have him entreat God for rain. Remember, the prophet Elijah had said to King Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at *my* word" (1 Kg 17:1).

So, King Ahab's soldiers were hunting for the prophet Elijah's head. When the prophet went to present himself to King Ahab he met Obadiah, a governor of the household affairs of King Ahab. As soon as the prophet met Obadiah, he told him to inform the king that he wanted to meet him. Obadiah, fearing for his own life and for the safety of the prophet, said to him, "How have I sinned, that you are delivering your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me? As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you" (1 Kg 18:9-10).

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King Ahab, spurred on by his evil wife Jezebel, sent soldiers all over Israel and even to the neighboring countries to look for the prophet Elijah. The kings, princes, rulers and governors even swore that they were not hiding or giving the prophet sanctuary in their nations. The prophet was a man badly wanted, either dead or alive.

It was under such circumstances that God told the prophet Elijah, “Go, present yourself to Ahab.” It’s as if God was saying to him to go and show yourself – surrender yourself – to the very person who is thirsting after your blood. This is a tremendous step of obedience in the face of imminent threat to his very life. The spirit of obedience requires one not to love one’s life, even in the face of death (*cp.* Rev 12:11).

LESSONS OF OBEDIENCE

What are the lessons the last days’ prophetic generation can learn from the obedience of the prophet Elijah?

1. You do not get to choose

This is the first lesson we learn from the prophet Elijah when he was asked to go and hide by the brook Cherith. He did not choose the place; God did. Likewise, you don’t get to pick and choose what you like. Whatever is offered to you, you receive it gladly.

2. One must not care for one’s reputation

When the prophet Elijah was asked to stay with a young widow, thoughts of what others would say may have run rampant through his mind. He already had a reputation as a celibate (that is, single) man of God who has been living alone in the wilderness. Rumors such as *why would he now look for companion?* may spread like wildfire.

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Seemingly, rumors have the potential to travel faster than the speed of light. They can spread far and wide faster than gossip on social media sites like Facebook and Twitter. By staying at the widow's house, the prophet Elijah was able to crucify his flesh.

Likewise, the last days' prophetic generation must die to their reputation. There is a kind of missile called the heat-seeking missile. What is it? It uses its target's infrared (IR) light emission to track and destroy it. Missiles which use infrared seeking are often referred to as "heat-seekers", since infrared is radiated strongly by hot bodies. Many objects such as people, vehicle engines and aircraft generate and emit heat, and, as such, are especially visible in the infrared wavelengths of light compared to objects in the background.

Like heat seeking missiles which look for targets to destroy, our flesh is always seeking for its reputation and ego to be inflated. Our flesh always looks for appreciation and applause from others. Our flesh always seeks to be recognized and respected. In Philippians 2:6-8 we read the following about the Lord Jesus:

6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,

7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.

8 And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

The last days' prophetic generation, like the prophet Elijah whose spirit they will receive, must die to their reputation and humble themselves like servants.

3. *Care not for your life*

By presenting himself before King Ahab, even in the face of possible death, the prophet Elijah showed that he wasn't counting on himself to protect his own life. He trusted God to protect him.

Likewise, as one of the last days' prophetic generation, you must not love your life, even if death comes like a heat-seeking missile looking for you. Revelation 12:11 says this concerning the *die-hard attitude* of the last days' prophetic generation: "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death."

So, the prophet Elijah received three commands from God that required an action on his part. Obedience! The prophet Elijah was obedient. Not just ordinary obedience but *unquestioning and total*.

Similar to Elijah's experiences, there will come a time of testing, trial and persecution for the righteous God-fearing remnant. You may need to flee and hide—God will show you where to hide. In that place of refuge, the Lord God—Jehovah Jireh—will supernaturally provide food and water for your survival. The saints and angels, too, will come and provide food for you, just as the angels came to provide food for the prophet Elijah (1 Kg 19:5-7).

This is the supreme quality that the last days' prophetic generation needs. When you are called to obey, you don't ask questions: *why this or why that?* If God commands you to go to a certain place, you just go. No questions asked. That's what the patriarch Abraham did when God asked him to leave his father's house and go to a land which He would show him (Gen 12:1). Other people can ask questions, but not God's prophetic remnant.

Fourth Lesson of Obedience

There is a fourth act of obedience that the Lord God required out of His servant:

1 KINGS 19:15-19

15 Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria.

16 Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

17 It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill.

18 Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

19 So he departed from there, and found Elisha the son of Shaphat, who was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen before him, and he was with the twelfth. Then Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle on him.

When the Lord God told him to anoint Elisha in his place, the prophet Elijah did not protest, nor did he have any qualms about his call being given to someone else. He went out of his way to look for Elisha, and when he found him, he anointed him as he was told – prophet in his place – a replacement prophet.

When the prophet Elijah heard that Elisha will be his replacement, he did not feel rejected nor, most importantly, *insecure*, which is the primary problem among church leaders today. This is the fourth lesson of obedience to be learned from the life of the prophet Elijah. He did not feel insecure or threatened. He merely obeyed what the Lord God commanded him to do.

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Just before his home-calling, when Elisha asked for a double portion of the spirit that was upon Elijah, the prophet Elijah did not burst out, *How dare you ask for this! Who do you think you are? Did you spend 30 years of your life in the wilderness? Did you eat food brought by ravens? Did you stay in the widow's house for two years? You had a luxurious life, you had a good family, and you had riches. What price have you paid for this anointing?*

Instead of being jealous of Elisha, he merely rejoiced within himself that his successor had asked for the right and wise thing. Like a father who would give whatever his children ask for the betterment of their lives, the prophet Elijah was more than glad to grant his request.

This shows *unfeigned love*, which is much needed in these last days (1 Pe 1:22 KJV). “Unfeigned” in Greek is *anupokritos* meaning: *genuine, sincere, without hypocrisy*. This means one should have a broad love for everybody. Everybody should be used by God. A leader should not feel insecure.

The people of the last days’ prophetic company should be selfless. They must be full of the love of God. They should have a true, heartfelt attitude that says *Let everybody rise up*. Everyone has his part in the body of Christ. No one is higher or lower. Everyone has their unique call in the body of Christ. Your reward does not depend on how large or small the work assigned to you by God is, but on how obedient and faithful you are to His call.

Consider the life of the prophet Moses. He was a very selfless man. The Bible even explicitly calls him the meekest man on the face of the earth (Num 12:3). One time, in anguish, the prophet Moses cried out to God as he was unable to bear the complaining and crying of the people. He cried out to God that it was too hard for him to bear the burden of caring for more than three million people (Num 11:10-15). So the Lord God came up with a solution.

NUMBERS 11:16-30

16 So the Lord said to Moses: "Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.

17 Then I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.

18 Then you shall say to the people, 'Consecrate yourselves for tomorrow, and you shall eat meat; for you have wept in the hearing of the Lord, saying, "Who will give us meat to eat? For it was well with us in Egypt." Therefore the Lord will give you meat, and you shall eat.

19 You shall eat, not one day, nor two days, nor five days, nor ten days, nor twenty days,

20 but for a whole month, until it comes out of your nostrils and becomes loathsome to you, because you have despised the Lord who is among you, and have wept before Him, saying, "Why did we ever come up out of Egypt?"'"

21 And Moses said, "The people whom I am among are six hundred thousand men on foot; yet You have said, 'I will give them meat, that they may eat for a whole month.'

22 Shall flocks and herds be slaughtered for them, to provide enough for them? Or shall all the fish of the sea be gathered together for them, to provide enough for them?"

23 And the Lord said to Moses, "Has the Lord's arm been shortened? Now you shall see whether what I say will happen to you or not."

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24 So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people and placed them around the tabernacle.

25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.

26 But two men had remained in the camp: the name of one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad. And the Spirit rested upon them. Now they were among those listed, but who had not gone out to the tabernacle; yet they prophesied in the camp.

27 And a young man ran and told Moses, and said, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp."

28 So Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, one of his choice men, answered and said, "Moses my lord, forbid them!"

29 Then Moses said to him, "Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!"

30 And Moses returned to the camp, he and the elders of Israel.

God counseled the prophet Moses to select 70 respectable elders of Israel upon whom the Lord would off-load some of the burden and workload of the prophet Moses. When he heard that, he did not say, *What! You are going to take my anointing and give it to 70 others and they will be my equals?* That wasn't his reaction at all. Instead, he gladly obeyed what the Lord commanded him and carefully selected and screened 70 elders.

Their names were written on a list and presented before the Lord. On a certain appointed day of "ordination", as we may call

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it, the Lord God took the Spirit—the anointing—to govern that was upon the prophet Moses and divided it equally among the 70 elders. As soon as the 70 elders were anointed, every one of them began to prophesy. Everyone was rejoicing and the prophet Moses rejoiced most of all.

A head count was then taken and, to everyone's horror, only 68 elders were accounted for. *What happened to the other two?* was the question on the prophet Moses' and everyone else's mind. Everyone went back to their tents rejoicing at the blessing they had received. As a young man happened to walk past the tent of the two elders who failed to turn up for the ordination service, he heard some strange noises. He lifted the tent curtain and saw the two elders who had missed the ordination service, lifting up their hands and their eyes looking heavenwards and prophesying.

Perplexed, the man ran to the tabernacle to tell the prophet Moses. When Joshua, Moses' assistant, heard the news, he became visibly upset. He immediately complained to the prophet Moses about the two elders who failed to attend the ordination service and yet were prophesying right in the midst of the camp, asking him to forbid them from doing so.

Now look at the magnanimous attitude of the prophet Moses. He looked at Joshua with tender, fatherly love and said, "I only wish that *all* of the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon *all of them!*" (Num 11:29, TLB). After saying this, he meekly and quietly turned around and walked away. The prophet Moses had a great and generous heart. He did not feel insecure at all.

This is what the last days' generation needs – father-hearted leaders. This is one of the works of the last days' Elijah: "And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers" (Mal 4:6).

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I know of a servant of God in the Himalayas who the Lord led to begin a youth ministry there. Every year, about 500 youths came to the meeting. Between 1997 and 2014, about 15,000 youths have been born again and filled with the Holy Spirit through this ministry. During the 2012 youth meeting, the Lord told the older minister, "Your work in this youth meeting is finished. Now the time has come for you to hand over this work to another man." The Lord showed the older man of God whom He had chosen to continue the work. It was none other than a young man who got saved and filled in the Holy Spirit in the first youth meeting in 1997.

Just as Joshua was a faithful servant to the prophet Moses, this young man had been very faithful all through the 14 years of the ministry, volunteering in anything that was needed in the youth meetings. The Lord Jesus told the older minister, "I have chosen this young man to be your successor. Lay your hands upon him and ordain him for this work. Then, hand over the youth ministry to him." In obedience to the Lord's command, the older minister, without a second thought, anointed him and his wife with the oil in a public meeting and handed over the entire youth ministry to him.

After the prophet Elisha took over the leadership from the prophet Elijah, he performed twice the number of miracles than the prophet Elijah did. Similarly, ever since this young man took over the youth ministry, it multiplied many times over. About 2,000 youths come to the annual meetings compared with 500 when the older minister conducted them. Like a doting father, the older minister felt very proud that the young man who grew up under him was now doing greater works than he did before him. Not only that, this young man also raised up many youth leaders and trained them for the ministry.

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This is the kind of heart attitudes that leaders, the senior ministers, should have in these last days. That is the spirit of Elijah—turning the hearts of the fathers to the children. Children are going to prophesy and to do great signs and wonders (Ps 8:2; Joel 2:28). The young people are going to do great exploits, great supernatural acts that this world has never seen before (Dan 11:32).

On June 22, 2014, while I was praying in Jerusalem, the saint Elijah came to me in the Spirit and said, “The highest quality of character a prophet should have is obedience—obedience in things small or great. He who is called to stand before the God of the whole universe must be a person of holiness and obedience. Consider Nadab and Abihu (Lev 10:1-5). They were called to stand before God like their father, Aaron, but they lacked obedience and did something that was not commanded of them. When you are called to stand before God, which is a high privilege and honor, you must learn to obey God in all matters.”

CHAPTER 4

Man of Prayer

Once, after the Lord Jesus finished praying, the disciples asked him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John also taught his disciples” (Lk 11:1). They did not ask the Lord to teach them how to work miracles, like healing the sick, casting out demons and raising the dead. Rather, they asked Him to teach them how to pray.

Why would the disciples make such a request of the Lord? They had carefully observed the life of the Lord and noticed one cardinal point. That is, before the Lord Jesus worked healings and miracles, He would always spend a good quantity of time in prayer. Consider the following two incidences...

MATTHEW 17:18-21

18 And Jesus rebuked the demon, and it came out of him; and the child was cured from that very hour.

19 Then the disciples came to Jesus privately and said, “Why could we not cast it out?”

20 So Jesus said to them, “Because of your unbelief; for assuredly, I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you.

21 However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.”

By the Lord's answer in verse 21, we can infer that He was able to cast out the demon because He had been fasting and praying.

LUKE 5:16-25

16 So He Himself often withdrew into the wilderness and prayed.

17 Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

18 Then behold, men brought on a bed a man who was paralyzed, whom they sought to bring in and lay before Him.

19 And when they could not find how they might bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the housetop and let him down with his bed through the tiling into the midst before Jesus.

20 When He saw their faith, He said to him, "Man, your sins are forgiven you."

21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

22 But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, He answered and said to them, "Why are you reasoning in your hearts?"

23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise up and walk'?

24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" — He said to the man who was paralyzed, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

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25 Immediately he rose up before them, took up what he had been lying on, and departed to his own house, glorifying God.

Verse 17 tells us that the power of the Lord was present to heal the people and subsequently a paralytic man was miraculously healed. But look at verse 16. Before the power of the Lord could be present to heal the sick, the Lord Jesus was found praying. So the disciples came to the conclusion that the great power displayed by the Lord was a result of his life of prayer. That is why they asked him to teach them to pray.

Similarly, the prophet Elijah also demonstrated great displays of power. He bound the rain, multiplied food, raised the dead and called down fire. On a personal level, he had supernatural encounters with God and with angels, had supernatural experiences of being translocated and, eventually, translated alive to heaven.

Certainly, he must have had a secret to such an awesome life. *Prayer!* The prophet Elijah was a man of intense prayer. He, himself, reveals this secret in the following Scripture:

1 KINGS 17:1

1 And Elijah the Tishbite, of the inhabitants of Gilead, said to Ahab, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word."

Observe the phrase, "As the Lord God of Israel lives, before whom I stand." In the phrase "before whom", the prophet Elijah was obviously referring to the Lord God. He declares boldly that he stood before God by serving Him. In other words, the prophet Elijah declared emphatically that he stood in the presence of God.

STANDING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

The prophet Elijah again declared boldly to Obadiah, one of King Ahab's governors, that he stood before God (1 Kg 18:15). What does "before whom I stand" mean? Let us analyse the Scriptures.

The word "stand" in Hebrew is *`amad* which simply means *to stand*. It does not convey the concept of serving as some Bible translations put it. Let us analyse a few other supporting Scriptures to understand what "I stand" really means.

DEUTERONOMY 10:8

8 At that time the Lord separated the tribe of Levi to bear the ark of the covenant of the Lord, to stand before the Lord to minister to Him and to bless in His name, to this day.

The word "stand" in this Scripture is also the Hebrew word *`amad*. The Levites were called by God to serve Him. But they did their "standing" in the tabernacle, and the reader knows too well that the Mosaic tabernacle represented heaven in a spiritual sense. Therefore, from this we can infer that the Levites were standing in the presence of God.

JEREMIAH 15:19

19 Therefore thus says the Lord: "If you return, then I will bring you back; You shall stand before Me; If you take out the precious from the vile, you shall be as My mouth. Let them return to you, but you must not return to them."

Again, the word "stand" in this Scripture is the Hebrew word *`amad*. Here, God was referring to a prophet who stood in His presence.

LUKE 21:36

36 Watch therefore, and pray always that you may be counted worthy to escape all these things that will come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The word "stand" in Greek is *histemi* meaning *to stand*. In this Scripture, the Lord Jesus Himself says to stand in His presence in heaven. No mention of serving but merely standing in the Lord's presence.

"To stand" does not mean just serving the Lord, but to literally stand in God's presence. The following Scriptures will substantiate this fact:

LUKE 1:19

19 And the angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and was sent to speak to you and bring you these glad tidings."

The word "stand" used here in Greek is *paristemi* meaning *to stand beside*. It is derived from the Greek word *histemi* we saw earlier. When the archangel Gabriel said that he stood in the presence of God, he was literally saying that he stood in God's presence, right beside Him.

ACTS 27:23

23 For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve,

As above, the word "stand" in this Scripture in Greek is also *paristemi*. An angel of God literally stood before the presence of the apostle Paul. The angel did not come to serve him but merely stood before him to give him a word of encouragement.

ACTS 23:11

11 But the following night the Lord stood by him and said, "Be of good cheer, Paul; for as you have testified for Me in Jerusalem, so you must also bear witness at Rome."

The word "stood" in the Scripture in Greek is *ephistemi* meaning *to stand upon*, i.e. *be present*. *Ephistemi* is from *histemi*. In an open vision the apostle Paul standing—literally with the Lord. We also read in 2 Timothy 4:17 where on another occasion of danger the Lord Jesus stood with the apostle Paul.

Finally, let us analyse two more Scriptures that deal with the concept of standing in the presence of God.

1 KINGS 22:19

19 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left."

Once again, the word "standing" in this Scripture is the Hebrew word *`amad*. The prophet Micaiah sees a vision of a scene in heaven. In the vision he saw all the host of heaven—saints, angels and living beings—standing before God in His presence.

ZECHARIAH 3:7

7 "Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, and if you will keep My command, then you shall also judge My house, and likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk among these who stand here.'

Like all the other Old Testaments examples above, the word "stand" in this Scripture is the Hebrew word *`amad*. The prophet

Zechariah sees a vision of a scene in heaven. In the vision he saw God pointing to a group of saints who stood before Him in His presence.

The final example is another incident mentioned in 1 Kings 19:8-18:

8 So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

9 And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

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15 Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria.

16 Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

17 It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill.

18 Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

The prophet Elijah walked 200 miles from Beersheba to Mount Horeb. Mount Horeb is the mountain where the Ten Commandments were given to the prophet Moses by God according to the book of Deuteronomy (Deu 4:13; 10:4). It is described in two places—Exodus 3:1 and 1 Kings 19:8—as the “Mountain of God”. The mountain is also called the Mountain of YHWH (Yahweh).

In other biblical passages, these events are described as having transpired at Mount Sinai. Sinai and Horeb are often considered to have been different names for the same place. The Protestant reformer John Calvin took the view that Sinai and Horeb were the same mountain, with the eastern side of the mountain being called Sinai and the western side being called Horeb. Abraham Ibn Ezra, one of the most distinguished Jewish biblical commentators and philosophers of the Middle Ages, suggested that there was one mountain, “only it had two tops, which bore these different names.”

So, we know that this mountain, Horeb, is “the mountain of God” where the prophet Moses met with God and had

powerful encounters with Him. It was upon this mountain that the Lord God asked the prophet Moses to present himself to Him (Ex 24:12; 34:2). Mount Horeb is a place where a gateway—a portal to heaven—exists. Multitudes of heavenly saints, angels and chariots of God descended on this mountain through this gateway (Deu 33:2; Ps 68:17). The glory of God—brighter than a million suns put together—blazed from it (Hab 3:3-4). That was why God chose this mountain and it became known as “the mountain of God.”

The prophet Elijah came to this mountain and stood before God in His presence. In doing so, the prophet Elijah experienced supernatural encounters with God there. He saw the awesome display of the power of God as well as hear His audible voice. This fact brings to light yet another definition: *Standing in the presence of God is to wait on God.*

Therefore, these Scriptures clearly prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that when the prophet Elijah declared that he stood in the presence of God, he did not just mean he was serving God but, in fact, was declaring that he stood in the very presence of God in the heavenly realms during his times of prayer.

ELIJAH'S PRAYER LIFE

The veracity of the prophet Elijah being a man of prayer is verified by these three Scriptural passages:

1 KINGS 18:36-38

36 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 Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word.

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37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You are the Lord God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again."

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.

The prophet Elijah called upon God in prayer in a very passionate and intimate way. Such a thing cannot be done by someone who just prays occasionally. It can only come from a heart in which the Lord God has made His abode (cp. 2 Cor 6:16). He knelt down, lifted up his hands unto God in the heavens and prayed earnestly with a loud voice. And God answered that earnest, heartfelt prayer.

This is how our prayer life should be too; not just simply ordinary praying, but earnest prayer. Earnest prayer will never take *no* for an answer. Earnest agonizing prayer will take hold of the horns of the altar of God and cry out to Him. That's how the prophet Elijah prayed before God answered his earnest and heartfelt prayer by sending down fire.

JAMES 5:17-18

17 Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months.

18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

To pray *earnestly* is to pray *fervently*. How did he do that?

1 KINGS 18:42-44

42 So Ahab went up to eat and drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; then he bowed down on the ground, and put his face between his knees,

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43 and said to his servant, "Go up now, look toward the sea." So he went up and looked, and said, "There is nothing." And seven times he said, "Go again."

44 Then it came to pass the seventh time, that he said, "There is a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rising out of the sea!" So he said, "Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot, and go down before the rain stops you.'"

The prophet Elijah prayed earnestly – seven times – without giving up until there were signs of approaching rains in the sky. Now, that's fervent praying. Observe the prophet Elijah's posture of prayer mentioned in verse 42.

On April 27, 2014, I was fasting and praying in Jerusalem. While I was waiting on God, the saint Elijah visited me in the Spirit in my hotel room. He spoke to me thus about his prayer life:

"My prayer posture – bowing down on the ground and putting the face between the knees was taught to me by an angel. It is the same angel who stood with me when soldiers came to arrest me (2 Kg 1:3,15). This method focuses all of one's energy – all that is within your soul and spirit – to connect with the Father of all spirits.

This fetus-like position is the gathering together in oneness of all that is within you and bringing it under subjection to the Holy Spirit. This kind of posture connects you with the Father God; it connects you with heaven.

The posture is to bend the knees and arch your back over your thighs. Put your face between the knees. Put palms flat on the ground. Now present yourself to God. Be still and one. All the noise within must be stilled to know the Creator."

This prophetic posture, a common meditative practice of the prophets, was used by the prophet Elijah when praying for rain on Mount Carmel (1 Kg 18:42) allowing him to intensely concentrate his spiritual energy—his anointing.

1 KINGS 17:17-22

17 Now it happened after these things that the son of the woman who owned the house became sick. And his sickness was so serious that there was no breath left in him.

18 So she said to Elijah, "What have I to do with you, O man of God? Have you come to me to bring my sin to remembrance, and to kill my son?"

19 And he said to her, "Give me your son." So he took him out of her arms and carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his own bed.

20 Then he cried out to the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, have You also brought tragedy on the widow with whom I lodge, by killing her son?"

21 And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him."

22 Then the Lord heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came back to him, and he revived.

This incident sheds more light on the prophet Elijah's prayer life. First, he had an unflinching trust in the miracle-working power of God. He had already seen God's power on display when he prayed and God bound the rains, God commanded ravens to bring him food for a year, and God multiplied food for a family of three for two years. Even though the boy was dead, he saw beyond death and trusted in the living God.

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Second, He did not take his spiritual stature – his standing in God's presence – as something he was entitled to or to be prideful about. Instead, he comes humbly before the Lord God and implores Him. He prayed earnestly and fervently – three times – until God restored life back to the widow's son.

One time, the Lord graced me to see the following vision: The boy was standing in heaven before the presence of the loving Lord Jesus. Suddenly, the voice of the prophet Elijah crying, "O Lord my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him," reverberated through the place, both for the boy and the Lord to hear. The Lord Jesus bent one knee and looked at the boy and said with a smile, "You need to go back for now. They are calling you."

After this, an angel carried the boy's spirit back to his home. He stood there in his room with the angel standing beside him and saw the prophet Elijah lying on his lifeless body and pray earnestly. The angel then motioned for the boy's spirit to get back into the body. As his spirit did, he revived. The prophet Elijah hugged the boy and cried for joy. The boy who had been dead– now resurrected and alive – was presented to the joy of the grieving mother.

There lived a saintly man of God in Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu by the name of D. John Rabindranath (1932-2006) who was mightily used by God. During the 1970's, he lived in the small town of Ketti in the picturesque Nilgiris Hills. A man whose son lay very sick came to see this man of God for prayer. The man of God prayed for the sick boy, but a little later he died. The parents were distraught. They thought, *how could our son die when a saintly man had prayed for him*. So, together with several other people from the village, they brought the dead boy to the man of God.

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When they met the man of God, all of them cried to him for help. Naturally, the man of God was shocked that the boy had died. He asked the father to lay the dead boy on his bed. He then told the small crowd, “I am going to pray earnestly to the living God. Either both of us will come out of this room alive or there will be two dead bodies.”

Saying that, the man of God shut the door of his small house, bent his knees and prayed fervently and earnestly unto the God of the living and the dead. The people who were anxiously waiting outside could hear the loud cries of the man of God. The man of God prayed a long time. Then, there was silence.

The deafening silence, it seemed to the waiting villagers, lasted for ages. They all wondered what could have happened. *Has the man of God died, too?* – This was the question swirling in everyone’s mind. A while later, the door opened. The villagers gasped in amazement when they saw the man of God and the young boy – both alive.

The fervent prayer of a righteous man always avails much, doesn’t it? (Jas 5:16).

Taught by Angels

While I was waiting on God on March 9, 2016, I had a visitation from the saint Elijah. The gracious saint shared with me about his prayer life. He would get up every day at 3 AM and waits on God till 5 AM.

As I was writing this, a thought occurred to me: some, including critics, may wonder how the prophet could tell time when clocks were not invented yet. The answer is that the earliest method of measuring time was through observation of the celestial bodies – the sun, moon, stars and the five planets

known in antiquity. The rising and setting of the sun, the solstices, phases of the moon, and the position of particular stars and constellations have been used in all ancient civilizations to demarcate particular activities.

For example, Egyptian and Minoan buildings were often constructed in orientation to the rising sun or aligned to observe particular stars. Some of our earliest texts such as those by Homer and Hesiod around the eighth century BCE describe the use of stars to specifically determine the best periods to sail and farm, advice which remains valid today. [www.ancient.eu/Timekeeping/]

Okay, let's get back to the prophet Elijah's prayer life. After finishing his morning duties, like washing and bathing, he would meditate on the books of the prophet Moses. During this time, angels used to visit him and teach him heavenly mysteries or "protocols", such as how to pray, how to commune with God, and how to prepare to meet with God.

One of the mysteries that he was taught was how to be caught up in the Spirit, or translocated. The prophet Elijah was taught the art of translation and translocation. He learned to do this not as he willed but as the Spirit wills.

When he was caught up in the chariot/whirlwind to heaven, this was a translation experience. But when he was carried by the Spirit to different places, this was called "translocation" (1 Kg 18:12; 2 Kg 2:16). A white horse would usually come to him and he would ride it to instantly travel (translocate) to different places.

Meditative Contemplation

God requires prophets to live a life of isolation—both internal and external. The prophet Elijah was no exception to that.

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Internal isolation is practiced in quiet meditation where all interior noise is quieted. External isolation is achieved where prophets exclude themselves from the general populace. They were then not disturbed by the mundane affairs of the multitudes, and could mediate on God without interruption.

During such periods of isolation, the prophet would contemplate the sky and the mountains, as well as the rest of nature, drawing his mind towards the Creator. During such times of meditation, a prophet enters a state of trance and mental quietude, perceiving the unity of God like one who can actually sense it. When a prophet who has attained such a state is aroused, the sense of the unity still remains with him. Of this King David wrote: “When I awake, I am still with You” (Ps 139:18b). This is standing in the presence of God!

Living in Two Realms

When you stand in the presence of God you live in two realms at the same time. Even while you are alive on this earth, you are also living in heaven at the same time. Is this really possible? Let us consider a Scripture concerning the Lord Jesus.

JOHN 3:13

13 No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven.

The Lord Jesus Christ, talking about Himself, says that He came down from heaven, but also *is* in heaven – in two places at the same time. He’s on earth and in heaven at the same time. I did not understand this Scripture for long time. I pondered much on this spiritual mystery: *on earth and in heaven at the same time.*

In October of 1983, I was involved in helping at a Bible School in Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu. One of the lecturers at the

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school was a godly college professor. Once, we were all assembled together, praying for the glory of God to manifest. The glory of God came down very powerfully and many people started falling down under the power of God, including this professor.

After some time, everybody got up, one by one, except for this man; he did not get up at all. Three of us: an older man of God, D. John Rabindranath, who ran the school, a young minister and myself waited around the professor. Just to be sure, I took a close look to verify that he was still breathing. 90 minutes passed and he remained there in the same spot, still slain in the Spirit. We continued to wait for him to get up, even foregoing lunch.

After about one and a-half hours, he got up shakily as if he was drunk, and looked around, wondering where he was. After a short time, he came to his senses, and stared at the young minister and me. Somewhat confused, we wondered why he was staring at us. I thought that perhaps he was focusing on us to get his eyes adjusted back to earth.

Then, to the great shock of all three of us, the professor said, "I saw you both in heaven!" He was referring to the young minister and me. Perplexed, we wondered how this was possible, since neither of us had been slain in the Spirit when the glory of God came down in the hall. The young minister had been leading the prayer in the Tamil language and for the sake of non-Tamils who came from other states of India, I was interpreting the prayer in English.

From the beginning of the prayer till the end, we were both fully conscious in spirit, soul and body. How could then the professor say that he saw both of us in heaven? If we *had* been slain in the Spirit, then, perchance, our spirits could have gone to heaven and the professor, who was also in heaven, could have seen us. But we were not slain in the Spirit and were both fully conscious.

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So that being the case, how could the professor see us both in heaven? We knew for sure that the professor had a genuine heavenly experience. But, for a long time, we could not fathom how such a thing was possible. We could not doubt the professor's experience because we both knew him to be a very honest and a sincere man of integrity, but how could we be in two places at once? Eventually, we all left to go about the rest of our day, but the question lingered on in my mind.

A few months later, in February of 1984, I came across a small booklet about a revered saint, *Maharishi*, living in Mount Kailash in Tibet. While reading the book I found the answer to my perplexing question.

The Bible records that the Lord Jesus Christ raised three people from the dead: a 12-year-old girl, the son of a widow of Nain and Lazarus of Bethany. The Maharishi once had a visitation from the son of the widow of Nain. Concerning the son of the widow of Nain the Bible records this event in Luke 7:11-17.

11 Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd.

12 And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her.

13 When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep."

14 Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise."

15 So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother.

16 Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

17 And this report about Him went throughout all Judea and all the surrounding region.

When the Maharishi saw this saint, knowing his identity, he got very excited. He desired to know what happened to him when he died. So he asked him, "Can you please tell me what actually happened on that day when you died?" The saint gave this very thrilling account:

The young man told the Maharishi how he stepped into the spiritual realm upon his death. There, he felt very miserable and restless. During his lifetime he had heard a lot about the Lord Jesus but he did not seek to know Him. When he came to the spirit world, to his dismay, he found out that without the Lord Jesus no one could be saved. That thought greatly distressed him.

So he cried out to God to give him a second chance. If he could go back to the world so that he could get saved, putting his faith on the Lord Jesus, he would spend the rest of his life serving the Lord Jesus. What he asked goes against spiritual laws that govern the Spirit world. But his plea was granted by God because the Lord Jesus needed to be glorified through the raising of the dead.

When he came back to life and saw the Lord Jesus standing before him, he was filled with amazement. The same Lord God whom he saw in the Spirit world was now also standing before him. The reader may wonder here how it is possible for the Lord Jesus to be in the Spirit world when He was still alive on the earth. Allow me to put your doubts to rest.

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Upon seeing the Lord of Heaven standing before him, the widow's son was struck with awe and rendered speechless. The Lord led the youth to his mother. After the Lord left, the young man told the things he saw and experienced in the Spirit world to his mother and to all who had come for his funeral. Sadly, they laughed at him and ridiculed his story as a figment of his imagination – as most do today.

After this, he did not share his afterlife experience with anyone else. After his resurrection, he spent all his life serving the Lord Jesus. He was one of the seventy whom the Lord sent out two by two to preach the gospel, to heal and to baptize (Lk 10:1-12).

The young man of Nain then proceeded to describe to the Maharishi heaven, its inhabitants and mansions, which were exactly as the Maharishi himself had seen. This convinced the Maharishi that the testimony from the young man was genuine.

After reading this, the mystery of the professor seeing the young minister and me in heaven, even as both of us were conscious on earth, was explained.

When you walk closely with God, when the pull of the flesh becomes lesser and lesser and the things of this world become less attractive to you, your spirit will be transformed to be in heaven at the same time.

Standing in God's Company

All true prophets of God are trained by the Lord, the angels and the saints in glory. The prophet Elijah shared with me during a visitation that he was trained by the Lord. The Lord molded him in the desert and taught him His ways. He was also caught up to heaven to be taught by the *holy ones* and to behold the God of glory—the King of Israel.

ZECHARIAH 3:7-8

7 "Thus says the Lord of hosts: 'If you will walk in My ways, and if you will keep My command, then you shall also judge My house, and likewise have charge of My courts; I will give you places to walk Among these who stand here.

8 'Hear, O Joshua, the high priest, you and your companions who sit before you, for they are a wondrous sign; For behold, I am bringing forth My Servant the BRANCH.

To stand in the presence of God is to stand in God's company. God's company is composed of His angels, the saints in glory and the heavenly beings. The phrase "your companions who sit before you" in verse 8 signifies the saints in glory whom the Bible also calls: the *cloud of witnesses* or *spirits of just men made perfect* (Heb 12:1,23).

In mid-October of 1983, while praying together with two other servants of God in Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu, the glory of God filled us. The Lord spoke to us as He spoke to the prophets and teachers of the Antioch church when they ministered to the Lord (Acts 13:1-3). The Lord said that He had come to make covenants with us. He added that if we would make a covenant with Him, He too would make a covenant with each one of us.

Thrilled by such an invitation, each one of us began to prayerfully make a covenant with God as we knelt in His holy glorious presence. I was the last in the group to make a covenant with God. When the other two were making their covenants, I pondered within my heart what covenant I should make. As I was pondering this, the Lord spoke to me through a prophet saying, "If a person will pray for [a certain number] hours a day, he will be granted to commune with My saints in glory, the martyrs and

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the angels.” [The reason I omitted the figure of the number of hours is because that was something that specifically applied to me and should not be taken as a common requirement for everyone]. I was naturally thrilled by that prospect and humbly made that required covenant.

What God was, in fact, asking me to do was to come and stand in His presence. The prophet Habakkuk did it: “I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected” (Hab 2:1).

Sometime in November of 1983, I first began to spend the required number of hours a day in prayer. It was then that the Lord God graciously allowed me to see His similitude. He walked into my room to pray together with me for the 300 people who had written for prayer. I was thrilled to stand before the God of the whole earth. Subsequently in January of 1984, when I began to regularly and consistently spend the same number of hours a day in God’s presence in prayer, I was visited by the saints and martyrs in glory; angels, too, began to visit me. I am fully aware that all this was by the merciful and great grace of God.

When we stand in the presence of God, we will also be granted the grace to stand in His holy council. The Bible says, “For who has stood in the counsel of the Lord, and has perceived and heard His word? Who has marked His word and heard it?” (Jer 23:18). It is in this council of prophets that God shares his secrets (Ps 25:4; Amos 3:7).

There are numerous examples in the Bible of this. But it is sufficient to present one example here:

1 KINGS 22:19-23

19 Then Micaiah said, "Therefore hear the word of the Lord: I saw the Lord sitting on His throne, and all the host of heaven standing by, on His right hand and on His left.

20 And the Lord said, 'Who will persuade Ahab to go up, that he may fall at Ramoth Gilead?' So one spoke in this manner, and another spoke in that manner.

21 Then a spirit came forward and stood before the Lord, and said, 'I will persuade him.'

22 The Lord said to him, 'In what way?' So he said, 'I will go out and be a lying spirit in the mouth of all his prophets.' And the Lord said, 'You shall persuade him, and also prevail. Go out and do so.'

23 Therefore look! The Lord has put a lying spirit in the mouth of all these prophets of yours, and the Lord has declared disaster against you."

The prophet Micaiah had the experience of participating in a council gathering in heaven, and saw the deliberations that took place there. The prophet Isaiah too had a similar experience (Isa 6:1-8).

So, like the prophet Elijah, the last days' prophetic company must learn to stand in God's presence so that the spirit and power of Elijah can come upon them.

WHAT MUST WE DO TO STAND IN GOD'S PRESENCE?

The Bible tells us, "Can two walk together, unless they are agreed?" (Amos 3:3). In order to stand in God's presence, in order to be welcomed into His presence, we must align our lives to the standards of the holy God. So that we, like the prophet Elijah, can live in heaven and on the earth at the same time.

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There are three things we need to do to enjoy a walk with God and dwell with Him in the heavenly realm.

1. *Wait on God*

ISAIAH 40:31

31 But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; They shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Waiting on God was an essential aspect of the life of the prophet Elijah, and, as a matter of fact, of the lives of all the prophets. It is vitally important for the last days' prophetic generation to learn this art so that they too can stand in God's presence.

Among the many prophets who practiced the art of waiting on God is none other than the prophet Moses.

EXODUS 24:15-18

15 Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain.

16 Now the glory of the Lord rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud.

17 The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel.

18 So Moses went into the midst of the cloud and went up into the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

The prophet Moses went up to Mount Sinai to wait on God. A cloud covered the mountain and the glory of the Lord rested

upon it and covered it for six days. On the seventh day God called out to the prophet Moses from the midst of the cloud.

The prophet waited for God for six days and had no spiritual experiences of any kind. How is it possible for the prophet Moses to just remain there on the mountain for six full days? The answer, perhaps, is found in Exodus 24:12a: "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Come up to Me on the mountain and be there.'" Observe two important words in this Scripture: *be there*.

When the Lord God asked the prophet Moses to come and wait on the mountain, He did not tell him how long he would have to wait. Rather, the Lord simply said, "be there". So what do we learn from this? Not just how to wait on God, but the attitude of *absolute obedience*. You choose to obey God because you love and revere Him.

Waiting on God is a simple but a deep and broad subject. The reader is strongly encouraged to read my book, *Wait As Eagles*, for a thorough understanding of this vital subject for your edification.

What has waiting on God to do with standing in God's presence? I will show you a spiritual secret...

2 CORINTHIANS 6:16

*16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols?
For you are the temple of the living God. As God has said:
"I will dwell in them and walk among them. I will be
their God, and they shall be My people."*

Please observe the phrase "I will dwell in them" in this Scripture very carefully. *This is not rocket science and is easy to understand*, you may think. We can understand this quite simply because when the Lord Jesus Christ comes into our heart He is

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inside us. When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit is in us. However, please look at the second part of this Scripture: "I will walk among them."

If God has filled us, how can He walk among (in the midst of) us? There is no room in us for Him to walk since our bodies are already full of various organs and miles of veins. So, what else does this mean then? In order to understand this, you must practice waiting on God. When you wait on God, your heart becomes a doorway. It opens the door between heaven and earth and you can go in and out as the Lord Jesus said in John 10:9.

So, when the Lord Jesus is inside you and walking in you, you are living in two realms at the same time. When you wait on God, you see the Lord within you but you are also on earth. Does that not mean that you living in two realms?

2. Live Worthily

EXODUS 19:10-11,14-15

10 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes.

11 And let them be ready for the third day. For on the third day the Lord will come down upon Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people.

14 So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and sanctified the people, and they washed their clothes.

15 And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not come near your wives."

The Lord God told the prophet Moses that He was going to come down upon Mount Sinai and all Israel would see and experience His glory. So God told the prophet Moses to prepare the people

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to meet Him by doing three things: *sanctify them* – fasting and praying, *wash their cloths* and for husbands and wives to *abstain from sexual relations*. They were asked to purify themselves in these three ways for three days so that they would be able to come and stand before God's presence.

We should purpose to live a life worthy of abiding in God's presence. Live a life worthy of being in the presence of God. Consider these few Scriptures concerning how we can live a life worthily before the Lord God...

EPHESIANS 4:1-3

*1 I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called,
2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love,
3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.*

COLOSSIANS 1:10

10 that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

1 THESSALONIANS 2:12

12 that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.

Just as God is holy, we are also asked to be holy like Him (1 Pe 1:15-16). In order to be in His presence we must cleanse ourselves of all filthiness in our flesh and spirit (2 Cor 7:1). Cleanse and sanctify your spirit, soul and body of all filthiness (1 Thes 5:23).

3. *Be Heavenly Minded*

COLOSSIANS 3:1-3

1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

Set your mind on things that are above. If you want to be living in the heavenly realms, then you should forget about the things of this world. Your heart must not be attached to the things of the earth; that attachment should be cut loose. You should no more seek after the things of this world but, rather, your heart should seek always the things up in heaven. Once your mind starts dwelling on heaven, then your heart will become sanctified.

On January 6, 2016, while I was praying in Kalimpong, West Bengal, the Lord Jesus graciously visited me in the Spirit. He came together with the saints Moses and Elijah. The Lord Jesus then spoke with me about their prayer lives.

The Lord said, “They were men of prayer. Standing in the presence of God was the source of their power and strength. They stood in My presence and sought My will. The last days’ prophetic company must learn that. In the midst of satanic opposition, they must learn to abide in Me, in the shadow of the most high God. Then I will feed them as I did My servants Moses and Elijah – by providing manna and through the ravens.

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They lived apart from the people – separated themselves from people’s influences so that they could be non-compromising and free from the push and pull of the will of other men. They followed Me with all their hearts. The last days’ prophetic generation must follow the Lamb not only wherever He goes but also with all their hearts.”

The prophet Elijah had a disciplined spiritual life, and a disciplined prayer life. His relationship with God was on a very disciplined manner. You will do well to learn to pray like the prophet Elijah prayed—earnestly.

This Word of the Lord came unto me while teaching this subject in March 2016: “Tell them that in these last days I am going to use my people like Elijah. The spirit and the power of Elijah will come upon them. In order for them to do great exploits like the prophet Elijah they must alter their lifestyles like the life of the prophet Elijah.”

CHAPTER 5

Man of Faithfulness

What is the secret that enabled the prophet Elijah to walk with God? There is but one simple secret: *single-minded devotion to God*. He had an undivided mind towards the things of God. He was singularly devoted to God. He had no other affection or attraction for anything else.

An eagle is often used as a symbol of a prophet. The bald eagle is a bird of faithfulness and devoted to its mate for life. It is singularly devoted to one life partner. The dove is a symbol of the Holy Spirit and anointing. The dove, like the bald eagle, is also singularly faithful and devoted to one life partner all throughout its life. Likewise, the prophet Elijah was also singularly devoted and faithful to the Lord God Jehovah in the midst of apostasy in Israel during the reign of King Ahab.

To be faithful is to have a single-minded devotion to the object of one's affections – to be completely devoted at all costs. That was the heart attitude of the prophet Elijah. He did not have a divided heart. That was the reason why he could sense all things around him – the spiritual world and the natural world at the same time.

ON THINGS ABOVE

COLOSSIANS 3:1-2

1 If then you were raised with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ is, sitting at the right hand of God.

2 Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth.

To set your heart and mind on things that are above is not to let the cares of this world pull you down like a heavy weight.

Of all people, that is one thing that a prophet cannot afford to do because he is God's spokesman. As such, he must always soar in the heavenlies like an eagle – seeking the things that are above. What are the things in the heavenlies? The Lord Jesus gives us the answer: "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you" (Matt 6:33).

Once you set your heart towards the things in heaven, your spirit will gradually become sharper and sharper like the eyes of an eagle. It becomes very sensitive, so much so, that while you are interacting with the natural world, you are also engaging with spiritual beings in heaven at the same time. It is absolutely possible. The prophet Elijah, remember, lived in two worlds.

The last days' prophetic generation should be like this. Before the kingdom of God comes physically to this earth, it should first come inside you. Before the Lord Jesus Christ comes and physically sits on His throne in Jerusalem on this earth, He must first come and sit on the throne of your heart.

For the Lord to come and sit on the throne of your heart, you must first vacate this throne on which you yourself are seated and ruling supreme. That means two things: One, empty

yourself, i.e. *deny self* (Matt 16:24; Mk 8:34; Lk 9:23) and second, *die to self* (1 Cor 15:31). After this, there are two other things that needs to be done. One, *set your mind on things that are above*. Second, *set your affection on things that are above*.

Prophets are required to detach themselves from unnecessary entanglements with the affairs of this world. That was why most – if not all – of them lived in the wilderness. The prophet Elijah was no exception. The Bible admonishes us: “No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier” (2 Tim 2:4). A soldier’s eyes and mind should be on the war front.

Let’s look at a very good example of this from the Bible.

JUDGES 7:1-7

1 Then Jerubbaal (that is, Gideon) and all the people who were with him rose early and encamped beside the well of Harod, so that the camp of the Midianites was on the north side of them by the hill of Moreh in the valley.

2 And the Lord said to Gideon, “The people who are with you are too many for Me to give the Midianites into their hands, lest Israel claim glory for itself against Me, saying, ‘My own hand has saved me.’

3 Now therefore, proclaim in the hearing of the people, saying, ‘Whoever is fearful and afraid, let him turn and depart at once from Mount Gilead.’” And twenty-two thousand of the people returned, and ten thousand remained.

4 But the Lord said to Gideon, “The people are still too many; bring them down to the water, and I will test them for you there. Then it will be, that of whom I say to you, ‘This one shall go with you,’ the same shall go with you; and of whomever I say to you, ‘This one shall not go with you,’ the same shall not go.”

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5 So he brought the people down to the water. And the Lord said to Gideon, "Everyone who lapped from the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set apart by himself; likewise everyone who gets down on his knees to drink."

6 And the number of those who lapped, putting their hand to their mouth, was three hundred men; but all the rest of the people got down on their knees to drink water.

7 Then the Lord said to Gideon, "By the three hundred men who lapped I will save you, and deliver the Midianites into your hand. Let all the other people go, every man to his place."

Why did the Lord God tell Gideon not to select the men who lapped water like a dog? If you have seen a dog lapping water, you would have noticed that it does not look at what's happening around it. That's what the men who drank water lapping like a dog did. They were just too busy quenching their thirst. In contrast, 300 men bent down on one knee, scooped water in one hand and brought it to their mouth to drink. As they did so, they were watching their entire surrounding at the same time.

The men who answered the call of Gideon answered the call for war. As such they should be alert and watching what's coming and going and happening around them. Likewise, the last days' prophetic generation should always be watching unto prayer.

LAYING ASIDE EVERY WEIGHT

HEBREWS 12:1

1 Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

When I was in High School I was passionately involved in long-distance running. The records I set in my school for the 1,500 meters and 3,000 meters races remained unbroken for 10 long years. During trainings, our coach would tell us to tie light weights around our lower legs. This was a method of resistance training. The weights make your legs feel heavier and force the athlete to exert more effort. Weights slow you down!

So are the cares of this world. A soldier must not get entangled with the affairs of this world: “No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier” (2 Tim 2:4). The word “entangle” in Greek is *empleko* meaning *to entwine*, i.e. *involve with; plait*. To *plait* is to take three or more lengths of hair, rope, or other material together and then twist them over and under each other to make one thick length.

The prophet Elijah did not get himself entangled with the state of affairs in Israel. He stayed in the wilderness, keeping his eyes and mind on things that were above. Likewise, the prophetic generation of these last days’ must not get involved in mundane affairs of life. Cut yourself loose from every besetting sin that will trip you up.

A certain prophet whom I know once saw a vision. In the vision he was shown an eagle in four situations:

1. The eagle, instead of soaring in the heavenlies, was deeply engrossed in pecking at a pile of dirt. Using its legs, it was scratching at it as hens do.

The interpretation: *An eagle should fly and soar in the heavenlies; it should not be on the ground sifting dirt.*

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2. The eagle, instead of soaring high above the clouds and storms, was flying at a low altitude together with birds like crows.

The interpretation: *An eagle, king of birds, should not yoke itself together with birds of a lesser kind which would slow it down.*

3. The eagle was flying at a very low altitude and looking downwards.

The interpretation: *When an eagle flies at a high altitude, powerful winds will help it to climb higher and soar for long distances. From such a high vantage point it will be able to see over great distances, taking in everything around it. Flying at a lower altitude would limit its vision and slow it down.*

4. The eagle's wings had a coat of cement all over them. The wings appeared hardened because cement particles were stuck to every part of the eagle's feathers thus making its wings heavy and difficult to flap.

The interpretation: *A drop of water on some birds' wings will make them unable to fly. How much more cement! It will cling to the wings and make it impossible for the bird to even lift off the ground. A prophetic person must cut himself loose from the cares and the burdens of the world.*

All these parables illustrate how a prophetic person can get entangled in the affairs of this world and the cares of this life.

Take a moment now to look closely at yourself:

1. What are the weights – the besetting sins – attached to your feet that are pulling you down?

2. What are the entanglements of life that you are getting stuck in? Why are you getting stuck in them?

Therefore, seek the things that are above and set your affections on the things that are above. Die to self, die to reputation and deny self. The 'I' identity must die. You must have no identity, you must disappear – cease to exist. The Bible says it beautifully:

COLOSSIANS 3:3

3 For you died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

For the prophet Elijah to be hidden by God and in God, he had to die to himself, allowing himself to touch an unclean bird – and even to eat food provided by it. He had to die to himself when he had to rely on a poor widow's generous welfare for him.

You must *purpose* to be dead to self, so that your life can be hidden with Christ in God.

CHAPTER 6

Man of Power

The prophet Elijah was a miracle worker of unprecedented calibre, just like the prophet Moses. Not only did he work miracles, but the words that came out of his mouth were also packed with power.

Let's look to the Bible to see the miracles that the prophet Elijah worked...

1. *He prayed earnestly for the sky to hold back dew and rain and commanded a three-and-a-half-year drought upon an entire nation (1 Kg 17:1).*
2. *He worked a creative miracle of multiplication of food (1 Kg 17:8-16).*
3. *He prayed earnestly and raised a dead boy to life (1 Kg 17:17-24).*
4. *He prayed and called down fire from heaven before an entire nation (1 Kg 18:20-40).*
5. *He prayed earnestly and ended a three-year drought with an abundance of rain (1 Kg 18:41-46).*
6. *He commanded fire to come down and kill 102 soldiers who came to arrest him (2 Kg 1:9-12).*
7. *He parted the Jordan river (2 Kg 2:8).*

Anointing Within

Notice that three of the above miracles were a direct result of the power of the words that came out of the prophet Elijah's mouth:

1. *Pronounced drought lasting 3 ½ years upon the whole of Israel*
– 1 Kg 17:1
2. *Multiplied flour and oil for 2 years for the widow of Zarephath*
– 1 Kg 17:14-15
3. *Called down fire to consume two groups of 50 soldiers each plus their leaders* – 2 Kg 1:9-12

For the words of a prophet – whoever he may be – to carry such power, the prophet must be living a life of intimate relationship and union with Almighty God. The Lord God told the prophet Moses, “Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say.” (Ex 4:12). This was the reason why the prophet Moses' words were power-packed when he spoke miracles into being. Such was also the case with the prophet Elijah.

Such prophets live a life united solely with Almighty God. Their lives become entwined with the living God. As such, their power and strength is drawn from that very source – the omnipotent God Himself.

Consider, for example, the greatest prophet of all—the Lord Jesus. Most of the miracles worked by Him were miracles spoken out of His mouth:

1. *Water turned into wine* – Jn 2:1-11
2. *Healed Roman centurion's servant* – Matt 8:5-13
3. *Calmed the storm* – Lk 8:22-25

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4. *Cast out demons near tombs* – Mk 5:1-15
5. *Healing a paralytic man* – Matt 9:2-8
6. *Cast out a mute demon* – Matt 9:32-33
7. *Healed a man with paralyzed hand* – Matt 12:9-13
8. *Healed a Gentile woman's demon-possessed daughter* – Matt 15:21-28
9. *Rebuked and cast out the demon causing epilepsy* – Matt 17:14-18
10. *Cursed a fig tree and it dried up immediately* – Matt 21:18-19
11. *Healed 10 lepers* – Lk 17:11-14
12. *Healed a nobleman's son* – Jn 4:46-53
13. *Healed a lame man at Bethesda pool* – Jn 5:2-9
14. *Healed a man born blind* – Jn 9:1-7
15. *Raised Lazarus from the dead* – Jn 11:39-44

The Lord Jesus worked all these 15 miracles merely by speaking. He did not touch any one of them. How could a mere word heal or cause a miracle to happen? The secret lies in dwelling in God. In the Book of Genesis, we read that God worked the miracle of creation just by speaking the word:

GENESIS 1:3,6,9,11-12,14,20,24

3 Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light.

6 Then God said, "Let there be a firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters."

9 Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.

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11 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.

12 And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

14 Then God said, "Let there be lights in the firmament of the heavens to divide the day from the night; and let them be for signs and seasons, and for days and years;

20 Then God said, "Let the waters abound with an abundance of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the face of the firmament of the heavens."

24 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth the living creature according to its kind: cattle and creeping thing and beast of the earth, each according to its kind"; and it was so.

Not only did God speak the things on *this* world into existence, the Scriptures also say that the "worlds" (plural) in the universe were also spoken into existence by the Creator God (Heb 11:3). The Lord Jesus lived a life united with and abiding in God. That was why He said, "I and My Father are one" (Jn 10:30).

When a prophet becomes united with the Creator God – as were the prophets Moses and Elijah – his words will carry similar power. The words that come out of the mouth of such prophets are as if spoken by the mouth of Almighty God Himself. The Lord Jesus testifies as such: "Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority; but the Father who dwells in Me does the works" (Jn 14:10).

So we now know the source of the power-packed words of the prophet Elijah. His words were *backed by God*.

Anointing Upon

The prophet Elijah not only had an anointing within that caused his words to be power-packed but he also had an anointing upon him that caused him to be a miracle worker. The fact that he worked such awesome miracles demonstrates that the Spirit of Counsel and Might rested powerfully upon him.

The Spirit of Counsel and Might is a work of the Holy Spirit in which He gives advice which determines a plan that will demonstrate the mighty acts of God's power. Simply put, it means the Holy Spirit will tell you how to enact the works of God. The Spirit of Counsel and Might consists of three gifts: *faith, gifts of healings, and workings of miracles*. These gifts manifest very powerfully in the Spirit of Counsel and Might.

Powers of the Age to Come

HEBREWS 6:5

5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,

The Lord God has prepared a very special anointing to be poured upon the last days' prophetic generation. The magnitude of this anointing is a quantum leap ahead of anything ever experienced by man, such that neither the world nor even the heavenly beings have seen it.

On August 7, 2008 I was in Baton Rouge, Louisiana for a conference. That afternoon, as I was praying about what I should share at the meeting, I was startled by the appearance of four angels. The chief among the four spoke, saying, "You must share at this conference on 'The Powers of the Age to Come.'"

Elijah Is Coming

There is only a single sentence in the entire Bible that uses this phrase – Hebrews 6:5. No further information is provided to give us an understanding about this topic. So I implored the angel to explain further. He then said, “God is going to reveal His awesome, mighty powers—hidden since creation. Even the angels in heaven have not seen such power of the Holy Spirit yet. The powers displayed during creation,” the angel said, “pale in comparison to what God is going to do in these last days.”

Seven Horns

The apostle John saw the powers of the age to come, these very same powers that God is going to pour out upon the last days’ prophetic generation, as the seven horns on the Lamb of God:

REVELATION 5:6

6 And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

Observe the words “seven horns” in this Scripture. In June of 2014 we were conducting a conference in Tamil Nadu during the Feast of Pentecost. One afternoon, as I was praying, I saw in a vision a hand stretched out to me, holding a little golden bowl about the size of two hands cupped together. I noticed that the golden bowl looked very pure, very clean, and very transparent, both on the outside and on the inside. In fact, light was shining out from the bowl. The light that shone out of the bowl made it look very translucent.

At the four points of the compass around the bowl I saw four figurines that looked like very strong wild oxen. It seemed as though the oxen were bearing the bowl on their backs like

the mythological Hercules carried the earth on his shoulders (*cp.* 1 Kg 7:23-26). There was liquid in that bowl. At first, I thought the liquid looked like oil. Its surface and movement looked like oil. But upon closer observation, I found that it was not oil, but light. Liquid golden oil-like light! (*cp.* Zech 4:12).

The four oxen bearing the bowl appeared alive. They were moving and turning their heads here and there as if looking for someone. Then the Hand that held the bowl poured the golden oil on my head. As the golden oil was poured over me, it entered into me at the same time. I was also given some of the substance to drink. It was after this that I received the revelation concerning the seven horns.

After this awesome experience, I asked the Holy Spirit what it all meant. The following Scripture came to my remembrance: "My horn you will exalt like a wild ox." When I looked it up, I was flabbergasted to see that the very next part of the verse exactly matched the tangible experience I just had: "But my horn You have exalted like a wild ox; I have been anointed with fresh oil" (Ps 92:10).

After this Scripture was shown to me, I was graced by the mercies of God for the saint Moses to visit me. He said, "I am going to teach you about the seven horns." The seven horns represent the complete power that the Lord Jesus received upon His resurrection (Matt 28:18).

What are the seven horns of the powers of the age to come? They are...

1. *The power to stand before kings and cause nations to shake and tremble.*
2. *The power to change nature and command it to obey you.*
3. *The power to shame the enemies and to glorify God's name.*

Elijah Is Coming

4. *The power to strengthen and to change the weak to become strong.*
5. *The power to work creative miracles.*
6. *The power to empower God's army with supernatural abilities.*
7. *The power to tele-transport.*

In the last days, the Bible tells us, there will be gross darkness all over the earth (Isa 60:2). And in the midst of this gross darkness there will be a great demonstration of light and glory (Isa 40:5). So, these are the powers of the age to come. These are the seven horns that are going to manifest. For a more detailed and thorough study of the powers of the age to come the reader is strongly encouraged to read the author's book *Last Days' Seven Horns Anointing*.

ROD OF ELIJAH

A few years ago, I had a visitation from the Lord Jesus while I was fasting and praying in Jerusalem. The saints Moses and Elijah also accompanied the Lord Jesus during this visit. The Lord Jesus spoke with me concerning the ministry I needed to do back in India.

Both the saints, I noticed, just stood silently as the Lord was speaking. When the Lord finished talking, I respectfully asked the Lord why these two saints have come. The Lord said, "Elijah has something for you." As soon as the Lord said that, the saint Elijah, who had all this while been holding a rod, laid it on the bed before us. I asked the Lord what it was and what it meant. The Lord said, "This is Elijah's rod."

As soon as the Lord said that, I became somewhat perplexed. I thought, *nowhere in the Bible does it say that the prophet Elijah had a rod*. The Bible does say that he wore a mantle and when it came upon the prophet Elisha he worked miracles like his predecessor (2 Kg 2:13-14). The Lord Jesus, ignoring what was going on in my spiritually immature mind, explained further, "This is the rod I

am going to give to the last days' prophetic generation. They will work miracles like Elijah and Moses did and more."

Although I believed by faith the vision I saw and the explanation the Lord Jesus had given me, yet the idea of the "rod of Elijah" troubled me. There is no record in the Bible that the prophet Elijah had a rod. How should I reconcile this authentic spiritual experience with the truth of the immutable Word of God? Over the years – ever since that first experience – I had several visitations from the saint Elijah where he handed me his rod and talked about its use. Again, though I believed by faith, how was I to authenticate this experience by the Word of God?

Most prophets in the Old Testament did carry a rod. The prophet Elijah too, had a rod in his hand. The Bible does not specifically say he had a rod in his hand when he worked miracles like the prophet Moses. The *rod* of the prophet Moses (Ex 4:20) in Hebrew is *matteh* meaning *a branch; also a rod, ruling (a sceptre), or walking (a staff, a support of life)*. So the rod is also called a staff.

We read in the Bible that the prophet Elisha, the prophet Elijah's faithful servant (1 Kg 19:21) and his anointed successor (1 Kg 19:16), did have a rod or staff (2 Kg 4:29). The word "staff" in this Scripture in Hebrew is *mish`enah* or *mish`eneth* meaning *support, i.e. a walking-stick*. A rod or a staff doubles as a walking stick for support, too.

The prophet Elisha used the rod to work a miracle when the Shunamite's son died (2 Kg 4:29-31). The dead boy did not rise to life when the rod was laid on him. If the prophet Elisha had not previously used the rod to work miracles, he would not have given his "anointed" rod to Gehazi to lay it on the dead child. So it is reasonable to infer that the prophet Elisha, being the prophet Elijah's protégé, must have learned about the use of a rod by seeing his master use one.

Elijah Is Coming

What is the rod of Elijah? It is the power of God – the symbol of the powers of the age to come. Therefore, in order to receive the rod of Elijah to work greater works, you must have a knowledge of God's power. The powers of the age to come consist of two aspects: the *nine gifts of the Holy Spirit* and the *seven Spirits of God*.

The last days' prophetic generation need to have a good knowledge and understanding of the operation of these gifts. (Read the author's book, *On Wings of Eagle & Dove*, for a thorough understanding of the gifts of the Holy Spirit and the Seven Spirits of God.)

Finally, let's consider two more Scriptures:

ISAIAH 13:3

3 I have commanded My sanctified ones; I have also called My mighty ones for My anger — those who rejoice in My exaltation."

EPHESIANS 6:10

10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.

These two Scriptures say the same thing. It is the Holy Spirit who sanctifies us. And He manifests the nine gifts for the work of the ministry. The power of God's might make *us* mighty ones who, through the seven Spirits of God, will turn the world upside down.

On June 14, 2014, while I was praying in Jerusalem, the saint Elijah visited me in the Spirit and said, "The miracles that the last days' generation will do will surpass what I did. The key to operate in the miraculous is staying yoked together with God in an intimate relationship with Him."

CHAPTER 7

Man of Boldness

During the last week of September 2009, I was ministering in Kaohsiung, Taiwan. September 28, 2009, being Yom Kippur day, I spent the day waiting on God. At about 6.15 PM, I had a visitation from the saint Elijah. He looked me straight in the eye and said: “Be strong and be bold.”

That’s who the prophet Elijah is – a very strong man in the Spirit and a man of boldness. This is what it means to be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might (Eph 6:10). The prophet Elijah stood up boldly for God at a time when idolatry had swept his land.

Definition

There are several Greek words that are translated as “bold” in the New Testament and, together, they help us to better understand the makeup of the prophet Elijah.

1. *Tharreo* signifies *to be confident, bold, courageous*.
2. *Tolmao* signifies *to dare to do, or to bear, something terrible or difficult; hence, to be bold, to bear oneself boldly, deal boldly*.

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Tharreo denotes *confidence in one's own powers*, and has reference to *character*. *Tolmao* denotes *boldness in undertaking* and has reference to *manifestation*.

3. *Parrhesia* denotes *freedom of speech, unreservedness of utterance; to speak without ambiguity, plainly; the absence of fear in speaking boldly*; hence.

Finally, Collins Dictionary defines “bold” as *someone who is not afraid to do things which involve risk or danger*. What better way can there be explain the boldness of the prophet Elijah? From these definitions we can now better understand that the various works that the prophet Elijah did stemmed from his spirit of boldness.

ELIJAH'S ACTS OF BOLDNESS

The prophet Elijah boldly confronted three groups of people. Let's study them in detail.

1. *Elijah boldly confronts King Ahab*

The prophet Elijah boldly confronted a compromising king whose wife worshipped Ashtoreth. Together they served the Canaanite gods, Baal and Ashtoreth, demonic ruling spirits that demanded sexual immorality and pervasion in their rituals. Jezebel built pagan altars and temples for Ashtoreth and Baal all over Israel.

The prophet Elijah boldly confronted King Ahab on three occasions. The first was when he confronted the king during a funeral service for King Hiel's sons (1 Kg 16:34). It was at this confrontation that he prophesied a three-and-a-half-year drought (1 Kg 17:1).

Man of Boldness

The second was when the Lord God asked the prophet to come out of hiding and show himself to King Ahab (1 Kg 18:1). What made this act of showing himself dangerous was that King Ahab had his soldiers looking all over Israel and the surrounding nations for him – dead or alive.

So for the prophet Elijah to show himself to the king who wanted so badly to see him dead required great boldness and courage. Such boldness and courage can only come out of three sources.

1. *A life lived with and in God Almighty who is the sustainer of all life.*

This kind of boldness is exemplified in the life of the Lord Jesus when He said: “No one takes [my life] from Me, but I lay it down of Myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This command I have received from My Father” (Jn 10:18).

2. *An unshakable confidence in Almighty God's ability to protect and deliver.*

This kind of boldness is exemplified in the lives of the three Hebrew youths in the book of Daniel. When King Nebuchadnezzar threatened to throw them into a furnace heated seven times hotter than usual, they replied to the king with unflinching boldness:

DANIEL 3:16-18

16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-Nego answered and said to the king, "O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to answer you in this matter.

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17 If that is the case, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us from your hand, O king.

18 But if not, let it be known to you, O king, that we do not serve your gods, nor will we worship the gold image which you have set up."

3. *A life united and yoked with the Lord Jesus.*

ACTS 4:13

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

This kind of boldness comes as a result of a life fused together in union with the Lord God. That's what the Pharisees noticed about the disciples Peter and John.

"Being with Jesus" is a process similar to how hens incubate their eggs by sitting on them for 21 days in order to hatch them. The eggs "being with" the hen are transformed into hens themselves through the infusion of heat from their mother.

Now, let's go over to Samaria where the prophet Elijah pays King Ahab a visit.

1 KINGS 18:17-19

17 Then it happened, when Ahab saw Elijah, that Ahab said to him, "Is that you, O troubler of Israel?"

18 And he answered, "I have not troubled Israel, but you and your father's house have, in that you have forsaken the commandments of the Lord and have followed the Baals.

19 Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table."

The prophet Elijah boldly confronted a compromising king who was powerfully influenced by his Ashtoreth-worshipping wife, Queen Jezebel. Let's follow this very interesting dialogue between the prophet and the king. As soon as King Ahab saw the prophet Elijah, his face turned red hot with anger and he said, *so here you are, you troublemaker for our whole nation!*

The prophet Elijah looked the king straight in the eye and said boldly and matter-of-factly, *I am not the troublemaker*. Then pointing a finger directly at him – which is a royal insult – added saying, *you are the troublemaker. Not only you, but also your forefathers*. The prophet Elijah was in fact throwing the charge back at King Ahab by saying that it was the king who had troubled Israel by allowing the worship of false gods.

Look at the boldness of the prophet Elijah. He pointed his bony accusing index finger right into the King's face and turned the charge of being the source of the terrible drought and famine straight back at him. What a boldness!

King Ahab was paralyzed by the boldness of the prophet Elijah. Fastening his eyes on the king, the prophet Elijah then issued a bold challenge: "Now therefore, send and gather all Israel to me on Mount Carmel, the four hundred and fifty prophets of Baal, and the four hundred prophets of Asherah, who eat at Jezebel's table" (1 Kg 18:19). He boldly called for the entire nation to witness a showdown.

Elijah Is Coming

The third time the prophet Elijah boldly confronted King Ahab was after he recovered from despondency in the presence of God at Mount Horeb.

1 KINGS 21:17-24

17 Then the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying,

18 "Arise, go down to meet Ahab king of Israel, who lives in Samaria. There he is, in the vineyard of Naboth, where he has gone down to take possession of it.

19 You shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the Lord: "Have you murdered and also taken possession?"' And you shall speak to him, saying, 'Thus says the Lord: "In the place where dogs licked the blood of Naboth, dogs shall lick your blood, even yours."'"

20 So Ahab said to Elijah, "Have you found me, O my enemy?" And he answered, "I have found you, because you have sold yourself to do evil in the sight of the Lord:

21 'Behold, I will bring calamity on you. I will take away your posterity, and will cut off from Ahab every male in Israel, both bond and free.

22 I will make your house like the house of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and like the house of Baasha the son of Ahijah, because of the provocation with which you have provoked Me to anger, and made Israel sin.'

23 And concerning Jezebel the Lord also spoke, saying, 'The dogs shall eat Jezebel by the wall of Jezreel.'

24 The dogs shall eat whoever belongs to Ahab and dies in the city, and the birds of the air shall eat whoever dies in the field."

After Queen Jezebel had put out a contract on the prophet Elijah's life, he ran away from Samaria for fear of his life. He went into hiding for a long while—more than 40 days. Then,

when the prophet thought he had seen the last of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel, once again the Lord God—his Master—commanded his servant Elijah to go and meet the wicked king.

When the prophet Elijah found the king rejoicing over his new-found prized possession—the vineyard of Naboth— with great boldness he sternly rebuked the king for murdering an innocent man and wrongfully taking possession of his vineyard. Without caring about the consequences, the prophet Elijah boldly prophesied King Ahab's doom.

Embolden by the Spirit of the Lord, the prophet Elijah even fearlessly prophesied the fateful doom of Queen Jezebel, who had masterminded the plot to kill innocent Naboth. The man who had feared for his life and ran away from the threat of death from a wicked and powerful queen now stood boldly in their midst and prophesied God's judgment upon them both.

There still is one more incident where the prophet Elijah boldly rebuked the messengers of King Ahaziah, who was King Ahab's son.

2 KINGS 1:2-4

2 Now Ahaziah fell through the lattice of his upper room in Samaria, and was injured; so he sent messengers and said to them, "Go, inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron, whether I shall recover from this injury."

3 But the angel of the Lord said to Elijah the Tishbite, "Arise, go up to meet the messengers of the king of Samaria, and say to them, 'Is it because there is no God in Israel that you are going to inquire of Baal-Zebub, the god of Ekron?'"

4 Now therefore, thus says the Lord: 'You shall not come down from the bed to which you have gone up, but you shall surely die.'" So Elijah departed.

The prophet Elijah's epithet can very well be said as the man who boldly and fearlessly rebukes kings!

2. *Elijah boldly confronts idolatrous Israel*

1 KINGS 18:20-21

20 So Ahab sent for all the children of Israel, and gathered the prophets together on Mount Carmel.

21 And Elijah came to all the people, and said, "How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him." But the people answered him not a word.

The nation of Israel had gathered on Mount Carmel together with King Ahab and 450 false prophets. The prophet Elijah then berated both the people of Israel and Ahab for their apostasy in that they had allowed the worship of Baal to permeate their entire nation. "How long," he thundered, "will you go back-and-forth between these two different opinions?"

That was an interesting question the prophet asked a wayward nation that begs further examination. Let's look at that sentence in various other Bible translations:

1. *Amplified Bible*: "How long will you halt and limp between two opinions?"
2. *TLB*: "How long are you going to waver between two opinions?"
3. *New Living Translation*: "How much longer will you waver, hobbling between two opinions?"
4. *The Message*: "How long are you going to sit on the fence?"
5. *Complete Jewish Bible*: "How long are you going to jump back and forth between two positions?"

6. *New American*: "How long will you hesitate between two opinions?"

What was the people's problem? Why were they so fickle-minded? Why were they vacillating? Though the following verses were written much later in Israel's history, they nevertheless express Israel's condition that eventually led to God removing them from the land:

2 KINGS 17:32-41

32 So they feared the Lord, and from every class they appointed for themselves priests of the high places, who sacrificed for them in the shrines of the high places.

33 They feared the Lord, yet served their own gods — according to the rituals of the nations from among whom they were carried away.

34 To this day they continue practicing the former rituals; they do not fear the Lord, nor do they follow their statutes or their ordinances, or the law and commandment which the Lord had commanded the children of Jacob, whom He named Israel,

35 with whom the Lord had made a covenant and charged them, saying: "You shall not fear other gods, nor bow down to them nor serve them nor sacrifice to them;

36 but the Lord, who brought you up from the land of Egypt with great power and an outstretched arm, Him you shall fear, Him you shall worship, and to Him you shall offer sacrifice.

37 And the statutes, the ordinances, the law, and the commandment which He wrote for you, you shall be careful to observe forever; you shall not fear other gods.

38 And the covenant that I have made with you, you shall not forget, nor shall you fear other gods.

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39 But the Lord your God you shall fear; and He will deliver you from the hand of all your enemies."

40 However they did not obey, but they followed their former rituals.

41 So these nations feared the Lord, yet served their carved images; also their children and their children's children have continued doing as their fathers did, even to this day.

Even King Ahab, it appears, had a similar problem. 1 Kings 21:25-26 says thus concerning the king: "But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up. And he behaved very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel."

But there was a turn-around in his heart attitude after the prophet Elijah condemned him: "So it was, when Ahab heard those words [of the destruction of his dynasty because of the murder of Naboth], that he tore his clothes and put sackcloth on his body, and fasted and lay in sackcloth, and went about mourning" (1 Kg 21:27). So much so that the Lord God was moved with mercy and compassion for him: "And the word of the Lord came to Elijah the Tishbite, saying, "See how Ahab has humbled himself before Me? Because he has humbled himself before Me, I will not bring the calamity in his days. In the days of his son I will bring the calamity on his house" (1 Kg 21:28-29).

The Israelites were sitting on the fence in a dangerous state of imbalance, intermingling the worship of God with the more popular worship of Baal and Ashtoreth. The king and his people were like a bird in a tree. The bird cannot make up its mind where it wants to settle down, so it just keeps hopping around. That was what moved the prophet to ask: "How long will you

keep shifting from one opinion to the other?" Their spiritual lethargy towards the true God left them unable to make any kind of commitment. Their hearts went one way and then the other, back-and-forth, over and over again.

It is appalling to notice that when the prophet Elijah asked the people to choose between committing to follow the Lord God Jehovah or Baal, they kept quiet (1 Kg 18:21). They could not choose because they feared Jehovah God but they also loved Baal and his sensual consort Ashtoreth.

A similar situation also arose in the time of the prophet Moses when he came down from the mountain and found nearly the entire nation worshipping the golden calf. However, when the prophet Moses posed a similar question asking the Hebrew people to choose between the Lord and the idol, the Levites, at least, responded immediately and made the choice to follow the Lord (Ex 32:26). In the time of the prophet Elijah, though, apathy had become their by-word and life-style.

The influence of demonic powers exerted through Queen Jezebel was so great that she seduced a nation of several million, all except 7,000, to forsake the worship of the Lord God Jehovah. Only 7,000 remained true to the living God, with many paying for it with their lives. Even then, when challenged by the prophet Elijah to make up their mind and choose whom they would serve and worship – the Lord God Jehovah or Baal – they could not decide and kept quiet.

By this confrontation we see the beginning of God's plan to use the prophet Elijah to turn the hearts of His children back to their Father. The Lord God had the prophet Elijah gather all the children of Israel to Mount Carmel to prove to them that He was the one true God. In the ensuing challenged between the false prophets and the prophet Elijah, the whole nation witnessed

the Lord God Jehovah proven as the only true living God who answers by fire. As a result, "when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, 'The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!'" (1 Kg 18:39).

3. *Elijah boldly confronts 450 prophets of Baal*

1 KINGS 18:22-29

22 Then Elijah said to the people, "I alone am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men.

23 Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it.

24 Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God." So all the people answered and said, "It is well spoken."

25 Now Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose one bull for yourselves and prepare it first, for you are many; and call on the name of your god, but put no fire under it."

26 So they took the bull which was given them, and they prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning even till noon, saying, "O Baal, hear us!" But there was no voice; no one answered. Then they leaped about the altar which they had made.

27 And so it was, at noon, that Elijah mocked them and said, "Cry aloud, for he is a god; either he is meditating, or he is busy, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is sleeping and must be awakened."

28 So they cried aloud, and cut themselves, as was their custom, with knives and lances, until the blood gushed out on them.

29 And when midday was past, they prophesied until the time of the offering of the evening sacrifice. But there was no voice; no one answered, no one paid attention.

When Jezebel married King Ahab, the first thing she did was she seduced and coerced her husband to worship Baal and Ashtoreth. King Ahab, trying to appease his new and sensual wife who was also a priestess of Baal and Ashtoreth in Sidon, issued a royal proclamation to build altars, groves and temples all over Israel to promote Jezebel's pagan gods.

Queen Jezebel even hired 450 prophets from her own nation who could offer temple services, burn incense, offer sacrifices, and promote the worship of Baal all over Israel (1 Kg 18:19,22).

Baal was the supreme god worshiped in ancient Canaan and Phoenicia. According to Canaanite mythology, Baal was worshipped as the sun god and as the storm god—he is usually depicted holding a lightning bolt—who defeated enemies and produced crops. They also worshiped him as a fertility god who provided children. Baal worship was rooted in sensuality and involved ritualistic prostitution in the temples. Baal worship also required human sacrifice.

Together with Baal, Queen Jezebel also introduced the worship of Asherah. Asherah, or Ashtoreth, was the name of the chief female deity worshiped in ancient Syria, Phoenicia, and Canaan. The Philistines had a temple for Asherah (1 Sam 31:10). Asherah was represented by a limbless tree trunk planted in the ground. The trunk was usually carved into a symbolic representation of the goddess. Because of the association with carved trees, the places of Asherah worship were commonly

called “groves,” and the Hebrew word *asherah* could refer either to the *goddess* or to *a grove of trees*.

Considered the moon-goddess, Asherah was often presented as a consort of Baal, the sun-god (Judg 3:7, 6:28, 10:6; 1 Sam 7:4, 12:10). Asherah was also worshiped as the goddess of love and war. Worship of Asherah was noted for its sensuality and also involved ritual prostitution. The priests and priestesses of Asherah also practiced divination and the prophets of Asherah practiced fortune-telling. Queen Jezebel hired 400 of them – her salaried staffs – to promote the worship of Ashtoreth all over Israel (1 Kg 18:19).

These 850 false prophets successfully turned the hearts of the Israelites from the worship of the true God who made the heavens and who is the giver of life to the worship of a false deity whom they could see with their physical eyes in the form of an idol (1 Kg 16:33). The false prophets swayed their hearts to pay penance, offer sacrifices to Baal for good weather and for a good harvest.

These false prophets influenced the Israelites to believe that they must offer – if need be – child sacrifices to ward off bad luck – as some cultures do today. To cure infertility among the Israelites, these false prophets entice them to the worship of Baal’s male productive organ and to perform sexual acts with the priests. Some cultures still practice such things today. The prophets themselves also indulge in sexual orgies with temple prostitutes as worship to Baal and Ashtoreth.

Furthermore, to prevent the worship of the Lord Jehovah in the whole of Israel, Queen Jezebel issued a royal proclamation against the true prophets of Yahweh and had them murdered (1 Kg 18:4,13). She then bathed the idol of Baal with the blood of the prophets of God and offered them as sacrifices. She

then replaced them with 850 occult priests, false prophets—soothsayers and temple prostitutes. The prophet Elijah acknowledged the killing of the rue prophets of Yahweh God when he said: “I alone am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal’s prophets are four hundred and fifty men” (1 Kg 18:19).

The name “Elijah” means *The Lord (Yah) is my God*. Thus, it was the mission of the prophet Elijah to show that Yahweh, not Baal, is the true God who alone is worthy of worship. The prophet Elijah boldly challenged King Ahab to gather all the 850 false prophets – 450 prophets of Baal and 400 prophets of Asherah. For some strange reason the 400 false prophets of Ashtoreth, though invited, did not show up and neither did Queen Jezebel herself.

The prophet Elijah challenged the 450 prophets to a showdown on Mount Carmel. He then boldly issued this challenge before the whole of Israel: “Therefore let them give us two bulls; and let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it; and I will prepare the other bull, and lay it on the wood, but put no fire under it. Then you call on the name of your gods, and I will call on the name of the Lord; and the God who answers by fire, He is God” (1 Kg 18:23-24).

Why would the prophet Elijah issue such a challenge? The whole of Israel was steeped in the worship of Baal and Ashtoreth although they paid lip service to the Lord God Jehovah. The prophets of Baal falsely claimed that Baal had supernatural power and was able to sway the people to themselves. Furthermore, they portrayed Baal as a sun god who lights up the skies with lightning from his hand. So the challenge “the God who answers by fire, He is God” was to prove that it was Baal who was powerless and not a god as portrayed.

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The prophets of Baal, over-confident in Baal's powers, carefully prepared the ox for sacrifice. They stood in multiple circles around the sacrifice and began to loudly call upon Baal. They cried out to Baal from morning till noon, imploring Baal to show up. "O Baal, hear us!" they pleaded. But there was no answer – no voice from heaven where Baal supposedly rules. Interestingly, the Scripture in 1 Kings 18:26 says, "no one answered," meaning that not even Ashtoreth came to answer their cries.

"They danced, hobbling around the altar they had made, chanting and calling on the various names of Baal. Still no answer. The prophet Elijah seized the occasion for all Israel to know by mocking at the prophets of Baal saying: "Call a little louder — he is a god, after all. Maybe he's off meditating somewhere or other, or maybe he's gotten involved in a project, or maybe he's on vacation. You don't suppose he's overslept, do you, and needs to be waked up?" (1 Kg 18:27, The Message).

"Fueled by the prophet Elijah's mocking and sensing the doubts on the faces of the Israelites, in desperation and to further prove their piety, the prophets of Baal began cutting themselves with swords and knives — a ritual common to them — until they were covered with blood" (1 Kg 18:17, The Message). Nothing happened. "This went on until well past noon. They used every religious trick and strategy they knew to make something happen on the altar, but nothing happened — not so much as a whisper, not a flicker of response" (1 Kg 18:29, The Message).

Just before the time for the evening sacrifice, the prophet Elijah told them that the time given to them to prove Baal is God was finished. It was now his turn and he promptly asked them to step aside. He "rebuilt the altar of the Lord that was broken down" and cut an ox and laid it on the altar. He also dug a trench around the altar. He then had the entire altar and sacrifice

doused with 12 buckets of water until the trench was overflowing with water. He did all these things so that no one – neither the king nor the false prophets nor the people – could accuse him of trickery.

The prophet Elijah then knelt down, lifted up his hands and looking steadfastly towards heaven he prayed, “O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and that I have done all these things at Your word. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You, the Lord, are God, and have turned their hearts back [to You] again” (1 Kg 18:36-37).

Such a heartfelt passion-filled earnest prayer would not have taken more than a few minutes. Before he could close his eyes to say Amen, a rumbling sound was heard coming out of nowhere. Everyone lifted up their heads and opened their eyes wide to see the fire of God suddenly manifest from nowhere and fall upon the sacrifice to consume it, the wood and the stones to ashes (1 Kg 18:38). The fire even licked up the 12 buckets of water in the trench. Even the dust around the area of the altar was consumed by the fire.

There is something interesting for the reader to take note of regarding the fire. Natural fire burns combustible materials like wood and animal sacrifices. But this strange fire even devoured stones, dirt and water. Water douses natural fire. But this fire licked up every bit of water.

As soon as the people of Israel saw this supernatural phenomenon, all of them fell on their faces, and exclaimed, “The Lord, He is God; the Lord, He is God.” (1 Kg 18:39). The prophet Elijah, seizing the opportunity and burning with zeal for God, ordered the people to seize every one of the 450 prophets of Baal because most were by now trying to run away, fearing a mob

assault. The people, who far outnumbered the false prophets, seized them. The prophet Elijah then brought them down to the Brook Kishon and executed them there (1 Kg 18:40).

CHEMISTRY OF BOLDNESS

What made the prophet Elijah to be so bold and fearless? What is the secret of his boldness and fearlessness? A clue can be found in a New Testament incident:

ACTS 4:13

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

The Pharisees' Council marveled at the boldness of the apostles Peter and John. Though both apostles were beaten, whipped and imprisoned, yet they remained steadfast and resolute against every form of threat. The secret to their boldness, the Jewish leaders realized, was that they had been *with* the Lord Jesus.

To be "with Jesus" is to abide in Him, in His doctrine and in His ways. It is to become one with Him through an effectual and fervent prayer life. The prophet Elijah knew the God whom he served, not just through an intellectual knowledge but through a personal, experiential knowledge. To have an experiential relationship with God is not simply just getting up in the morning and reading a chapter of the Bible and praying for a couple of minutes, and perhaps dutifully going to church on Sundays. It is not this kind of a casual and nominal relationship.

Every time you close your eyes to pray, you must experience God and be immersed in His presence. You don't just pray by

faith like a castaway sending messages in a bottle (which is not wrong in itself), but you must desire for a much deeper walk with God. In order for you to be like the prophet Elijah, your prayer life must change. Your prayer life must become a meaningful and experiential relationship with God. It must grow to the point where it is not just a monolog, but a dialog, a conversation with God Himself.

The prophet Elijah knew the Lord God as El Elyon, the Most High God, the Almighty God. He knew Him in a personal, experiential manner during his years of solitude in the desert. He was the disciple of another God-fearing prophet, Ahijah the Shilonite. He taught the prophet Elijah prophetic prayer and how to approach God. He experienced visitations from angels – a common occurrence in Elijah’s life. They also tutored him in all the ways of God.

As he was ascending in his walk with God, at one point he had a deep personal encounter with The Lord of Sabaoth—the Lord of Hosts—as the Lion of Judah. The Lion entered into him and gave him His own boldness.

A lion doesn’t fear any other animal for it is the “king of the jungle”. If a lion stands before an elephant, it might seem like David compared with Goliath in size. And yet the much smaller lion can take on the huge elephant. The lion will run up and jump on the elephant. Fear never enters a lion’s heart.

LAST DAYS’ GENERATION’S BOLDNESS

The lasts days’ prophetic generation must be bold to confront sin. That is why the Lord Jesus is manifesting as the Lion in these last days.

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Why is God revealing Himself to His people as the Lion of Judah in these last days? We read in Revelation 12:7-9 that the devil and his angels are going to be cast down to this earth. You are going to face your enemies head-on in close combat. The rules of spiritual warfare are going to change totally.

The Lord God – El Elyon – will manifest as the Lion of Judah to give you boldness. He will enter inside you and give you the boldness of a lion to tear the enemy to pieces. Since God is going to use you to tear apart Satan's kingdom, you shouldn't act like a weakling; you should be bold.

In order for the last days' generation to be bold like the prophet Elijah, they need to be aware of two things:

1. They must know the Lord of Hosts on an experiential level.
2. They must be overcomers, overcoming the sins and weaknesses in their lives.

Before you can overcome the weaknesses in your life you must first know what they. Only *you* can know what the weaknesses in your life are. So you should look inside you. Then, take stock of what you see, confess it, surrender it, let go of your hold on it, and finally crucify it. When you do these five things, then you have become an overcomer.

Bold to Confront Sin

The last days' prophetic generation must be bold to confront sin as the prophet Elijah did. In order to be bold to confront sin, you must learn to stand before God in His presence. We must learn to practice four things in order to stand in God's presence.

1. Fear God

The fear of God must rule your heart. The fear of God, the Scriptures say, is the beginning of knowledge (Prov 9:10). If you want to know God, the fear of God must rule you. To fear God is not to sin against Him. This was the attitude in Joseph's heart when he told Potiphar's wife who tried to seduce him, "How can I sin against God?" (Gen 39:9). We, too, should possess the same attitude.

When you begin to fear God you cannot be a man-pleaser. While praying in Jerusalem on June 22, 2014, the saint Elijah came to me in the Spirit and said, "Stop pleasing man and start pleasing God. For God loves such people. You are called to stand before God and not before man. Remember that!"

2. Strive against sin

HEBREWS 12:4

4 You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

What does that mean? For many years I did not understand this Scripture. But when I was working on this message, the Holy Spirit graciously showed me an example of this from the life of the Lord Jesus when He was in the Garden of Gethsemane:

LUKE 22:41-44

*41 And He was withdrawn from them about a stone's throw, and He knelt down and prayed,
42 saying, "Father, if it is Your will, take this cup away from Me; nevertheless not My will, but Yours, be done."
43 Then an angel appeared to Him from heaven, strengthening Him.*

44 And being in agony, He prayed more earnestly. Then His sweat became like great drops of blood falling down to the ground.

When the Lord Jesus prayed fervently in Gethsemane, His sweat dropped as blood. Why did He need to pray with such agony? He was striving against His flesh which was trying to rule Him. He told His disciples that His soul was exceedingly sorrowful, even unto death (Matt 26:37). Because He was so sorrowful, He prayed to the Father God, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will" (Matt 26:39).

The perfect man was seen in Gethsemane struggling against His flesh. He then prayed earnestly – even shedding blood – to overcome the flesh. In the same way, you must also keep on striving against sin in your life. You should not let weakness and sin rule you. You must strive against it and become the master.

3. Have a good prayer relationship with God.

ACTS 4:13

13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus.

When the members the Sanhedrin Council questioned the apostle Peter, he answered them boldly, courageously and fearlessly. They wondered how he had become so bold when not too long ago, for the love of his own life, he denied even knowing his own master. But now, suddenly, after 50 days, he had become as bold as a lion.

They reasoned amongst themselves and found the answer: *they had been with Jesus*. You too can get boldness by being with the Lord Jesus through an effectual and experiential relationship. Therefore, increase your prayer life.

4. Know the Holy Spirit intimately as a friend.

2 CORINTHIANS 13:14

14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

How can we get to know the Holy Spirit intimately as a friend? One way is by meditating the Word of God. The Lord Jesus said, "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life" (Jn 6:63). So the Word of God is the Holy Spirit. When you meditate on the Word, you are meditating on the Holy Spirit.

Once in a while, purpose to do a different kind of a fast: *fast on the Word*. What in the world does that mean? Once a week or as often as you want, put away watching television, reading newspapers, using your mobile devices, and surfing the Internet. Don't do such things. Rather, just read and meditate on the Word of God. That's fasting the Word.

Once you start fasting on the Word, the Lord will come to dine with you. *Is that really possible?* I hear you ask. There is a precedent – an incident of first mention – for this in the Bible. The Lord God once invited the 70 elders of Israel to come up to Mount Sinai together with the prophet Moses and Aaron to dine with Him (Ex 24:9-11).

Just as it happened on Mount Sinai thousands of years ago, the Lord Jesus now extends a similar invitation to all those who

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will wait on Him through prayer and feasting on His Word: “Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me” (Rev 3:20).

On July 6, 2017, as I was praying in Chennai, a lion-like being (Rev 4:7) appeared to me in the Spirit and said: “The last days’ prophetic generation need boldness to accomplish what they are called to do. That is the lion’s anointing. The last days’ generation need to be bold to confront...

1. Nations’ sins like Elijah.
2. People’s sins like Moses.
3. Kings’ (*those in authority*) sins like John the Baptist.

Boldness is lacking in many who call themselves prophets. They are toothless lions hiding in their dens. A last days’ prophet needs boldness to set captives free in the midst of Antichrist’s rule when gross darkness will fill the earth.”

CHAPTER 8

Man of Action

Calling the People Near

1 KINGS 18:30-32

30 Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come near to me." So all the people came near to him. And he repaired the altar of the LORD that was broken down.

31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the LORD had come, saying, "Israel shall be your name."

32 Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the LORD; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed.

The prophet Elijah's first action before he prayed to God to glorify His name was to call the people closer to himself. They were far away from God. By calling the people to come near to him, the prophet symbolically brought them back into the fold of God. In this action, we see a preview of what he was going to do in the last days: "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" (Mal 4:6).

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We also read in Exodus 19:17 that the prophet Moses also drew the people close to meet with God: “And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.”

Repairing the Altar

After the people had drawn closer to him, the prophet Elijah's second action was to repair the broken altar. He did not build a new one but he repaired the broken altar which was originally built by other prophets. On September 24, 2017 while meditating on this, I was graced by God to see a vision. In the vision I saw God's true prophets set up this altar unto Yahweh God. Righteous priests aided these prophets by offering sacrifices and offerings to the Lord God Yahweh on these altars all over Israel before Baalism was declared as the national religion of Israel, as master-minded by Queen Jezebel.

Queen Jezebel's false prophets came, killed the true prophets with the sword, slit their throats and beheaded them. After she had most of the true prophets of God killed, she also ordered the destruction of all the altars dedicated to the Lord God Yahweh. It was the very people of Israel who, in their new-found zeal for Baal, helped to tear down and ruin the altars of the true living God. This fact is proved by the statement of none other than the prophet Elijah himself: “So he said, ‘I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life’” (1 Kg 19:10; Rom 11:3).

In the vision, I saw Queen Jezebel looking on as the mob tore down the altars of the Lord. They trampled on these earthen altars and crushed them with their feet. Queen Jezebel stood over

the trampled altars, laughing mockingly. She then walked to and fro over the altars laughing with glee in her triumph.

In the place of the altars of the Lord, Queen Jezebel commanded her 450 prophets of Baal and the 400 prophets of Ashtoreth, whom she imported from her home town, to build altars for Baal and groves for Ashtoreth. 450 different kinds of idols were installed all over Israel. These false prophets went throughout all Israel, proclaiming the glories of Baal and deceived the people into worshipping him (1 Kg 16:31-33).

When the prophet Elijah slaughtered the 450 prophets of Baal the Israelites were surprised that Baal did not rain down lightning and thunder upon the prophet to kill him. Neither did Ashtoreth, who is also known as the goddess of war, do anything against him. Both these gods seemed powerless before just a single prophet of Yahweh. This was the first conclusion they came to on Mount Carmel.

By his action of repairing the broken altar the prophet made the people realize what evil they had done in tearing down the altars of the Lord. The second conclusion the people came to was that they had done wrong in tearing down the Lord's altars with their own hands, and they began to feel remorseful for turning their backs on the true living God—the God of their forefathers.

The prophet Elijah repaired the altar. The word “repaired” in Hebrew is *rapha'* or *raphah* meaning *to mend (by stitching)*, i.e. *to cure, (cause to) heal, physician, repair*. An altar is used as a meeting place to meet with God and worship Him. This concept we derived from the counsel the Lord God gave to the prophet Moses:

EXODUS 20:22-26

22 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'You have seen that I have talked with you from heaven.

23 You shall not make anything to be with Me — gods of silver or gods of gold you shall not make for yourselves.

24 An altar of earth you shall make for Me, and you shall sacrifice on it your burnt offerings and your peace offerings, your sheep and your oxen. In every place where I record My name I will come to you, and I will bless you.

25 And if you make Me an altar of stone, you shall not build it of hewn stone; for if you use your tool on it, you have profaned it.

26 Nor shall you go up by steps to My altar, that your nakedness may not be exposed on it.'

The altar where they once met with God was now lying in ruins. This signifies that they had lost contact with God; their relationship with God was broken and in tatters. By repairing the broken altar, the prophet Elijah was mending—stitching back together—their broken relationship with God. He was healing their hearts of years of abuse from the false prophets.

So when the prophet Elijah repaired the altar, he was in fact causing a healing in the broken relationship between a God and His people. He was pointing the people away from their crooked ways and directing them back to the ways of God. He was healing the breach between God and His people. He was turning the hearts of the children back to the Father God.

In this act of repairing the altar we see a beautiful picture of reconciliation. The Lord God Yahweh was, through the prophet Elijah, reconciling the people back to Himself even as in Christ Jesus He reconciled the whole world back to the living God (2 Cor 5:18-19).

By calling the people back to follow the living God, the prophet Elijah was calling them to come out from worshipping idols. This is the same call that will need to be proclaimed loudly in the last days: “Then I saw another angel flying in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach to those who dwell on the earth — to every nation, tribe, tongue, and people — saying with a loud voice, ‘Fear God and give glory to Him, for the hour of His judgment has come; and worship Him who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water’” (Rev 14:6-7).

The angel in this Scripture represents the last days’ prophetic generation that, like the prophet Elijah, will call the lost world back to worshipping the true living God.

Furthermore, by rebuilding the altar of God, the prophet Elijah was honoring God as the forefathers of Israel: Noah (Gen 8:20), Abraham (Gen 12:7-8), Isaac (Gen 26:24-25), and Jacob (Gen 33:20) had done. Every time these patriarchs built an altar unto God they had an encounter with Him. Or, conversely, they build altars to commemorate their encounters with God. As the prophet Elijah rebuilt the altar to honor God on Mount Carmel, that location became a place of encounter with God.

Twelve Stones

1 KINGS 18:31-32

31 And Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord had come, saying, “Israel shall be your name.”

32 Then with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord; and he made a trench around the altar large enough to hold two seahs of seed.

The prophet Elijah took twelve stones to build the altar. Twelve represents the number of God’s Kingdom government—

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theocracy. Theocracy is a society which is governed by a priest or group of priests who represents God. When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, the Lord God was their King and Ruler who governed them through His representative—the prophet Moses. It was never the will of God that Israel should have a king; God Himself wanted to be King over them.

But during the time of the prophet Samuel the people demanded a king (1 Sam 8:5). Though the prophet Samuel advised them against the idea, yet they persisted in their demand and God granted them their heart's desire (1 Sam 8:7). The various kings of Israel led them down the path of debauchery and idolatry. Soon, the kings – beginning with Solomon – divided the people's heart in two – serving God as well as serving the Canaanite gods (1 Kg 11:33).

God, in His anger, divided Israel into two kingdoms – Israel in the north with ten tribes under Jeroboam son of Nebat and Judah in the south with two tribes under David's descendants (1 Kg 11:31-32). However, God made a promise to Jeroboam that if he would walk in the ways of God and served Him wholeheartedly, then God would restore to him all the twelve tribes and the divided kingdoms would be reunited into one nation (1 Kg 11:38). Sadly, Jeroboam also walked down the path of idolatry and became a role-model for subsequent kings of Israel to turning their backs against the true living God. Sadly, Israel remained divided.

Now, as all Israel was gathered on Mount Carmel, the prophet Elijah stood before them with eyes penetrating like an eagle's as if asking, *how long will you serve idols and stay divided?* He looked around and saw unhewn stones scattered here and there. He went about, collected twelve stones and put them on top of the altar which he had already repaired.

An altar is a place of worship and sacrifice unto God. By picking exactly twelve stones – each one representing a tribe of Israel – the prophet of God was demonstrating to the crowd that they were chosen by God to worship Him alone. For almost 100 years the nation had been divided; they were supposed to be united as one body—one nation under God. He was conveying that they were supposed to be as living stones, built up as a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God (*cp.* 1 Pe 2:5).

So this act signified that division was never the original plan of God. Division is never the will of God because the Lord Jesus said that a kingdom divided against itself will never stand—it will fall (Matt 12:25; Mk 3:24; LK 11:17). Likewise, church splits are never the will of God either (1 Cor 1:10-13).

Just as the prophet Elijah gathered twelve stones representing the twelve tribes of Israel, the last days' prophetic generation must work together for unity in the body of Christ and build the kingdom of God for the Lord God to rule in the hearts of His people.

Trench

After making an altar of earth, the prophet Elijah then dug a trench around it, around three feet wide. The word “trench” in Hebrew is *te'alah* meaning: *a channel (into which water is raised for irrigation): trench, watercourse*. After this, the prophet had twelve buckets of water poured upon the altar. Water ran down the altar and stayed in the trench, flowing around it like a watercourse.

What is the significance of this strange act? As I pondered deeply on it, I asked the Holy Spirit to show me the meaning of this act. As I was pondering, the Scripture: *John 7:37* came before

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me. It says, "On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, 'If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.'"

This happened on the last day of the Feast of Tabernacles. Traditionally, on the last day of the Feast a water ceremony took place. The priests would draw water from the pool of Siloam and carry it straight to the altar of burnt offering at the temple. They would then pour the water at the foot of the altar, allowing it to spread all around. As the prophet Elijah had the twelve buckets of water poured on the altar, the water flowed down like a mighty rushing stream but the trench prevented it from dissipating.

The Lord God is going to come as the former rain and latter rain in the last days (Hos 6:3). He is going to pour the former rain and latter rain abundantly until the vats will overflow (Joel 2:23). Such a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit's power will result in the greatest harvest that history has ever seen. Even as revivals have waned and been lost in former generations, the last days' prophetic generation must not lose this greatest revival of all. Rather, it must dig trenches to contain both revival and harvest.

There is yet another spiritual mystery is related to Mount Carmel. This mountain was a place where people met with God and had encounters with the God of Israel. But it had become disused and its altars broken down. By digging a trench there the prophet Elijah was indicating that the last days' prophetic generation must seek out places of past prophetic encounters and re-dig those old wells of revival.

Wood

After the prophet Elijah had made the altar, he put wood on it in order. "Put in order" in Hebrew is *`arak* meaning: *to set in a row*,

i.e. *arrange, put in order*. He did not simply throw the wood on the altar but carefully placed – or arranged – it in an orderly manner.

What does that mean? A restoration of order in the House of God. Let's look at a New Testament example to better understand this concept:

JOHN 2:13-16

13 Now the Passover of the Jews was at hand, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

14 And He found in the temple those who sold oxen and sheep and doves, and the money changers doing business.

15 When He had made a whip of cords, He drove them all out of the temple, with the sheep and the oxen, and poured out the changers' money and overturned the tables.

16 And He said to those who sold doves, "Take these things away! Do not make My Father's house a house of merchandise!"

The Lord Jesus came into the Temple in Jerusalem and “drove out all those who bought and sold in the temple, and overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves” (Matt 21:12). The Lord even forbade “anyone to carry any household equipment through the temple enclosure [thus making the temple area a short-cut traffic lane]” (Mk 11:16 AMP). And then, with the zeal of God burning inside Him, He said, “My House called be called a House of Prayer, but you have made it a den of thieves” (Matt 21:13).

By casting out the false workers and false worshippers the Lord Jesus restored the proper order of worship. Today, if you go into any church, it is mostly full of all kinds of activity. Very little praying is done. But the Lord Jesus said, “My House shall be called a House of Prayer.” Prayer should be given the number one priority in every church.

“Wood” signifies *humility*. One should come with lowliness of mind and humility of heart to seek God. The last days Elijah generation will restore this order back to the remnant church.

Ox Sacrifice

The prophet Elijah then cut a bull—or ox—into several pieces and laid them on the wood. Why did he do that? He offered the bull as a sin offering, making atonement for the people’s sins: “And you shall offer a bull every day as a sin offering for atonement. You shall cleanse the altar when you make atonement for it, and you shall anoint it to sanctify it” (Ex 29:36).

The bull also signifies “the flesh”. The last days’ prophetic generation must die to the flesh—to self. The flesh must not reign in them anymore. They must even be willing to offer themselves as a sacrifice—that is, a martyr—for the glory of God to manifest (Rev 12:11).

Twelve Barrels of Water

The prophet Elijah then told the people, “Fill four waterpots with water and pour it on the burnt sacrifice and on the wood. Then he said, ‘Do it a second time,’ and they did it a second time; and he said, ‘Do it a third time,’ and they did it a third time” (1 Kg 18:33-34).

The word “waterpot” is translated as “barrel” in the King James Bible. “Barrel” in Hebrew is *kad* meaning *a pail; an earthen jar for domestic purposes: barrel, pitcher*. So the people brought four jars of water, probably from the nearby Brook Kidron, and poured them on the sacrifice. The prophet Elijah asked them to do this three times.

What is the significance of this act? The first reason has been explained earlier under the section “Trench”. The second reason holds a deep spiritual application. Four jars of water poured out three times makes for a total of twelve jars of water that were poured on the sacrifice. There are two significant things here that need to be considered: the number “twelve” and “jars of water”. “Twelve” is the number of *God’s kingdom*. In this passage it signifies *kingdom manifestation*. “Water” signifies the *Holy Spirit’s manifestation*.

Let us now look deeper into the spiritual significance of this act. This act signifies the three manifestations of the kingdom of God and the four manifestations of the Holy Spirit on the earth.

The *first time* the kingdom of God manifested was on Mount Sinai.

EXODUS 19:16-18

16 Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so that all the people who were in the camp trembled.

17 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and they stood at the foot of the mountain.

18 Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the Lord descended upon it in fire. Its smoke ascended like the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mountain quaked greatly.

When the kingdom of God manifested on Mount Sinai, it was accompanied by four kinds of demonstrations of the Holy Spirit’s power:

Elijah Is Coming

1. *Thunder and lighting*
2. *Thick cloud*
3. *Sound of the trumpet*
4. *Fire*

The *second time* the kingdom of God manifested when the Holy Spirit—the Spirit of the Lord—was poured out from on high on the day of Pentecost.

ACTS 2:2-4

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

When the Holy Spirit came down in the Upper Room in Jerusalem, it was accompanied by four kinds of demonstrations:

1. *A sound came from heaven.*
2. *A mighty wind came.*
3. *The cloud of glory filled the house.*
4. *Fiery tongues rested upon everyone.*

The *third time* the kingdom of God will manifest is in these last days through the prophetic remnant generation. The Lord Himself will come through His own, bringing the kingdom of God with Him. He will come like rain – the former and the latter rain to the earth. These things will accompany the last invasion of the kingdom of God:

Man of Action

1. *Four winds* from four corners of the earth will come to blow upon the last days' generation – Ezek 37:9
2. *The cloud of glory* will come upon the last days' church – Hag 2:6-9
3. *The latter rain* will be poured out upon this last days' church – Hosea 6:3
4. *Fire* from the Seven Spirits of God will be appear over the last days' prophetic generation – Rev 4:5

Fulfilling the Law

Everything that the prophet Elijah did—rebuilding the altar, setting wood in order, cutting of a bull for sacrifice—were all done perfectly in line with what the Old Testament law commanded in Leviticus 1:6-9:

6 And he shall skin the burnt offering and cut it into its pieces.

7 The sons of Aaron the priest shall put fire on the altar, and lay the wood in order on the fire.

8 Then the priests, Aaron's sons, shall lay the parts, the head, and the fat in order on the wood that is on the fire upon the altar;

9 but he shall wash its entrails and its legs with water. And the priest shall burn all on the altar as a burnt sacrifice, an offering made by fire, a sweet aroma to the Lord.

This shows us that the last days' prophetic generation must do everything according to the Word of God. They should not do anything according to their own desire or will. They will hear what God's Word says, they will pay heed—they will carefully listen—to what God's counsel says and they will act accordingly.

This leads us to a mystery in Malachi 4:4: “Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, which I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments.” Why is this mention of the prophet Moses linked to the coming of the prophet Elijah in the last days? This mystery will be explored in a future book.

Praying for God’s Glory

1 KINGS 18:36-37

36 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 Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word.

37 Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You are the Lord God, and that You have turned their hearts back to You again.”

The time had now come for the final showdown. Earlier, when all the people, together with the 450 prophets of Baal, were gathered on Mount Carmel, King Ahab being seated among them on his mobile throne as a witness, the prophet Elijah posed a challenge: “the God who answers by fire, He is God” (1 Kg 18:24).

All the people unanimously agreed to the challenge and King Ahab, too, nodded his head in agreement. The 450 false prophets appeared overly confident; perhaps the challenge seemed as child’s play to them. Later, however, all the people were shocked to realize that all the crying, offering blood sacrifice by the cutting of the flesh, rolling over, dancing around and prophesying by the false prophets did not move Baal even an inch, let alone cause him to rain down fire from the sky.

Now, the onus was on the prophet Elijah to prove that the Lord God Yahweh is the only true living God. Once again, the prophet reminded the people of the challenge. The people did not say a word for fear and shame that Baal had let them down.

The prophet Elijah then knelt down, lifted up his hands and looking steadfastly towards heaven prayed, “O Lord, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and that I am Your servant and that I have done all these things at Your word. Hear me, O Lord, hear me, that this people may know that You, the Lord, are God, and have turned their hearts back [to You]” (1 Kg 18:36-37).

By calling on the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob—Israel, the prophet Elijah was making the Israelites remember their covenant relationship with Yahweh God. By kneeling, he was showing all Israel that their knees should bow down and submit to the Lord God alone. He prayed aloud for all Israel to hear, asking Almighty God to hear him since Baal could obviously *not* hear the false prophets’ cries. And the Lord God of Israel who hears prayer answered the prophet Elijah in a manner that terrified everyone present.

The last days’ prophetic generation must know a level of intercession that takes hold of God like that of the prophet Elijah and, as a matter of fact, like that of the prophet Moses too.

Fire of God

1 KINGS 18:38

38 Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood and the stones and the dust, and it licked up the water that was in the trench.

Elijah Is Coming

Such a heartfelt passion-filled earnest prayer would not have taken more than a few minutes. Before he could close his eyes to say “Amen”, a rumbling sound was heard, coming out of nowhere. Everyone lifted up their heads and opened their eyes wide to see the fire of God suddenly manifest out of nowhere and fall upon the sacrifice to consume it to ashes, along with the wood and the stone. The fire even licked up the 12 buckets of water in the trench. Even the dust around the area of the altar was consumed by the fire.

When the fire of God’s glory came down on Mount Sinai, the stones and the rocks on the mount were charred and remain so, even till this day. But the fire of God that fell on Mount Carmel that day consumed even the 12 stones themselves.

A stone, Collins Dictionary says, is a hard solid substance found in the ground and often used for building houses. Bible teacher, Ken Brown, provides this interesting fact: The stones used for the altar were more than likely composed of sandstone. Of the various materials consumed, sandstone would have required the highest temperature. The melting point of sandstone varies according to its density, but it is roughly about 1,300 degrees C (2,380 degrees F).

Blast furnaces produce heat at temperatures between about 1,800 C (3,272 F) to 1,900 C (3,452 F). These temperatures would consume sandstone eventually, but it would take hours. Blast furnaces are like a cool breeze, however, compared with lightning, which measures approximately 30,000 C (about 54,000 F). This is more than 5 times the surface temperatures of the sun! A physicist once told Ken Brown that lightning could have accomplished God’s purpose here if it were sustained for several seconds.

However, we should rule out natural lightning as an explanation for what happened. Natural lightning would have

been described by the author of the Hebrew Scripture as fire *from* God, but the phrase used is fire *of* God (Esh-Yahweh). Natural fire burns combustible materials like wood and animal sacrifices. But this strange fire even devoured stones, dust and water. Water douses natural fire. But this fire licked up every bit of water. This fire is unusual if not strange and unexplainable. It is supernatural!

Next, observe the phrase “the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt sacrifice” (1 Kg 18:38). The word “consume” in Hebrew is *‘akal* meaning to *eat, burn up, consume, devour*. It means the fire of God literally *ate* up everything. *‘Akal* is also the term used for God in the title *consuming fire* (Deu 4:24). Therefore, it can be carefully proven that the fire that came in answer to Elijah’s prayer was not some form of lightning because the land of Israel had been dry due to drought for three-a-half-years, and static charge can’t build up in the atmosphere without clouds of moisture. The fire was, in every sense of the word, truly supernatural.

On Mount Carmel, the Lord God Himself came down – His manifest presence – to vindicate His glory! Consider the following Scriptures that validates this fact: “The sight of the glory of the Lord was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel” (Ex 24:17). Read also: Deuteronomy 9:3, Psalms 50:3, and Isaiah 30:30. So it was the Lord God who came as fire to manifest Himself on Mount Carmel to show forth His glory and might.

When the fire of God came down upon the sacrifice, it consumed everything – from top to bottom. It was just like when the temple veil was torn in two from top to bottom when the Lord Jesus died on the cross (Matt 27:51). When God’s Hand tore the veil – the partition that separated the people from Him – a new way of peace and reconciliation was opened between God and man (Eph 2:14). Similarly, God had now made a way – by accepting the sacrifice – for apostate Israel to return back to His fold.

National Repentance

1 KINGS 18:39

39 Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!"

As soon as the people of Israel saw this supernatural phenomenon, all of them fell on their faces and exclaimed, "The Lord, He is God; the Lord, He is God" (1 Kg 18:39b). King Ahab was speechless.

How were the people able to repent so quickly? For three-and-a-half-years the people prayed to Baal for rain. Baal, in Canaanite mythology, is known as the god who rides upon the clouds, the one who brings storms and causes the fields to be fertile. Believing in the might of Baal, the people offered all kinds of sacrifices—including their children—to him, but nothing happened. In contrast, the prophet Elijah just prayed a simple prayer and the true living God answered by fire!

Slaughter of False Prophets

Shamed, humiliated and insulted, the 450 prophets of Baal, fearing a mob assault, were no doubt looking for a way to escape when the prophet Elijah commanded the people to seize every one of them. The people, who vastly outnumbered the false prophets, seized them immediately.

Seeing the people's faith restored back in the Lord God Yahweh, the prophet Elijah seized the opportunity and, burning with zeal for God, ordered the people to drag the false prophets down to the Kidron brook. He slaughtered them there (1 Kg 18:40).

Why Were the False Prophets Executed?

Why did the prophet Elijah kill the prophets of Baal? There were several valid, justifiable and biblical reasons.

First, he was fulfilling what God had commanded in Deuteronomy 18:20: “But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in My name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.”

The penalty for being a false prophet to Israel was death. This included speaking for God when He had not directed one to do so, and speaking for other gods, encouraging the Israelites to worship false gods. Since the prophets of Baal had led the people of God astray, they had to be killed so that they would no longer be able to deceive the people.

Second, the doctrines and practices that these false prophets were promoting and propagating – the worship of Baal and Ashtoreth – were evil. Their worship of Baal, a foreign god, was sinful (Ex 20:3-5). Their message promoting Baal was worthy of death (Deu 13:1-5). The prophet Elijah was not maliciously exacting personal vengeance against these men; rather, he was executing the punishment demanded by God. They caused the nation of Israel to go astray after other gods by their soothsaying (false prophecy).

Third, they were slaughtered because the prophet Elijah, on God’s behalf, was executing judgement for the part that the false prophets had played in killing the true prophets of God. These false prophets killed the true prophets of God in the name of the false deities and offered their blood as sacrificial offering to Baal.

There is an interesting connection in the Hebrew text here. When the prophet Elijah slaughtered the false prophets, the

Hebrew word for “kill” is *shachat*, one of the meaning of which is *to slaughter in sacrifice*. As the true prophets of God were killed and offered to Baal as a *sacrifice*, so were the false prophets slaughtered. A similar judgement will be executed by the great God of Justice in the last days when He, too, will put on His robe of vengeance and slaughter the evil people on account of the blood of the righteous that they shed (Isa 63:1-6).

After the false prophets were killed, the 100 prophets who had been kept in hiding by Obadiah felt safe and secure again, allowing them to come out and once again minister to the people. It can also be seen that these 100 prophets later became sons to the prophet Elijah in his School of the Prophets. We know this through the ministry of one of them:

1 KINGS 20:35-43

35 Now a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor by the word of the Lord, “Strike me, please.” And the man refused to strike him.

36 Then he said to him, “Because you have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, surely, as soon as you depart from me, a lion shall kill you.” And as soon as he left him, a lion found him and killed him.

37 And he found another man, and said, “Strike me, please.” So the man struck him, inflicting a wound.

38 Then the prophet departed and waited for the king by the road, and disguised himself with a bandage over his eyes.

39 Now as the king passed by, he cried out to the king and said, “Your servant went out into the midst of the battle; and there, a man came over and brought a man to me, and said, ‘Guard this man; if by any means he is missing, your life shall be for his life, or else you shall pay a talent of silver.’”

40 While your servant was busy here and there, he was gone." Then the king of Israel said to him, "So shall your judgment be; you yourself have decided it."

41 And he hastened to take the bandage away from his eyes; and the king of Israel recognized him as one of the prophets.

42 Then he said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Because you have let slip out of your hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore your life shall go for his life, and your people for his people.'"

43 So the king of Israel went to his house sullen and displeased, and came to Samaria.

Not only did the sons of the prophets restart their prophetic ministry but some of them found new boldness – thanks to the prophet Elijah – to even confront King Ahab, before whom not too long ago they had been hiding for fear of being killed.

Prayer for Rain

The prophet Elijah's last action on Mount Carmel was to pray for rain. He was sent there by the Lord God for that very purpose (1 Kg 18:1). So the prophet Elijah prayed earnestly for rain (Jas 5:16). He even persisted in prayer for rain seven times (1 Kg 18:42-43).

Why did the prophet Elijah need to pray seven times for God's promised rain to come? Is there a spiritual mystery here – some secret that only the prophet was privy to? This event intrigued me. I began to ponder it, praying and asking the Holy Spirit for revelation. As I was looking at the Scriptures one day, suddenly my eyes popped open as I saw something that I had never seen or known before.

Elijah Is Coming

One of the most important of the Canaanite gods, Ashtoreth, is mentioned as *Ashtoreths* – in the plural – in the Bible. *It must be a typo or mistake*, I thought. I checked several other translations including the original Hebrew and found no typo or error. Surprised, I poured over the Scriptures and found that the plural word “Ashtoreths” is mentioned in 1 Samuel 7:3-4 and 1 Samuel 31:10. Furthermore, “Baals and Ashtoreths” are collectively mentioned in Judges 10:6 and 1 Samuel 12:10.

Ashtoreth is represented as a horned image, same as the cow goddess Hathor, which is worshipped in Egypt. It was her likeness that Aaron made as a golden calf and that the Israelites worshipped at the foot of Mount Sinai (Ex 32:1-6). She is a goddess of war and tenacity. Demons have a reputation for not giving up their territorial claims easily.

Ashtoreths warred with the prophet Elijah in the Spirit, preventing the rain from coming. We read of a similar pattern of war in the Book of Daniel. We read that the prophet Daniel received a message in a vision and prayed for understanding. He fasted and prayed for 21 days. At the end of 21 days, the angel Gabriel appeared to him and said that his prayer was answered on the very first day he prayed and he was sent by God with revelation for him. But the angel was detained by the “prince of Persia”—an evil spirit ruling over Persia—who wrestled with the angel Gabriel for 21 long days (Dan 10:1-13). It was the persistent prayer of the prophet Daniel that released God’s messenger, Gabriel.

About 20 years ago I read the testimony of Mahesh Chavda, a healing evangelist from the United States. He was holding a crusade in Kenya. Scores of people got saved and were healed every day. A certain blind man came to be prayed for. Mahesh Chavda prayed for him. He was slain in the Spirit, but when he got up, he was not healed. This man came faithfully every day

for healing prayer. The man of God would lay hands on him and pray, and the blind man would fall down and get up without being healed. This went on for seven days. On the eighth day, the same man came with faith, was prayed for, fell down and got up. Now, he was totally healed and could see perfectly.

Mahesh Chavda was pleased that finally that poor man was healed. However, when he went to his hotel room, he couldn't shake off the question that remained in his spirit as to why the man was not healed the first day. Mahesh knelt down and sought the Lord for an answer. The Lord then revealed that the man was not just physically blind, but was possessed by an octopus-like spirit that caused the blindness. Each day that Mahesh prayed for the man, one of the spirit's tentacles was cut off. On the eighth day when the last remaining tentacle was cut, the spirit's stranglehold on the man was released and he could see.

Likewise, the Ashtoreths—seven of them—would not let go of their hold on Israel easily. The coming of rain was the ultimate deciding factor that would seal the fate of Baal. He was supposed to be the god of thunder, lightning and rain. The false prophets could not cause him to make fire come down and neither could Baal cause rain to come down during the previous three-and-a-half years to relieve the people's suffering and prove that he was their savior.

The prophet Elijah won round one when the Lord God Yahweh answered by fire. If the prophet won the second and final round, the whole nation of Israel would ditch Baal and the Ashtoreths for the true living God. So, the Ashtoreths put up a fight. Each time the prophet prayed, he was casting out one spirit. He increased his fervency and intensity of prayer until all the Ashtoreths were defeated and cast out. *Persistence*, a man of God once said, *breaks the resistance*.

Elijah Is Coming

Finally, a cloud, as small as a man's hand, rose out of the sea (1 Kg 18:44). It was the Hand of God that appeared over the Mediterranean horizon to bless the nation with rain. Just a little while later "the sky was black with clouds, and a heavy wind brought a terrific rainstorm" (1 Kg 18:45 TLB). There was much rejoicing among the people and they danced – young and old alike, in the rain. Looking up at the falling rain the people exclaimed, "The Lord, He is God! The Lord, He is God!" (1 Kg 18:39).

CHAPTER 9

Man of Zeal

1 KINGS 19:10

10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

This Scripture shows us the heart of the prophet Elijah. He was a man of zeal. The word "zeal" used in the New King James Version is translated as "jealous" in the King James Bible.

Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words gives the following definition for the word "zeal" in the original language. "Jealous" in Hebrew is *qana'* meaning: *to be jealous; to be zealous*. This verb, derived from the noun *qin'ah*, occurs 34 times in the Old Testament. The root appears in several Semitic languages with the meaning *to be zealous* (Aramaic and Ethiopic). The verb *qana'* appears in rabbinic Hebrew.

Qana' in its most positive sense of the word means *to be filled with righteous zeal or jealousy*. In man's relation to God, the act of zeal is more positively viewed as the act of the advancement of God and His glory over and above substitutes. The tribe of Levi

Elijah Is Coming

received the right to service because “he was zealous for his God” (Num 25:13). The prophet Elijah viewed himself as the only faithful servant left in Israel: “I have been very jealous for the Lord God of hosts: for the children of Israel have forsaken thy covenant... And I, even I only, am left...” (1 Kg 19:10).

The prophet Elijah says in the foregoing Scripture that he was zealous—jealous for God. Why was he jealous for God? Because the Lord God Himself is a jealous God who will not permit any other gods to be worshiped:

EXODUS 20:2-6

2 “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

3 “You shall have no other gods before Me.

4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image — any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;

5 you shall not bow down to them nor serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,

6 but showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments.

The adjective “jealous” in verse 5 also comes from the root word *qana’*. The adjective form occurs 6 times in the Old Testament. The word refers directly to the attributes of God’s justice and holiness, as He is the sole object of human worship and does not tolerate man’s sin. (*Vine’s Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words*)

The nation of Israel was separated from all other idol-worshipping nations, cleansed and made holy to serve the true living God alone. The Lord literally stretched forth His Hand and

plucked them out of Egypt to be His own special treasure. They were specifically commanded by Almighty God, the uncreated God who inhabits eternity and whom no man has seen, not to make any images of things in nature as objects of worship. They were even forbidden to make images of the living God.

The Lord God, speaking to the prophet Moses, said thus concerning their special call:

EXODUS 19:4-6

4 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself.

5 Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine.

6 And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel."

Being warned and explicitly commanded to be a peculiar (unique, distinct) and model nation to all other nations, Israel slowly sunk into idolatry led by her evil kings.

IDOLATRY IN ISRAEL

After the split between Judah (southern kingdom) and Israel (northern kingdom), each and every king who ever ruled the northern kingdom of Israel built altars to idols and led the people of Israel to turn their back on the living God by sacrificing to idols and worshipping them.

For the purpose of our study concerning the prophet Elijah, let us consider several kings and a queen that led Israel down the path of spiritual depravity that necessitated the Lord God to finally send His choicest prophet to confront the forces of gross darkness.

King Jeroboam

He reigned for a period of 22 years from 931-909 B.C. (1 Kg 11:26-14:20; 2 Chr 10:2-13:20). He was the founder of the divided kingdom. It was during his reign that the united kingdom of Israel was divided into two kingdoms—Israel in the north, and Judah in the south. Being the founder, he sowed seeds of evil and wickedness for all succeeding kings. That is why God chided the kings through His prophets for walking in the ways of Jeroboam.

It was the Lord God who appointed Jeroboam as king (1 Kg 11:29-39). But instead of faithfully serving the Lord God who anointed him, Jeroboam deliberately introduced the worship of the Egyptian golden calves (1 Kg 12:28). He also sinned against God by casting out the Levitical priests and, in their place, appointed the basest people in society as temple priests.

In His mercy, the Lord God sent a prophet to warn the king (1 Kg 13:2-5). Instead of repenting, he stretched his hand towards the prophet, commanding his soldiers to arrest him. As soon as he stretched out his hand, God caused it to be paralyzed. At that moment, King Jeroboam cried to the prophet to pray unto God for forgiveness and healing. The prophet did, and God was moved with compassion, forgave the king and healed him. Yet sadly, seeing this gracious act of God's goodness and mercy did not turn the king's heart to repent of his evil ways and turn back to God.

Consider the evil done by Jeroboam which God Himself despised: "but you have done more evil than all who were before you, for you have gone and made for yourself other gods and molded images to provoke Me to anger, and have cast Me behind your back" (1 Kg 14:9). King Jeroboam despised the ways of the Lord and walked after the counsel of his own heart worshipping

all manner of idols. Not only did Jeroboam rebel against God and sin by worshipping false gods, he also made Israel to sin by encouraging them to offer incense and sacrifices to the Canaanite idols.

King Nadab

He reigned for a period of two years from 909-908 B.C. (1 Kg 15:25-31). Like his father Jeroboam, King Nadab did evil in the sight of God. He also caused Israel to err and sin against God.

Meanwhile, the southern kingdom was ruled by King Asa who did right in the sight of God by removing the sodomites and all the idols his father, King Abijam, had made. But wicked King Nadab walked in the evil ways of his father.

King Baasha & King Elah

King Baasha reigned for a period of 24 years from 908-886 B.C. (1 Kg 15:27-16:6; 2 Chr 16:1-6). King Baasha did evil in the sight of God and walked in the ways of his grandfather, King Jeroboam (1 Kg 15:34). During his reign the land was filled with immorality and every manner of sordid sin.

King Baasha's son, Elah, succeeded him. He reigned for two years from 886-885 B.C. (1 Kg 16:6-14). King Elah, not only succeeded his father to the throne but also carried on all the evil works of his father. He too, like his father, did evil in the sight of God by practicing idolatry for which God severely judged their house: "...for all the sins of Baasha and the sins of Elah his son, by which they had sinned and by which they had made Israel sin, in provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their idols" (1 Kg 16:13).

King Omri

He reigned for a period of 12 years from 885-874 B.C. (1 Kg 16:16-28). He is known as the one who provoked God to anger. He did much evil in the sight of God, worse than all his predecessors.

1 KINGS 16:25-26

25 Omri did evil in the eyes of the Lord, and did worse than all who were before him.

26 For he walked in all the ways of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, and in his sin by which he had made Israel sin, provoking the Lord God of Israel to anger with their idols.

He continued the practice of the worship of the golden calves which was instituted by his predecessor, King Jeroboam.

The Omri-Ahab dynasty represented the pinnacle of evil in their time. King Omri completely drove out all vestiges of Judaism and monotheism from his land. He made the Phoenician and Canaanites deities the state religion, especially the worship of Baal. He not only brought in pagan deities but built temples and imported priests of the idol Baal.

To further consolidate his power, King Omri arranged a marriage between his son, Ahab, and the daughter of the king of Phoenicia, Jezebel.

King Ahab

He reigned for a period of 21 years from 874-853 B.C. (1 Kg 16:28-22:40; 1 Chr 18). King Ahab comes across as a compromising leader. Yet he named his sons: Ahaziah, meaning

the Lord grasps, and Joram, meaning *the Lord is exalted*. King Ahab seems to have believed in pluralistic worship – Baal and Jehovah God.

Ahab did more to provoke the anger of God than any other king of Israel. It was during his reign that Israel plunged deeply into the ravine of idolatry.

King Ahab, out of all the kings of Israel who were before him, did the most evil to provoke the Lord God to anger (1 Kg 16:30). One of the things King Ahab did that was evil in God's eyes was to worship and serve Baal. That spiral to hell was the result of his marriage to Jezebel.

His marriage to Jezebel was a direct contravention of God's command that forbade marriage with heathens (Ex 34:12-16). King Ahab disregarded God's command and married Jezebel, the daughter of Ethbaal, king of Sidon. King Ethbaal was not only a king but also a priest of Baal and Ashtoreth.

The Bible says this concerning the wickedness of Ahab: "But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up. And he behaved very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel" (1 Kg 21:25-26).

What was Queen Jezebel like that she could stir a king to do wickedly? She was a controlling, scheming person without scruples who brought with her every vile element of pagan culture, including the practice and ideology of idolatry, along with all of its associated cruelty and immorality. Unfortunately, King Ahab, who was otherwise a very strong person, was unable to stand up to her. Her ideas and ideals dominated King Ahab's reign.

CANAANITE IDOLS—BAAL & ASHTORETH

What was the evil that King Ahab did which caused the Lord God to despise him and the nation Israel?

1 KINGS 16:31-33

31 And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him.

32 Then he set up an altar for Baal in the temple of Baal, which he had built in Samaria.

33 And Ahab made a wooden image. Ahab did more to provoke the Lord God of Israel to anger than all the kings of Israel who were before him.

The worship of Baal and Ashtoreth is very ancient. *Baal* is a Semitic word meaning *lord, master, or owner*. Baal was the chief god worshipped by the Canaanites at the time of Israel's entrance into the land. The head of the Canaanite pantheon of gods was called *El*, who was regarded as the father of 70 gods. The most prominent of these gods was Baal.

Worship of Baal included infant sacrifice and cannibalism. Represented by the *sun*, he is the primary male symbol of fertility. *Ashtoreth* is the primary female goddess of this religion. Her worship features temple prostitutes. She is represented by the *moon*.

Baal was the most prominent because he was considered the god of fertility in all aspects of life—human, animal, and vegetable. *Production* and *prosperity* were dependent on Baal. The Ras Shamrah text, an important archaeological find, praises Baal as the god who has power over rain, thunder, lightning, wind,

clouds and dew, and, consequently, over fertility. Baal was also worshipped as the weather god, the god of storm, of rain and good crops.

Worship was localized so that each area worshipped its own Baal. A name from the city or place where Baal was worshipped was frequently added. This resulted in a variety of names like *Baal-Meon*, *Baal-Hermon*, *Baal-Hazor*, *Baal-Zebub*, *Baal-Marduk*, and *Baal-Peor*. In the prophet Elijah's time, Israel worshipped *Baal-Melqart* because this was the form of Baalism worshipped at Tyre. Jezebel, a Tyrian princess, introduced the worship of Baal-Melqart to Israel.

Baal worship included the following:

- i. The offering of incense and burnt sacrifices (Jer. 7:9)
- ii. Sometimes the offering of human sacrifices (Jer. 19:5)
- iii. It especially included licentious sexual activity—including sodomy (*cf.* 1 Kgs 14:23-24; 15:12; with 22:46).

In a vision on January 7, 2016 during a time of prayer in Kalimpong, West Bengal, I saw King Ahab allowing temples and altars for Baal to sprout all over Israel. He, himself, encouraged by his wife Queen Jezebel, offered child and human sacrifices on the altar and burned incense (1 Kg 16:34; Ps 106:28-31).

Together with his wife, he gleefully offered the blood of the true prophets of Yahweh on the altar. He did this because Jezebel had deceitfully prophesied to him in the name of the Lord that by offering the blood of the prophets to Baal he could prolong his rule forever.

Sexual orgies were also allowed in the temples. Male sperm were spilled all over the temple and on the altars as a sacrifice

to Ashtoreth. Naked women trampled over the male seed with lustful joy. Homosexual practices were a common thing and so were female temple prostitutes. The babies born out of such illicit and lustful relationships were often offered as sacrifices to Baal.

The prophet Elijah's most dreaded foe was Queen Jezebel. Her father, Ethbaal, was the king of Sidon (1 Kg 16:31). He was not only the king of heathen nation – Tyre and Sidon – but also the priest of a certain Baal cult. When Jezebel was born, her father dedicated her to Ashtoreth. That is why she incited King Ahab to build altars for Baal and Ashtoreth all over Israel.

One of Queen Jezebel's greatest, Ashtoreth-inspired tools to reduce a mighty prophet to a whimpering eunuch was to seduce the prophet into sexual immorality. This spirit and its methods that were alive during the prophet Elijah's time were also alive in the first century church as we read concerning the church in Thyatira:

REVELATION 2:18-28

18 "And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, 'These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:

19 "I know your works, love, service, faith, and your patience; and as for your works, the last are more than the first.

20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds.

23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

24 "Now to you I say, and to the rest in Thyatira, as many as do not have this doctrine, who have not known the depths of Satan, as they say, I will put on you no other burden.

25 But hold fast what you have till I come.

26 And he who overcomes, and keeps My works until the end, to him I will give power over the nations —

27 'He shall rule them with a rod of iron; They shall be dashed to pieces like the potter's vessels' — as I also have received from My Father;

28 and I will give him the morning star.

This same spirit that had worked through Queen Jezebel was now working through a false prophetess in the Thyatira church. The last days' prophetic generation will have to confront this Jezebel spirit – the enemy of the true prophets of God. The last days' prophetic generation must be, like the prophet Elijah, bold and fearless.

ZEAL OF ELIJAH

When the Lord Jesus entered into Jerusalem, the first thing He did was to drive out false priests and false workers of God (Mat 21:12). The Bible records that it was the zeal He had for the house of God that made the Lord perform such a bold act – the eradication of those who turned the Lord's house into a profit-making marketplace (Jn 2:16-17).

The word "zeal" (Jn 2:17) in Greek is *zelos* meaning *heat*, i.e. *zeal, jealousy*. *Zelos* comes from *zeo* meaning *to be hot*, i.e. *be fervid*

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(earnest): be fervent. Zeal rooted in His intense and jealous love for God caused the Lord Jesus to boil hot against the evil religious workers.

A similar zeal was found in the prophet Elijah. He was moved with anger and sorrow when he saw gross evil – idolatrous worship – all over Israel. Early Jewish rabbis cite a Talmud tradition of what caused the prophet Elijah to prophesy a three-and-a-half-year drought. Hiel had rebuild the city of Jericho against the curse pronounced by Joshua (Josh 6:26). Heil paid a heavy price for his disobedience: the death of his two sons (1 Kg 16:34).

King Ahab, being a close friend of Hiel, came to console his friend for his loss. The prophet Elijah, too, came to attend the funeral service. During their chance meeting, the prophet humbly but earnestly implored the king to turn back from idol worship and to return back to the worship of the true living God.

King Ahab, being full of pride and arrogance, insulted the law of Moses before the prophet Elijah. He said: "If Moses' curse has not been fulfilled on the land of Israel, for it is written in Deuteronomy (11:16-17): 'Take heed to yourselves, lest your heart be deceived, and you turn aside and serve other gods and worship them, lest the Lord's anger be aroused against you, and He shut up the heavens so that there be no rain, and the land yield no produce, and you perish quickly from the good land which the Lord is giving you,' what makes you think that this tragedy is the fulfillment of the curse of Moses' mere disciple, Joshua?"

The prophet Elijah felt insulted by the snide remark of King Ahab. The Holy One of Israel, before whom the prophet Elijah stood, arose within him and caused the righteous, jealous anger of the Lord to rise up in his heart. Because the prophet Elijah

Man of Zeal

stood in the presence of God, the Word of the Lord was always nigh in his mouth. The zeal of God caused him to prophesy: "As the Lord lives, before who I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, except at my word" (1 Kg 17:1). He then prayed earnestly that it should not rain and God honored the prophet Elijah's zeal and bound the rains.

It was in his zeal that he sincerely believed that he was the only remaining faithful and loyal follower of Yahweh God when the whole of Israel had turned to apostasy: "So he said, 'I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life'" (1 Kg 19:10).

As it was during the time of the prophet Elijah, so will be in the last days. Apostasy on an unprecedented scale will be rampant in the Church (2 Thes 2:3). There will be gross darkness of the worst kind in the Church: "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron," (1 Tim 4:1-2).

The last days' prophetic generation, filled with the spirit and power of Elijah, must burn with the zeal of God to confront – head-long – the sins in the Church and in the land.

CHAPTER 10

Man of the Spirit

A life like that of the prophet Elijah cannot be an ordinary life like that of any other man or even a minister. As God's spokesman, a prophet must live close enough to God to hear everything He says – even His whisper. This truth is beautifully encapsulated in Habakkuk 2:1: "I will stand my watch and set myself on the rampart, and watch to see what He will say to me, and what I will answer when I am corrected."

Along similar lines, the Lord Jesus said this: "Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me" (Rev 3:20). In order for a person to hear that knock on the door, he must be alert and have attentive ears. To hear and open the door to the Lord immediately you must live close to the Lord.

Since a prophet must live close to God it also means he must live in two realms at the same time— realm of earth with man and the realm of heaven—the Spirit realm. To live in two such realms simultaneously requires a supernatural life. Such a supernatural life is naturally possible. All prophets—including the last days' prophetic generation—are called to live such a life.

Elijah Is Coming

The prophet Elijah lived a supernatural life. He not only walked with God but lived and stood in the presence of God Almighty. The Spirit realm was very real to him; more real, in fact, than the earthly realm. When you walk with God and live in His presence, the result is a life of supernatural spiritual experiences.

The prophet Elijah who stood in the presence of God was uniquely anointed with a very special anointing. This was the same anointing as that which is upon the four living creatures. These are the very same living creatures which the apostle John saw on his first visit to heaven—the beings that constantly stand around the throne of God:

REVELATION 4:6-8

6 Before the throne there was a sea of glass, like crystal.

And in the midst of the throne, and around the throne, were four living creatures full of eyes in front and in back.

7 The first living creature was like a lion, the second living creature like a calf, the third living creature had a face like a man, and the fourth living creature was like a flying eagle.

8 The four living creatures, each having six wings, were full of eyes around and within. And they do not rest day or night, saying: "Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty, Who was and is and is to come!"

The "lion's anointing" on the prophet Elijah caused him to be *fearlessly and bold*. The "eagle's anointing" enabled him to have *prophetic eyes* to see visions. The "man's anointing" upon him enabled him to be *compassionate*, be moved with human passion and pray fervently. The "ox's anointing" gave him *great strength* to slaughter the 450 prophets of Baal.

Let us analyse the life of the prophet Elijah and the supernatural spiritual experiences he had. The supernatural experiences that the prophet Elijah experienced fall into two categories: personal (internal) and public for the purpose of ministry.

SUPERNATURAL EXPERIENCES

Hearing God's Voice

From the very first introduction of the prophet Elijah in 1 Kings 17:2 the Scriptures say, "Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying..."

The word "saying" in Hebrew is *'amar* meaning *to say, speak, tell, command, answer*. This verb occurs in all Semitic languages and in all periods of those languages although it has the meaning "to say, speak" only in the so-called Northwest Semitic dialects (except in Ugaritic) and in Aramaic. Elsewhere, the word means "to say" or "to see." This verb is used about 5,280 times in Old Testament Hebrew.

'Amar refers to the simple act of communicating with the spoken word. Usually, the word is used of direct speech ("say"), although it may be used of indirect speech as well ("speak"). When used of divine speaking, this verb may refer to simple communication (Gen 1:26). The Bible recognizes that behind the divine speaking is divine authority and power. (Vine's Expository Dictionary of Biblical Words.)

So, from this definition we can safely conclude that the Lord God spoke to the prophet Elijah. And certainly a prophet must have the ability to hear God speaking to him. That is only possible when their spiritual ears are opened.

There are many passages in the Bible where the prophet Elijah heard the voice of God or an Angel speaking with him: 1 Kings 17:8; 18:1; 19:5,7,9,11-13,15; 21:17, and 2 Kings 1:3,15.

Speaking with God

The prophet Elijah not only passively heard the Lord speaking to him; he also spoke with God.

1 KINGS 19:9-14

9 And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

This is no mere feat—the grace to speak with God. The prophet Moses also had this great honor of talking with God: “Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice” (Ex 19:19).

Seeing Visions

Every prophet, by virtue of their call, is endowed with the ability to see visions. The word *‘amar* also means *to see*. I can vouchsafe from my personal experiences that the Word of the Lord can come to a prophet in a vision.

When the prophet Elijah heard the still small voice of God on Mount Horeb, he also saw the glory of God. This can be inferred from the fact that he covered his face as soon as he had the encounter (1 Kg 19:13). Finally, as he was waiting to be caught up to heaven, he saw the whirlwind and chariot and horses of fire (2 Kg 2:11).

For a more detail study on the various kinds of visions the reader is strongly encouraged to read the author’s book, *On Wings Like Eagle & Dove*.

Supernatural Speed

1 KINGS 18:45-46

45 Now it happened in the meantime that the sky became black with clouds and wind, and there was a heavy rain.

So Ahab rode away and went to Jezreel.

46 Then the hand of the Lord came upon Elijah; and he girded up his loins and ran ahead of Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

In this incident, we read that the prophet Elijah outran a chariot pulled by at least two horses. A horse runs at a maximum speed of about 60 kilometres per hour. So now, let’s do a little math. A

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horse runs at 60 kilometres per hour. The chariot itself weighs several hundred kilograms. So, the horses' speed will be reduced when pulling a chariot with a passenger and a driver. Let's say the speed of a loaded chariot is 45 kilometres per hour.

That is still faster than any human. The fastest that a human can run over marathon-length distances is about 21 kilometres per hour. So even the fastest man running alongside a chariot pulled by horses cannot outrun it.

The prophet Elijah ran at an incredible, supernatural pace over a distance of 17 miles and outran King Ahab's speeding chariot pulled by two of the king's best thoroughbred horses. For the prophet Elijah to run faster than the horses, he may have run at a speed of about 60 kilometres per hour. Perhaps even faster, because the Bible says he reached the palace way ahead of King Ahab. This feat of the prophet Elijah is humanly impossible.

Supernatural Walk

1 Kings 19:5-8

5 Then as he lay and slept under a broom tree, suddenly an angel touched him, and said to him, "Arise and eat."

6 Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again.

7 And the angel of the Lord came back the second time, and touched him, and said, "Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you."

8 So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

The prophet Elijah walked a distance of 200 miles – non-stop – day and night for 40 days. He walked that distance without

eating, drinking and sleeping. In contrast, earlier, after walking for just 80 miles, he was so worn out that he could not even stand and had to lie down under a juniper tree.

A mere man could not have done that by human strength. The supernatural strength the prophet Elijah received to accomplish such a task came by eating the heavenly food given to him by the Angel of the Lord. Heavenly food, indeed, gives human beings supernatural strength. During the Israelites' 40-year sojourn in the scorching wilderness none of the more than three million people's clothes or sandals were worn out (Deu 29:5). They ate manna—angels' food (Ps 78:24-25)—which prevented any of them from becoming sick or feeble throughout all the 40 years of their wanderings (Ps 105:37).

Angelic Encounters

A study of the lives of the prophets in the Bible shows that most, if not all, of them had angelic encounters where angels would either bring messages to them, or work with them in some other way. Some of the prophets who had angelic encounters are:

1. Abraham – Gen 22:15; 24:7
2. Jacob – Gen 31:11; 32:1,24; 48:16
3. Moses – Ex 3:2; 23:20-23; 32:34
4. Balaam – Num 22:31-35
5. David – 2 Sam 24:16-17
6. Isaiah – Isa 6:1-7
7. Daniel – Dan 6:22;
8. Zechariah – Zech 1:9
9. Lord Jesus – the greatest prophet of them all – Lk 22:43

Elijah Is Coming

The prophet Elijah was no exception – he too had encounters with angels. When he was tired after having run 80 miles from Jezreel to Beersheba, he laid down under a juniper tree to sleep – no doubt with an empty stomach. An angel came to him – not once but twice – bringing food for the hungry prophet (1 Kg 19:5-7). Later, after a hiatus of about seven years, we again read about the prophet Elijah working together with an angel of the Lord – 2 Kg 1:3-4,15.

Caught Away

Most believers think that the only time when the prophet Elijah was teletransported was when he was taken alive to heaven in a fiery chariot (2 Kg 2:11). However, a careful study of the Scriptures tell us that the prophet Elijah frequently had such experiences.

1 KINGS 18:12

12 And it shall come to pass, as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of the Lord will carry you to a place I do not know; so when I go and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will kill me. But I your servant have feared the Lord from my youth.

2 KINGS 2:16

16 Then they said to him, "Look now, there are fifty strong men with your servants. Please let them go and search for your master, lest perhaps the Spirit of the Lord has taken him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley." And he said, "You shall not send anyone."

These two Scriptures show very clearly that the prophet Elijah was frequently teletransported from one geographical place on earth to another, and this was common knowledge to all the people in the region.

Encounters with God

1 KINGS 19:11-12

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

On this same Mount Sinai, the prophet Moses experienced God passing by. The prophet Moses saw the glory of God from a distance, heard the thunder-like voice of God proclaiming His goodness and, like no other prophet before him, had the privilege to see the physical likeness of the back of God (Ex 33:20-23; 34: 5-7).

About 900 years later, the prophet Elijah also had an encounter with God on Mount Sinai where God passed by before him. God demonstrated His awesome power to the prophet. The strong wind, earthquake, and fire were not natural phenomena but occurred as a result God being there.

Ministry in the Spirit

Even after his home-calling, amazingly, the prophet Elijah continued his ministry. Together with the prophet Moses, Elijah appeared on the Mount of Transfiguration in the Spirit to talk with the Lord Jesus.

LUKE 9:28-31

28 Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray.

29 As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

30 And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah,

31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

But even prior to this incident the prophet Elijah reportedly came back – seven years after he had been taken alive to heaven – to send a handwritten letter to the wicked king Jehoram of Judah.

2 CHRONICLES 21:12-15

12 And a letter came to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus says the Lord God of your father David: Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father, or in the ways of Asa king of Judah,

13 but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the harlot like the harlotry of the house of Ahab, and also have killed your brothers, those of your father's household, who were better than yourself,

14 behold, the Lord will strike your people with a serious affliction — your children, your wives, and all your possessions;

15 and you will become very sick with a disease of your intestines, until your intestines come out by reason of the sickness, day by day.

Man of the Spirit

This event, the prophet Elijah coming back to send a message, is similar to when the Lord Jesus asked the apostle John, exiled to the island of Patmos, to give messages to the seven angels of the churches in Asia Minor. In the letter, the prophet Elijah tells the wicked king that he has led the people of Judah astray in the same way that Israel was led astray. The prophet ends the letter with a prediction of a painful death.

Is this really possible? The saintly man of God, Dr. D.G.S. Dhinakaran (1935-2008) was once graced by the mercies of God to meet the saint Elijah in heaven. During that chance meeting Dr. Dhinakaran asked the saint to clarify this incident in the Bible. This is how the saint Elijah explained it:

When he was on the earth, he always stood in God's presence. After his translation, he now stands before God in heaven (Zech 4:11,14). Whereas Moses and the other prophets who are in heaven experienced death and are therefore not immediately concerned about the happenings on earth, Elijah was taken to heaven alive—flesh and blood—so he is very much concerned about both the things that happen in heaven as well as things happening on the earth. He became inflamed and grieved in his spirit concerning the evil ways of King Jehoram. The Lord wanted him to reprove the king. So he himself wrote a letter and came to earth to deliver it through a human agent.

This letter is a puzzle to theologians who often negate the supernatural elements and acts of God mentioned in the Bible. Could not the Almighty God have sent the saint Elijah back to earth to dictate the Word of God to a person to courier the message to the king? Dictating a message to be delivered by someone else was something known in those times; for example, the prophet Jeremiah instructed Baruch to write for him (Jer 36:4). We also read in the New Testament where the apostle

John wrote letters to the seven churches in Asia Minor dictated to him by the Lord, which were then hand-couriered by angels (Rev 2:1,8,12,18; 3:1,7,14). All things are possible with God.

THE SILENT YEARS

After anointing Elisha as his successor, the prophet Elijah – it seems – withdrew from public ministry. During the intervening period of about seven years, except for a brief visit to meet King Ahab to rebuke him and give him a stern warning from the Lord (1 Kg 21:17-29), we don't read any more about his exploits.

He spent that seven-year period to set up Schools of Prophets to train, groom and mentor other budding prophets, among whom Elisha was the chief and his protégé.

But as I inquired of the Lord about the silent years, I noticed a difference in the way he interacted with angels after this period. It shows that a great change—a transformation—had taken place in him. In 1 Kings 19:5-7, we read that he had two encounters with an angel who asked him to eat the food put before him. He did not interact with the angel. But after the seven-year hiatus we then read about the prophet Elijah interacting with an Angel of the Lord. We read that he took instruction from the angel and worked together with him (2 Kg 1:3,15).

Another thing worthy of consideration is the showdown on Mount Carmel between him and the prophets of Baal. The prophet Elijah prayed passionately and earnestly for God to answer by fire (1 Kg 18:36-38). But after the seven-year hiatus, when 102 soldiers came to arrest him in two separate incidents, the prophet himself commanded fire to come down from heaven to consume them (2 Kg 1:9-12). Something seemed to have happened to the prophet Elijah that had changed and transformed him.

Molting

An eagle – the great bald eagle – always represents a prophet. Therefore, let's study a process that an eagle goes through in its lifetime to better understand what really happened to the prophet Elijah.

Molting is the process in which an animal casts off a part of its body (often, but not always, an outer layer or covering), either at specific times of the year, or at specific points in its life cycle. During the molting process, however, an eagle's powerful vision begins to dim and its talons begin to wear out and become blunt. Its powerful beak, which it uses to tear apart meat, begins to break up from the calcium deposits that form around its mouth. When it reaches this stage of powerlessness, it will fly up to a high mountaintop. It will specifically choose a mountaintop that is open and without obstruction, where the eagle must position itself in such a way that it can see the sun unhindered.

When it reaches that place, it will just stand there with wings lifted up, and stare at the sun. This will go on for weeks, allowing all the feathers on its body to drop off. It becomes ugly and naked. In that stage of ugliness, the weakened eagle is unable to hunt or feed itself. Many eagles die at this stage. But oftentimes other older eagles that have gone through this renewal process themselves fly close by and drop off food for these eagles going through the molting season. With the food that is provided for them, the molting eagles are able to stay alive.

After standing for weeks without blinking, looking at the sun day by day, new feathers will begin to grow, new talons emerge, and a new beak is formed. The eagle is totally renewed – changed – into a new eagle (Ps 103:5). Every eagle undergoes this molting experience. Till the day it dies, it remains a new vigorous eagle.

Elijah Is Coming

The prophet Elijah went through a similar process during the seven-year silent period. On February 12, 2018 I was fervently praying in tongues as is my custom. After a little while, out my mouth came the interpretation regarding the molting process in the life of the prophet Elijah. Molting is a necessary process in a prophet's life. It renews and repurposes him. The prophet Elijah went through three seasons of molting in his life. The molting process at the brook Cherith, and at the widow's house in Zarephath renewed his vision to see, hear God and to know God's purpose for the showdown on Mount Carmel.

After the Lord Jesus had spend many hours in prayer, as His custom was, we read that the power of God was present for Him to heal the sick (Lk 5:16-17). Likewise, after the first two seasons of molting and waiting, the prophet Elijah was prepared to demonstrate the power of God on Mount Carmel.

The third molting season in the prophet's life happened when he ran for his dear life from the death threat of Queen Jezebel. He ran for 80 miles from Jezreel to Beersheba. Fainting for breath and exhausted he drop down by a juniper tree. The prophet who once pointed an accusing finger at kings and authorities was now on the run and full of fear. This humiliating incident was a blow to his pride.

We don't really know how long he stayed there. Just as older eagles come to feed a molting eagle, an angel came twice to feed a very weak prophet to strengthen him. The encounter with God on Mount Sinai enabled the prophet to shed his coat of spiritual pride when God told him not to think that he was the only one loyal to Him; there were, in fact, 7,000 Israelites who remained loyal and faithful to God.

The fourth and final molting period in the prophet Elijah's life lasted for seven long years. Seven, as the reader is aware,

signifies perfection or completeness. These seven years of molting effected a powerful work of grace in the prophet's life that changed him into a man of humility and meekness. He needed these two qualities to mentor Elisha and the other budding prophets. The seven years of molting changed all that was within him, renewing his spirit, soul and body, and preparing him for his translation to heaven.

His Catching Up—Translation

2 KINGS 2:11

11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

The pinnacle of the prophet Elijah's walk with God was when he was caught up – or translated – to heaven while still alive – without tasting death. The prophet Elijah had heard from the Lord that his time of departure had come and the manner in which he would be taken from the earth: “And it came to pass, when the Lord was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind...” (2 Kg 2:1a). The phrase “take up” in Hebrew is *`alah* meaning *to ascend, (mount)*. It simply means going up.

As the prophet Elijah was walking and talking with Elisha somewhere in the vicinity of Mount Nebo – the same place where the prophet Moses was buried by the Lord – suddenly, a whirlwind appeared, materializing out of nowhere. The whirlwind opened a portal and through it appeared a golden fiery chariot drawn by horses of fire (2 Kg 2:11). The fiery chariot whisked between the two of them and the prophet Elijah mounted into the chariot. The supernatural whirlwind then carried the prophet, the chariot and the horses into heaven.

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The prophet Elijah was carried alive—flesh and blood—into heaven. Besides the prophet Elijah, the prophet Enoch was the other person taken into heaven in this manner (Gen 5:22-24). How is this possible?

The King James version reading of Hebrews 11:5 says, “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.” The word “translated” in Greek is *metatithemi* meaning *to transfer, i.e. (literally) transport, (by implication) exchange, change sides: - carry over, change, remove, translate, turn*. This means that the prophet Enoch was transferred from one place—earth, to another place—heaven. He exchanged places.

The idea of going from one place to another is not a problem for most of our readers. The question that remains is this: How could flesh and blood inherit heaven? This is how the Lord kindly graced me to understand this as I sought Him earnestly for an answer. When the fiery chariot drawn by fiery horses moved in between the prophet Elijah and Elisha, in the twinkling of an eye – in the faintest nanosecond – the prophet Elijah was refined, purified and sanctified to step into the spiritual realm, putting on his glorified body.

During his hiatus, the prophet Elijah walked with God as the prophet Enoch did. During those seven years, day by day, as a caterpillar is transformed through the process of metamorphosis, the prophet was prepared by God to put to death the flesh and to put on Christ.

CHAPTER 11

Man who Failed

During a season of fasting and praying in Jerusalem on April 26, 2014, I had a visitation from the saint Elijah in the Spirit. The saint looked at me with the tender love of a father and began to say, “Where I failed...” Even as the words were coming out of his mouth, my mind swirled with shock, *What? Elijah failed?!? How could the great prophet Elijah have failed?*

After the visitation and upon carefully reading the Scriptures regarding his life, I did find several areas of weakness in his life which the last days’ generation must not repeat. This is what the saint Elijah went on to tell me: “Where I failed, they must not fail.” When he said “they”, he was referring to the last days’ prophetic generation. They must overcome these areas of weakness.

After slaughtering the 450 prophets of Baal, the zeal of God still burning hot in him, his next task was to finish the job by killing the mastermind behind the introduction of Baal worship to Israel—Queen Jezebel herself—and the remaining 400 prophets of Ashtoreth. That was why the Spirit of the Lord came upon him, giving him supernatural strength to outrun a chariot. His feet, supernaturally enabled by wings from the Spirit of the Lord, ran swiftly, barely touching the ground just as a hovercraft glides over the earth.

Elijah Is Coming

The prophet Elijah ran faster than King Ahab's chariot and reached the gates of Jezreel before anyone else. He should have burst through the gates into the palace to execute judgement by the sword of the Lord against Queen Jezebel and to slaughter the remaining 400 prophets of Ashtoreth. Strangely, he stopped and waited at the city gates.

He fell short of his call and destiny by stopping at the gates of Jezreel. Instead of ambushing and killing Jezebel having the element of surprise on his side – the usual military strategy of Israel all throughout biblical and modern history – instead, he made himself a sitting duck at the gates of Jezreel, as if waiting for Jezebel to kill him by her own hand.

As he was waiting there, apparently indecisive, King Ahab rode right past the prophet and rushed to see his queen. Let's read the following Scriptures to see what took place next:

1 KINGS 19:1-2

1 And Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, also how he had executed all the prophets with the sword.

2 Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, "So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of them by tomorrow about this time."

As soon as Queen Jezebel heard that the prophet Elijah had executed her handpicked imported prophets of Baal, she fumed with red-hot anger. She went immediately to the temple of Ashtoreth inside the palace where 400 false prophets were waiting on the deity. Queen Jezebel made a vow before her principal family deity that she would behead the prophet Elijah and offer his blood on Baal's altar.

She summoned a royal messenger, handed him a royal scroll inscribed with her threat and instructed him to find the prophet

and hand him the scroll. The messenger found the prophet waiting at the gate. What was he waiting for? Perhaps for a hero's welcome into the palace? The messenger handed the prophet Elijah the scroll.

So, what happened next?

Fear

Right after God brought about a great miracle and answered the prophet Elijah's prayer on Mount Carmel, he became afraid of Queen Jezebel's threat to execute him and ran away to save his life (1 Kg 19:3). This demonstrated a lack of faith in God's ability to protect.

Fear caused by intimidation made the prophet forget how God had protected him from King Ahab's searching soldiers when he was hiding by the brook Cherith. God also protected the prophet from the searching eyes of Queen Jezebel when he lived right under the noses of her countrymen at a widow's house in Zarephath, near Sidon.

All throughout his life the prophet Elijah was guided by the counsel of the Lord. When he allowed fear to enter his heart in the face of Queen Jezebel's murderous threat, instead of looking upwards, as he had done before, fear made him look inwards to his own abilities. He ran for his life, trying to save himself in his own strength, instead of trusting God to save and protect him as the Lord God had always done before.

Self-Will

1 KINGS 19:3

3 And when he saw that, he arose and ran for his life, and went to Beersheba, which belongs to Judah, and left his servant there.

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When the prophet read the message – handwritten by the queen herself – vowing to kill him within 24 hours and offer his blood as a sacrifice to her gods, his face turned ashen with fear and any resolve he might have had to complete his mission evaporated. The prophet who had previously boldly declared “I stand in the presence of God” now became fearful and ran for dear life (1 Kg 19:3).

The Hebrew word used for “life” in 1 Kings 19:3 is *nepesh*, meaning *soul; self; life; person; heart*. This is a very common term in both ancient and modern Semitic languages. It occurs over 780 times in the Old Testament. *Nepesh* is from the noun *napash*. The noun refers to the essence of life, the act of breathing, taking breath: “living soul” (Gen 2:7).

What do we understand by this term? The bold and fearless prophet who stood in the presence of God was drawn by Jezebel’s threats and intimidation into the soulish arena instead of standing in the presence of God—the Spiritual realm. God certainly does not give us the spirit of fear (2 Tim 1:7). It was Queen Jezebel, anointed by Ashtoreth, who released a spirit of fear to attack the prophet and this caused him to run for dear life.

When the prophet Elijah read the letter of murderous intent from Queen Jezebel spelling out her intention to arrest and execute him, he became afraid, fled from the gates of Jezreel and ran for dear life (1 Kg 19:3-4). He ran – non-stop – with the same power that enabled him to run faster than the chariot of King Ahab – 80 miles from Jezreel to Beersheba.

Prior to this incident, the prophet Elijah never did anything of his own will. When the Lord God first ask him to go to the brook Cherith, he obeyed and went there. Then when the Lord asked him to go to Zarephath, he obeyed and went there. When

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the Lord asked him to show himself to King Ahab, although there was a real danger to his life, he obeyed and went to see the king.

After rebuilding the altar, the prophet Elijah knelt and prayed: "Lord God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that You are God in Israel and I am Your servant, and that I have done all these things at Your word" (1 Kg 18:37). The phrase "I have done all these things at Your word" sums up the obedient attitude of the prophet Elijah.

But on this occasion when he ran to Beersheba and then walked a days' journey into the wilderness – this was something he did of his own will and without the guidance of the Lord. Later, when he was at Mount Horeb, the Lord asked him: "What are you doing here, Elijah?" (1 Kg 19:9). The Lord's question shows us that the prophet was not supposed to be there. He failed to wait on God for His guidance.

Despondent

1 KINGS 19:4

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree. And he prayed that he might die, and said, "It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!"

The Ashtoreth-possessed Queen Jezebel also released a spirit of confusion which caused the prophet to become delusional and despondent. This caused the prophet Elijah to go even further into the wilderness. From Beersheba the prophet Elijah walked a further 25 miles into the wilderness.

Exhausted and on the verge of dying of thirst, he dropped to the ground by a juniper tree. This juniper tree is not the

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coniferous tree of the *genus juniperous* that we are familiar with. The Hebrew word for this tree or bush is *rothem*. This is a shrub found in abundance in southern Palestine. It has long slender branches with small leaves and provides very poor shade or protection from the sun. And so, it is with our man-made solutions through which we seek shelter and refuge from our pains and sorrows. The prophet sat under the tree and prayed, crying out to God in desperation saying: "It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!" (1Kg 19:4).

That is the powerful and damaging effect that Queen Jezebel's death-threat had on the prophet Elijah. She used the same tactics against Elijah that Goliath had successfully used against Israel generations earlier. His words caused fear and terror in the hearts of all the soldiers of Israel, including King Saul who was renowned for his bravery (1 Sam17:4-11). As soon as the soldiers of Israel heard the threat of Goliath, they "fled from him and were dreadfully afraid" (1 Sam 17:24). That's exactly what the prophet Elijah did. Both Goliath and Queen Jezebel were like the devil who "prowls about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour" (1 Pet 5:8).

As I write this portion, I call to remembrance an incident that happened in my own life in 2013 when I faced a severe onslaught from the spirit of Jezebel. The attacks from the spirit of Jezebel begun in November of 2011 and slowly escalated in ever-increasing waves until they reached a climax in June of 2013. Like the prophet Elijah I felt very discouraged, desperate, despondent and wanted to go to a wilderness in Tibet and die alone there. The combined power of the spirits of Ashtoreth and Jezebel can be very intimidating, damaging and paralyzing.

Being despondent, discouraged and suicidal, the prophet Elijah cried himself to sleep under the juniper tree praying for death by the hands of God Himself. After a stunning victory

on Mount Carmel, Elijah fell into depression. The prophet felt depressed and discouraged. He also felt unworthy, for he said, "I am no better than my fathers!"

A word of warning for those who would pray along the lines of the prophet Elijah's prayer: "It is enough! Now, Lord, take my life, for I am no better than my fathers!" The godly Bible Teacher, Dr. Brian Bailey (1925-2012), once found himself in the same shoes as the prophet Elijah. He prayed asking God to take him home. God decided to answer his servant's prayer. One day when Dr. Bailey was in his study, he simply just dropped dead. His soul and spirit left his body and an angel escorted him to heaven.

There, to his dismay, he was shown that he had died before his time and, as a result, he had not fulfilled the purpose that God had ordained for his life. Grief and sadness engulfed his entire being to the point that it was more than he could bear. In desperation, he cried out, "O Lord, please! Give me another chance!" The merciful God heard his prayer and the angel who was escorting him to heaven brought him back to earth. When they arrived in his bedroom, he saw his body lying on the bed beside his wife. The angel touched him and his spirit and soul returned to his body.

A similar incident also took place in the life of Sadhu Sundar Singh (1889-1929). During one of his visits to Tibet, the Sadhu met the Maharishi of Kailash who has been living on Mount Kailash for 400 years. After being enthralled by the wonderful revelations the saint shared with him concerning heaven and the hereafter, the Sadhu asked the saint to allow him to stay with him for a month to fellowship with him.

In no uncertain terms, the Maharishi turned down the request and said to him: "Your work is to preach the gospel, whereas my work is to intercede. You should not neglect your work by

remaining here.” Not one to give up easily, the Sadhu begged to be allowed to stay with the saint for at least a week. The answer was still an unflinching “No!” After pausing for a minute, however, the Maharishi said: “But you can remain with me for another 24 hours. You must not remain any longer than that.”

The Sadhu, however, was still unwilling to take no for an answer. “If you will not permit me to remain here in this blissful place with you for at least one week,” the fiery Sadhu threatened, “I will end my life right here before your eyes.”

Unmoved by this display of childish antics, the Maharishi calmly replied, “If you were to do that, I don’t know whether you would go to heaven or hell after your death. But one thing I do know for sure,” he added, looking at the Sadhu with the piercing gaze of a mighty eagle, “when you go and stand before your Father in heaven having not completely finished your work, you will surely be beaten.”

LUKE 12:42-48

42 And the Lord said, “Who then is that faithful and wise steward, whom his master will make ruler over his household, to give them their portion of food in due season?”

43 Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes.

44 Truly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all that he has.

45 But if that servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’ and begins to beat the male and female servants, and to eat and drink and be drunk,

46 the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him, and at an hour when he is not aware, and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the unbelievers.

47 And that servant who knew his master's will, and did not prepare himself or do according to his will, shall be beaten with many stripes.

48 But he who did not know, yet committed things deserving of stripes, shall be beaten with few. For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.

Let's be faithful to run the full race set before us before the foundation of the world.

The Lord was patient with the prophet Elijah's moaning and self-pity. He let him rest and regain his strength for future service. The Lord God was also mindful of the fact that the prophet had not eaten even a single morsel of bread since the showdown at Mount Carmel. Surely hunger and thirst totally exhausted him and drained every ounce of strength from his body. Being the gracious, loving and caring God that He is, the Lord God sent an angel twice to feed the prophet Elijah with two cakes baked on coals, and two jars of water (1 Kg 19:6).

Depression

Notice verse 6: "So he ate and drank and lay down again." Instead of going about his work as he usually did, after eating he lied down to sleep again. This clearly shows that he was no longer motivated to do the works of God because he was sorely depressed. When we are depressed and out of fellowship with the Lord, we tend to be insensitive to realities – both spiritual or natural – around us.

Was the prophet Elijah really depressed? Let's look at the medical symptoms of depression to see if the prophet indeed fell into this state. Some of the symptoms of depression are:

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- *Fatigue*
- *Feelings of guilt, worthlessness, and helplessness*
- *Pessimism and hopelessness*
- *Sleeping too much*
- *Irritability*
- *Restlessness*
- *Loss of interest in things once pleasurable*
- *Persistent sad, anxious, or “empty” feelings*
- *Suicidal thoughts or attempts*

Depression carries a high risk of suicide. Suicidal thoughts or intentions are serious. Warning signs include:

- *Always talking or thinking about death – suicide*
- *Making comments about being hopeless, helpless, or worthless*
- *Saying things like “It would be better if I weren’t here” or “I want out.”*

All the above symptoms positively indicate that the Lord God’s “special forces” prophet fell into deep depression – by the venom of Queen Jezebel. Only God could deliver His prophet.

Walk and not Faint

1 KINGS 19:6-8

6 Then he looked, and there by his head was a cake baked on coals, and a jar of water. So he ate and drank, and lay down again.

7 And the angel of the Lord came back the second time, and touched him, and said, “Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.”

8 So he arose, and ate and drank; and he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.

Seeing his troubled and discouraged servant, God decided to encourage and cheer him up.

The Angel of the Lord told the prophet Elijah: “Arise and eat, because the journey is too great for you.” Sometimes you can shake off melancholy by going for a long run or walk. The prophet was told he need to take a long walk—about 200 miles—to Mount Horeb (another name for Mount Sinai). So, after eating, the prophet girded his mantle about his waist and set his face south towards the Mountain of God.

Most Bible teachers say that, like the Lord Jesus and the prophet Moses, the prophet Elijah was the third person in the Bible to fast for 40 days. Even I had taught this until I once read in one of Rev. Kenneth E. Hagin’s (1917-2003) books that this was not quite true. Needless to say, I was shocked. When I continued reading, however, I realized that his conclusion was correct. Technically, the prophet did not fast for 40 days because he walked in the strength of the supernatural food he ate given to him by the angel. He didn’t need food and was therefore not hungry.

There is something amiss in the narrative where it says that it took the prophet Elijah 40 days to walk a distance of 200 miles with supernatural strength. When he, with the supernatural strength of God undergirding him, could outrun King Ahab’s chariot over a distance of 20 miles, how could it take him 40 days to walk 200 miles (an average of only 5 miles per day)?

Because of the history of this mountain and the last statement of verse 7: “the journey is too great for you,” we may be tempted to think that the prophet Elijah went to Mount Horeb to seek the Lord or he went there at God’s command. If that had been the case, why would the Lord God two times ask the prophet: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” (v. 9,13).

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At the very beginning of human history, the Lord God came looking for Adam and asked him where he was. Once again, God came looking for His servant and found him in a place – holy though it was – where he was not supposed to be. God, the Great Counselor, used probing questions to bring Adam to repentance; likewise, the Lord God gently questioned the prophet Elijah to evaluate where he was, why he was there, and what he was doing. The prophet was there on Mount Horeb because he was still running away from Queen Jezebel's threat and his own feelings of defeat.

Furthermore, the Scripture tells us “he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights as far as Horeb, the mountain of God.” From where the prophet Elijah began, a day's journey south of Beersheba, it should have taken him a lot less than 40 days and nights to reach Mount Horeb. A direct course from the juniper tree to Mount Horeb should have required no more than eight days, even fewer perhaps since he was walking in the strength of supernatural food. It seems clear that he was simply roaming and wandering in the wilderness much like the children of Israel had done for 40 years.

As I am writing this portion, tears are welling up in my eyes as I recall a very painful season in my life. The year 2013 was the worst year in my entire 39 years of ministry. I was under severe attack from the combined strength of the spirits of Ashtoreth and Jezebel. I felt exactly as the prophet Elijah felt: *fearful, intimidated, threatened, in despair, despondent, filled with thoughts of being forsaken by God and suicidal*. One day I sat down and seriously thought that since even God was not speaking to me about my situation and it seemed that He had forsaken me completely, why should I live any longer? I thought of going to Tibet to embark on a one-way trek into the wilderness where I could just die of hunger and thirst.

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The prophet Elijah was in just such a frame of mind. He too probably thought of dying in the wilderness by walking around for as long as there was life and breath left in him. The prophet Elijah was constantly crying unto God for deliverance. He roamed about – even in the nights – 40 nights, looking for a place to hide from Queen Jezebel’s soldiers. Constant and tormenting fear was what drove the prophet Elijah to extreme despondency. The Lord, knowing the thoughts of his servant, sent an angel with food and water from heaven to refresh and strengthen him. Little did the prophet know that the food brought to him by the angel was life-quickenning food from heaven. He probably just thought that it was ordinary earth food just as the ravens had brought to him before.

Furthermore, the 40 days and nights have a symbolic significance. The children of Israel had a significant spiritual failure at Kadesh Barnea and wandered for 40 years in the wilderness during which period all those 20 years and above died (Num 14:26-35). Likewise, the defeated prophet spent 40 days roaming the desert also hoping to die.

By God’s divine manifold mercy, grace and providence, the prophet Elijah was sustained by heavenly food for 40 days and 40 nights as Israel was sustained by manna from heaven through the 40 years. The prophet Elijah was then drawn to Mount Horeb—that is, Sinai—the special meeting place of God.

Cave Dweller

1 KINGS 19:9-18

9 And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place; and behold, the word of the Lord came to him, and He said to him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

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10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

11 Then He said, "Go out, and stand on the mountain before the Lord." And behold, the Lord passed by, and a great and strong wind tore into the mountains and broke the rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake;

12 and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a still small voice.

13 So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"

14 And he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

15 Then the Lord said to him: "Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria.

16 Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place.

17 It shall be that whoever escapes the sword of Hazael, Jehu will kill; and whoever escapes the sword of Jehu, Elisha will kill.

18 Yet I have reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

The prophet Elijah walked aimlessly for 40 days and 40 nights and came to Mount Horeb which is also known as Mount Sinai. Mount Sinai, known as the mountain of God, was the *de facto* official meeting place of God with His servants (Ex 3:1; 24:13). The Lord God once gave the prophet Moses a similar call: "Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock" (Ex 33:21).

That place where the prophet Moses met with God is none other than Mount Sinai. Not only that, some Bible teachers believe that since this cave was somewhere on Mount Horeb, it could very well have been "the cleft of the rock" where the Lord had placed the prophet Moses when God's glory passed by (Ex 33:21-33).

It is quite interesting to try to uncover the prophet Elijah's intention in coming to Mount Horeb. Verse 9a says, "And there he went into a cave, and spent the night in that place." The word "cave" in Hebrew is *me'arah* meaning: *a cavern (as dark): cave, den, hole*. The words "den or hole" describing the cave could very well indicate that it was the "cleft of the rock" spoken of in Exodus 33:22. The King James word for "spent" in this verse is "lodged" which in Hebrew is *luwn* or *liyn* meaning: *to stop (usually overnight); by implication, to stay permanently*. It implies that though the prophet Elijah came to spend a night in the cave he also had the intention to abide there permanently.

The prophet Elijah felt very sorry for himself. He was depressed and even came to believe that he alone was left of the prophets of God. He became fearful, got his eyes off of God and demonstrated a great lack of faith in God and His protection. He became despondent and discouraged and, as a result, wanted to die and even prayed to die (1 Kg 19:4).

At daybreak, about five in the morning, "behold, the word of the Lord came to [the prophet Elijah]" (vs. 9b). Here we need to

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pause and consider an interesting possibility. The word “behold” in Hebrew is *hinneh* meaning: *lo! behold, see*. This suggests that instead of just hearing the Word of the Lord, the prophet actually *saw* the Word manifest in the form of the Lord God and was surprised as a result.

Please note God’s question: ““What are you doing here, Elijah?” This was a soul-searching question for a prophet who had lost his way. From the question we can infer that the prophet was not supposed to be on Mount Horeb in the first place. The Lord was really asking him why he had lost his focus. Instead of finishing the job and killing evil Queen Jezebel and the remaining 400 prophets of Ashtoreth, why did he fail his mission and was now meowing in this cave like a frightened cat?

Instead of looking deep into his heart to answer the Lord, the prophet Elijah replied, “I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life” (v. 10)

His answer reveals an attitude of pride and self-righteousness. He did not answer the Lord’s question but skirted it. He was filled with the sense of his own importance and angry over the lack of response and help from others, including the Lord. He was bitter because he had served the Lord so earnestly and faithfully, and with such spectacular results, yet still experienced only rejection and exile. The prophet Jeremiah also found himself in a similar situation (Jer 20:7-9).

The Lord God simply ignored the prophet Elijah’s self-justification and his self-righteous reason for being on the mountain. Instead, the Lord instructed the prophet Elijah to come out of the cave and stand before Him. When the prophet

came out of the cave and stood before the Lord, as the Lord had passed before the prophet Moses (Ex 34:5), so did He pass before the prophet Elijah.

The Lord God displayed His mighty power as He passed by. The presence of His wind ripped through the mountains and shattered the rocks before God as a great and mighty hurricane. Rocks flew in all directions and the prophet Elijah had to run for cover. After a short while, a loud rumbling was heard announcing an earthquake. Finally, fire erupted from underneath where the earthquake had occurred.

Just as the Lord God came as fire to consume the sacrifice on Mount Carmel, the prophet Elijah was expecting the Lord God to lift him from melancholy and depression by displaying His earth-shattering power. But sadly, and to the prophet's disappointment, the Lord was not in any of the phenomena just displayed. Instead, after the fireworks died down – and when the whole atmosphere was still and quiet – the Lord God spoke, albeit in a still, small voice.

As soon as the prophet Elijah heard God and understood Him, he wrapped his face with his mantle – an act of awe as if having seen the glory of God. Once again God asked him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” (v.13). Having now seen the power and the glory of God and having heard His voice, one would imagine the prophet Elijah would come to his senses, shake off his depression and gird his mantle about his waist and once again run the race set before him. But instead, he bemoans his pitiful situation and repeats his despondent and self-righteous rhetoric again: “And he said, ‘I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life’” (v.14).

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The prophet displayed an extreme state of depression and an unwillingness to come out of it. So the Lord God decided to replace him. However, God did not reject the discouraged prophet but decided to take him away and keep him in a safe place – preserve him – for a future use (Mal 4:5-6).

Pride

1 KINGS 19:10

10 So he said, "I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life."

The external display of pride, self-centeredness and self-focus were much evident in the prophet Elijah's life. Twice he made the above statement to the Lord God Himself (1 Kg 19:10,14; Rom 11:2-3).

He boasted (another face of pride) that he was the last and only righteous, god-fearing, faithful and loyal person to remain standing (1 Kg 18:22). He said this even though he knew full well that there were another 100 true prophets of God safely kept hidden by Obadiah (1 Kg 18:13). But he presumed them to be cowards since they were hiding in caves.

Before the prophet Elijah left the presence of God, the Lord deflated his ego by revealing that God had carefully "reserved seven thousand in Israel, all whose knees have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him" (1 Kg 19:18).

ELIJAH'S COUNSEL

As I was fasting and praying in Jerusalem on April 26, 2014, the saint Elijah visited me. At the same time, the evil spirit of Jezebel also stood near the door of my hotel room, trying to get in. The saint Elijah put his hand to stop her from taking a step forward. She hissed at him like a snake. Only then did I notice her. She looked like a serpent from the waist downwards and was writhing like a snake.

The saint Elijah then said to me, "Where I failed, the last days' generation must not fail. They must overcome—they must overcome Jezebel!" How had he failed? Instead of executing her and her 400 prophets of Asherah, he left them alone and was put to flight by Queen Jezebel's threats.

Why did the saint give me such a counsel? Because once again the spirit of Jezebel will rise up in the last days and confront the remnant prophetic generation. The spirit of Jezebel will not attack any other group. Her targets are prophets, prophetic intercessors, prophetic churches, and prophetic ministries.

The saint Elijah went on to reveal the following concerning the spirit of Jezebel. He said, "Beware of Jezebel. She seeks to manipulate through fear and intimidation. That is what she did to me. And she still does that to all prophets. When she induces us to succumb to fear, we become fearful and we lose our courage. Her venom has a paralyzing effect of fear and trauma; instead of wanting to fight, we want to run away and hide. She causes us to doubt our calling.

God tried to wake me up to my calling (1 Kg 19:9), but I couldn't see it because of the paralyzing effect of fear and

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trauma. Her goal is always to kill or traumatized us, the Lord's true prophets, with fear, so that we will give up our call to fight against her and run away for the sake of life, peace and security."

So let's beware of the wiles spirit of Jezebel and learn to overcome it.

CHAPTER 12

Spirit & Power of Elijah

LUKE 1:17

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."

"What is the spirit and power of Elijah?" This is the mantle or anointing that is being poured out in these last days. Flow with me into deeper waters of understanding as we prepare our hearts for this coming shift in ministry.

SCRIPTURAL PRECEDENT

The coming of the spirit and power of Elijah upon the last days' prophetic generation has a precedent in the lives of two biblical prophets – one in the Old Testament and one in the New.

Old Testament Example - Elisha

The spirit and power of the prophet Elijah first came upon the prophet Elisha. The prophet Elijah *after* being caught up in the fiery chariot was a different man than the Elijah *before* the

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experience. Hmmm... I can see by your bewildered look that you are not quite following me. Okay, let us look very closely at the Scriptures, then...

When the prophet Elijah first cast his mantle upon Elisha as he was ploughing his field, anointing him as prophet in his stead, nothing noticeable happened to Elisha except that he left everything to follow after the prophet Elijah (1 Kg 19:21). For about seven years Elisha was a faithful servant to him (2 Kg 3:11).

As the prophet Elijah became aware that his time on earth was coming to a close, the kind-hearted prophet wanted to bless his protégé for faithfully serving him for seven years. So he asked Elisha what he wanted (2 Kg 2:9). Instead of asking for material blessings like silver or gold, the wise Elisha asked his master for a double portion of the prophet's spirit. The double-portion blessing is the right of the firstborn son (Due 21:17). Elisha, in a sense, was the prophet Elijah's "firstborn son".

The prophet Elijah, however, put a conditional promise before Elisha: "if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so" (2 Kg 2:10). So when the prophet Elijah was caught up in the whirlwind Elisha looked at him with longing eyes as a son would look at his departing father. At that moment Elisha's spiritual eyes were opened and, seeing the miraculous wonder unfolding before him, he cried out exclaiming: "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" (2 Kg 2:12). At that moment, the Hand of God took the mantle that was on the prophet Elijah and left it for Elisha to pick up. As soon as Elisha picked up the prophet Elijah's mantle, something dramatic happened to him.

After a time of grieving at the spot from which the prophet Elijah had been caught up, finally realizing that life must go on, Elisha decided to return to Israel. When Elisha came to the

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Jordan river, “he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, ‘Where is the Lord God of Elijah?’ And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over” (2 Kg 2:14).

A company of the sons of prophets stationed at Jericho witnessed this sight of wonder and awe. When the prophets Elijah and Elisha first crossed the river Jordan, they had seen how the prophet Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up and struck the water. As soon as he struck the water, the river ceased flowing. Both prophets walked across the river-bed as if walking on dry ground (2 Kg 2:8).

Now, as they witnessed the prophet Elisha working a similar feat, all of them said in unison, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha” (2 Kg 2:15). All of them paid homage to the prophet Elisha, acknowledging that he was indeed the prophet Elijah’s successor and readily accepted him as their new spiritual leader.

When the prophet Elijah first called Elisha to follow him and cast his mantle upon him, the prophet Elisha received the *spirit of Elijah*. But when the mantle came upon the prophet Elisha after his master was taken up to heaven, he then received the *power of Elijah*, which was evident when he worked his first miracle of parting the river Jordan.

New Testament Example – John the Baptist

The second example of someone who received the spirit of Elijah is taken from the New Testament – it is John the Baptist. The angel Gabriel announced the miraculous birth of John the Baptist to his father Zacharias as follows: “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” (Lk 1:17).

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Many parallels can be found between the characteristics of the prophets Elijah and John the Baptist. Both of them sternly rebuked kings that they saw as morally or religiously corrupt (1 Kg 18:17-18; 21:20-26; 2 Kg 1:3-4; Mk 6:17-20; Lk 3:19-20). Because the spirit of Elijah was in the prophet John the Baptist, he also made his home in the wilderness before he began his ministry and often retired to the desert (1 Kg 17:1; Lk 3:2).

John the Baptist even dressed in a way similar to the prophet Elijah: he wore camel's hair, giving him an overall "hairy" appearance and he wore a leather belt around his waist (compare 2 Kg 1:8 with Matt 3:4). Even the Lord Jesus Himself affirmed that the prophet John the Baptist was Elijah who "was to come" (Matt 11:14). Similarly, the Lord testified that the prophesied coming of Elijah was realized in none other than John the Baptist (Matt 17:12; Mk 9:13).

The spirit and power of Elijah upon the prophet John Baptist caused him to preach repentance boldly and without fear of repercussions, preparing the way of the Lord.

When the prophet John the Baptist was questioned by the representatives of the Jewish leaders concerning his identity and his mission – whether he was the prophesied Elijah who was to come or not – he emphatically denied it and answered: "I am not [Elijah]... I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said" (Jn 1:23). That was why the Lord Jesus told His disciples that only spiritual eyes and ears would understand that the prophet John the Baptist was of the same spirit as the prophet Elijah. The prophet John the Baptist was a preacher of righteousness, just as the prophet Elijah was, sent to awaken a people to the straight and narrow path of holiness.

The prophet John the Baptist was anointed with the same fearless spirit and power which was upon the prophet Elijah,

when he thundered against the sins of the disobedient, greedy and pleasure-loving Jews.

To the possessor of Elijah's spirit, the accompanying power is both necessary and freely given. This power that withheld rain, parted rivers, healed the sick, and brought reformation to a backslidden people—for such, the whole creation groans and stands in desperate need of. And we can be assured that this need will be met as God Himself fires our hearts with the passion to “make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

THE SPIRIT & POWER OF ELIJAH

The power of Elijah is available only to those who possess the spirit of Elijah. A brief examination of the *spirit of Elijah* must therefore, of necessity, precede any discussion of his power.

SPIRIT OF ELIJAH

How can we define the spirit of Elijah? The spirit of Elijah or, as a matter of fact, of any person at all, is the attitude, behavior, lifestyle and character of that person. So what was the spirit – the attitude, and character – of the prophet Elijah like?

I. Passionate

JAMES 5:17-18 AMP

17 Elijah was a human being with a nature such as we have [with feelings, affections, and a constitution like ours]; and he prayed earnestly for it not to rain, and no rain fell on the earth for three years and six months. [1 Kings 17:1.]

18 And [then] he prayed again and the heavens supplied rain and the land produced its crops [as usual]. [1 Kings 18:42-45]

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Someone has rightly said that if you want to know what a believer is passionate about then you must listen to their prayers. The prophet Elijah prayed earnestly that it would not rain in Israel, so that the people would come to acknowledge their sin and turn to the Lord God. The drought was to prepare the ground for repentance by demonstrating the impotence of Baal, the supposed god of thunder and rain.

The spirit of Elijah was tremendously burdened for those lost from God. His passion was directed outward, towards a lost people and towards the vital need for a mighty move of God. Like him, the prophet Elisha on whom the spirit of Elijah rested also exhibited the same spirit of compassion and kindness when he prayed for a dead boy (2 Kg 4:32-35).

2. Clothed in Humility

Though sometimes he moved in miraculous power, the prophet Elijah was content to retire to the seclusion of a cave or the quietness of the wilderness.

His humility can be seen in the following instances. When he was asked by the Lord God to go and stay by the brook Cherith, *he went and did according to the word of the Lord* (1 Kg 17:5). It took great humility on his part—being a Jew—to eat food brought by ravens, which are unclean birds. After a year by the brook, when God asked him to go to a heathen town and stay there at a widow's house till God told otherwise, *he arose and went* quietly and submissively (1 Kg 17:10). Again, it required humility on his part to go and, in a sense, “beg” for food from a poor widow. And to top it all off, he submissively stayed at her house until he received further instruction from God (1 Kg 17:9-10a).

After about two years living in Zarephath, God gave the prophet a very difficult job to do. He was asked to go and present

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himself to King Ahab. It basically meant that God was asking the prophet to turn himself in to a king where his name was number one on his most-wanted list. How did the prophet react? As a lamb that goes submissively and without struggling to be slaughtered, meekly he *went to present himself to Ahab* (1 Kg 18:2).

The spirit of Elijah is characterized by humility and obedience. This same spirit of humility was also found in the prophet John the Baptist who did not hesitate to deny that he was “Elijah” when he was questioned by the Pharisees (Jn 1:21). His deep humility is seen in the following statements he made:

MATTHEW 3:11

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

JOHN 3:25-30

25 Then there arose a dispute between some of John's disciples and the Jews about purification.

26 And they came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, He who was with you beyond the Jordan, to whom you have testified — behold, He is baptizing, and all are coming to Him!”

27 John answered and said, “A man can receive nothing unless it has been given to him from heaven.

28 You yourselves bear me witness, that I said, ‘I am not the Christ,’ but, ‘I have been sent before Him.’

29 He who has the bride is the bridegroom; but the friend of the bridegroom, who stands and hears him, rejoices greatly because of the bridegroom's voice. Therefore this joy of mine is fulfilled.

30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

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The last days' prophetic generation must emulate the spirit of humility that was found in the prophet John the Baptist.

On April 26, 2014, I was graced by the mercies of God to receive a visitation from the Lord Jesus. In this visitation, the Lord came together with the saint Elijah. He appeared to be about six feet tall. The key point that the Lord wanted to show me in this visitation was the heart attitude of the saint when he was on the earth.

When he called down fire upon the soldiers who came to arrest him, it was not an act of pride or arrogance (2 Kg 1:9-14). Rather, he was a meek and humble man at heart. This attitude was evident when he was told by the Angel of the Lord not to be afraid of the third group of soldiers who had come for him and to follow them. This he did, meekly and without protest, and with no guarantee for his own safety (2 Kg 1:15-16). The authority of God must be exercised with boldness while at the same time being cloaked with humility, and love should always rule the heart.

The Lord then showed me how the prophet Elijah prayed. His custom was to crouch down on his knees with both his hands on the floor, bowing his face to the ground. He also uses to prostrate himself before God.

The highly confrontational personalities of the prophets Elijah and John the Baptist overshadowed their awesome humility. When the Lord Jesus began His ministry, two of John the Baptist's closest disciples left him to follow Christ (Jn 1:35-37). He willingly released them to another ministry greater than his own. This attitude was also found in the prophet Elijah when he readily anointed Elisha as prophet in his own place and did not consider him a threat. In fact, the prophet Elijah even mentored Elisha for seven long years, teaching him all things that he himself had been taught by God.

3. Uncompromising

The spirit of Elijah is *not a spirit of compromise*. For him, things were either right or wrong and there was no question as to where he stood. That was why he thundered at the Israelites: “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him” (1 Kg 18:21). The compromising apostate populace gave him no answer.

The prophet Elijah then helped them to come out of apostasy by pointing to him – who did not compromise – as their role model: “I alone am left a prophet of the Lord; but Baal’s prophets are four hundred and fifty men” (1 Kg 18:22). He was thus pointing out that he was the only one who did not compromise.

4. Unselfish

The spirit of Elijah is an *unselfish spirit*. He shared everything he knew with his young associate. After testing the young prophet at Gilgal, Bethel, and Jericho, the prophet Elijah wanted to leave a blessing for him. Standing on the east bank of the river Jordan, the he said: “Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?” (2 Kg 2:9a).

He wasn’t the least bit jealous on hearing Elisha’s request for a double portion of his spirit and power (2 Kg 2:9b). He stood there, looking at his protégé as the Lord Jesus looked at His own disciples and said: “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father” (Jn 14:12). The prophet Elijah, like the Lord Jesus, had a magnanimous heart. He was never selfish, insecure or jealous.

At first glance, the prophet Elijah’s answer to Elisha concerning his request for a double portion blessing may not

seem so generous after all: “You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so” (2 Kg 2:10). That, however, is not the case. The prophet was merely answering in a way similar to how the Lord Jesus answered the mother of John and James when she asked for her two sons to sit on the left and right hand of the Lord in the kingdom of God (Matt 20:20-21). The Lord Jesus answered: “to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father” (Matt 20:23). The prophet Elijah was saying that the double-portion blessing of his spirit and power was not his personal property to give away and encouraged Elisha to look to God for the blessing (2 Kg 2:9b).

The last days’ prophetic generation should take note of this point: The power of Elijah – the power that withheld rain, parted rivers, raised the dead, and brought reformation to a backslidden people does not come about without an attitude of bending before the Lord God almighty.

5. Willing to Lay Down His Own Life

REVELATION 12:11

11 And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, and they did not love their lives to the death.

Both the prophets Elijah and John the Baptist exemplified this attitude in their lives. The prophet Elijah did not love his life even unto death when the Lord God told him to show his face to Ahab on two occasions (1 Kg 18:1-10; 21:17-24). Likewise, the prophet John the Baptist did not love his life unto death when he rebuked King Herod and Queen Herodias for their adulterous relationship, knowing fully well that by doing so he was courting

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capital punishment. Ultimately, he paid the price of being a prophet of righteousness by having his head presented on a platter (Mk 6:17-28).

Queen Jezebel wanted the prophet Elijah's head but she failed to fulfil her vow. But her spirit lived on in Queen Herodias who succeeded in getting the head of John the Baptist. The spirit of Jezebel targets prophets and prophetic churches. The last days' prophetic generation should take an oath before the throne of God with the blood of the Lord Jesus on one hand and the Word of God in the other, saying *we will not love our lives even when faced with death!*

This is the level of devotion required from you in these last days. Can you lay your life on the altar to be baptized with the same baptism as the Lord Jesus? (Matt 20:22; Mk 10:22). A selfless life does not consider its reputation – your 'I' shouldn't exist any longer. Can you make such a commitment?

Furthermore, when the angel Gabriel announced the coming birth of a son to Zacharias – the one who would minister in the spirit and power of Elijah – he told him: "For he will be great *in the sight of the Lord*" (Lk 1:15a). Please observe the phrase "in the sight of God." A prophet's calling is not to be great in the sight of men; more often than not, he won't be respected and honored by men. The Lord Jesus affirmed this when He Himself said: "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house" (Matt 13:57).

The possessor of the spirit of Elijah does not consider himself great in his own sight. As a spokesman for God, a prophet has no eye for his own glory or exaltation, but only for that of the God Whom he serves.

6. Faithful

The prophet Elijah was extremely faithful to God. He loyally carried out the Lord's instructions and acted boldly in the face of enormous opposition. This attitude was also found in the prophet John the Baptist. He was truly faithful to his call to prepare the way for the Lord Jesus—the coming Messiah. When the Lord Jesus came on the scene, he introduced Him as the much-anticipated Messiah to come and then quietly withdrew from public ministry (Jn 1:29-34).

POWER OF ELIJAH

A life hidden in God produces the power of God. Let us now analyse the power of the prophet Elijah.

Preacher of Righteousness

His one message that cut through every heart of the people of Israel, including King Ahab, was: “How long will you falter between two opinions? If the Lord is God, follow Him; but if Baal, follow him” (1 Kg 18:21). All the way down through history, every prophet sent by God always carried this message of righteousness – the message of turning the heart back to the living God.

The prophet John the Baptist was the boldest of them all, proclaiming a message that cut right into the hearts of the people:

LUKE 3:7-14

7 Then he said to the multitudes that came out to be baptized by him, “Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?”

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8 Therefore bear fruits worthy of repentance, and do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I say to you that God is able to raise up children to Abraham from these stones.

9 And even now the ax is laid to the root of the trees. Therefore every tree which does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

10 So the people asked him, saying, "What shall we do then?"

11 He answered and said to them, "He who has two tunics, let him give to him who has none; and he who has food, let him do likewise."

12 Then tax collectors also came to be baptized, and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?"

13 And he said to them, "Collect no more than what is appointed for you."

14 Likewise the soldiers asked him, saying, "And what shall we do?" So he said to them, "Do not intimidate anyone or accuse falsely, and be content with your wages."

A condensed version of the message preached by the prophet John the Baptist is: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!" (Matt 3:2). In the verse immediately following, Matthew gives us some context for this basic message by quoting Isaiah 40:3: "For this is he [John the Baptist moving under the spirit and power of Elijah] who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: *'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight'*". John the Baptist preached the Gospel of the Kingdom.

The last days' prophetic generation must preach the Gospel of the Kingdom before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes (Matt 24:14). The last days' prophetic remnant is going to preach it in the spirit and power of Elijah. A new anointing will be poured

out upon you. You will not just put a thousand to flight, nor even then thousand; you will put hundreds of thousands to flight.

Spirit of Prophecy

The gift of prophecy, among all the other gifts of the Spirit, is the predominant one in the life of a prophet. And the prophet Elijah was no exception. He prophesied the following things:

1. A three-and-a-half year drought and famine (1 Kg 17:1).
2. The miraculous supply of flour and oil over a period of about two-and-a-half years (1 Kg 18:14).
3. The supernatural end of the drought through a fierce rain-storm (1 Kg 18:41-45).
4. The doom of King Ahab and Queen Jezebel (1 Kg 21:17-24).
5. Judgment of sickness and death on King Ahaziah (2 Kg 1:3-4).
6. Judgment of sickness and death on King Jehoram (2 Chr 21:12-15).

The gift of prophecy also rested heavily upon the prophet Elisha who was the first person to receive the spirit and power of Elijah (other than Elijah himself, of course). His prophecies include:

1. Moab's defeat – 2 Kg 3:16-19
2. Birth of a son for a barren Shunammite woman – 2 Kg 4:13-16
3. Abundance of food for a city still under siege– 2 Kg 7:1-2
4. Seven years of famine – 2 Kg 8:1
5. The evil deeds of Hazael king of Syria– 2 Kg 8:12-13
6. King Jehoash's victory against Syria – 2 Kg 13:15-19

There is another key aspect of the Spirit of prophecy – bearing witness for the Lord Jesus.

REVELATION 19:10

10 And I fell at his feet to worship him. But he said to me, "See that you do not do that! I am your fellow servant, and of your brethren who have the testimony of Jesus. Worship God! For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy."

Ultimately, the fundamental content of every prophetic message is to bear witness for the Lord Jesus. The prophet John the Baptist, who possessed the spirit and power of Elijah, did not just carry a message from God to any particular individual. Instead, his entire life was centered around a single message: to witness to and prepare the people for the imminent coming of the Lord Jesus. He was specifically sent with one message: "As it is written in the Prophets: 'Behold, I send My messenger before Your face, who will prepare Your way before You.'" and "The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; Make His paths straight.'" (Mk 1:2-3; Isa 40:3-5).

The last days' prophetic generation, moving under the spirit and power of Elijah, will prophesy this same message with far-reaching impact to "many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings" (Rev 10:11).

Demonstration of Power

By now, the reader will be well aware of the power that was demonstrated by the prophet Elijah during his ministry. The notable miracles worked by the prophet Elijah are:

1. The greatest miracle for which he is known: praying down the fire of God on Mount Carmel – 1 Kg 18:37-38

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2. Praying for rain after over three years of drought – 1 Kg 17:41-46
3. Multiplication of food for the widow of Zarephath – 1 Kg 17:14-16
4. Raising the widow's dead son to life – 1 Kg 17:17-23
5. Calling down fire from heaven to consume two squads of soldiers who came to arrest him – 2 Kg 1:9-12
6. Parting of the river Jordan – 2 Kg 2:8

The prophet Elisha on whom the spirit and power of Elijah rested in double measure also worked miracles – in fact, twice the number that the prophet Elijah did. They are:

1. Parting of the Jordan River – 2 Kg 2:13-14
2. Healing of the dead and barren waters at Jericho – 2 Kg 2:19-22
3. Causing two bears to tear apart 42 youths who mocked him – 2 Kg 2:23-24
4. Multiplication of a widow's oil – 2 Kg 4:1-7
5. Raising of the Shunammite's dead son to life – 2 Kg 4:32-35
6. Removing poison from a pot of stew – 2 Kg 4:38-41
7. Multiplication of food for 100 people – 2 Kg 4:42-44
8. Healing of Naaman from leprosy – 2 Kg 5:1-14
9. Commanding his corrupt servant to be afflicted with leprosy – 2 Kg 5:20-27
10. Recovering the lost axe head – 2 Kg 6:1-7
11. Blinding the Syrian soldiers – 2 Kg 6:18
12. Resurrection of a dead man when he touched Elisha's bones – 2 Kg 13:21

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The last days' prophetic generation on whom the spirit and power of Elijah will rest will work miracles the likes of which the world has never seen. The last days' prophetic remnant is going to be equipped with the anointing of the seven horns and with the seven Spirits of God. There will be an explosion of mighty miraculous works that even the angles in heaven are waiting eagerly to witness. (For a more thorough study on these end-times anointings the reader is strongly encouraged to read the author's books: *Last Days' Seven Horns' Anointing* and *On Wings like Eagle & Dove*.)

Such an awesome display of God's power will be possible because the Glory of God that will manifest in the last days will be seven-fold (Isa 30:25). So quit praying as the prophet Elisha did when he asked for a "double portion" anointing. No! This is not sufficient because God is going to give you the anointing of the prophets Moses and Elijah multiplied seven times. The Glory of God is going to shine seven-fold. So ask for the seven-fold Glory of God.

When the spirit and power of Elijah is released in these last days, powerful angels that have never been fully released before will come on the scene to work alongside us. You have never heard of them, you have never read about them, and they are beyond anything that you have understood or experienced before. No one has ever seen these angels before. They have many wings; they are very powerful sword-wielding angels. It is this kind of angels that had, on rare occasion, worked together with the prophets of old. But in the last days, their manifestation will be released on a massive scale. They will bring with them two kinds of anointings: one, an anointing of boldness, and the other, an anointing to demonstrate the power of God.

HOW TO RECEIVE THE SPIRIT & POWER OF ELIJAH

After the prophet Elijah anointed Elisha as his successor, Elisha began to follow him *whole-heartedly*. That is the first remarkable quality he possessed. This attitude of following the prophet Elijah wholeheartedly was particularly seen in his life just before his mentor was caught up to heaven.

It was because of a similar attitude of single-minded devotion found in Joshua that God chose him to succeed the prophet Moses (Num 32:12). Joshua, too, followed the prophet Moses wholeheartedly, even during his extended 40-day fast on Mount Sinai (Ex 24:13-14).

Before Elisha followed the prophet Elijah, he did something very remarkable: “So Elisha turned back from him, and took a yoke of oxen and slaughtered them and boiled their flesh, using the oxen’s equipment, and gave it to the people, and they ate” (1 Kg 19:21).

Elisha was a farmer—and apparently quite rich one. He owned 12 yokes of oxen (that is a total of 24 of these powerful animals). The fact that he used 12 yokes of oxen to plough his field means that he must have owned a substantial piece of irrigable land (1 Kg 19:14-19). Elisha was quite a wealthy man. He was also a kingdom-minded person. When the prophet Elijah came looking for him to anoint him, he found him ploughing with the twelfth yoke. Twelve is the number that signifies government and the kingdom of God.

Not only that, Elisha seems to have been a *kind-hearted* man. After being anointed by the prophet Elijah, he immediately realized the value of the awesome call he had just received. He also knew that from this point on he needed to walk in newness of life

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and total dedication. So he hurried home, slaughtered two oxen and gave a large feast to all his friends. He then left everything – burned his bridges, so to speak – and followed the prophet Elijah.

The third quality we find in the life of the prophet Elisha was that he had *an obedient and submissive servant-heart*. After leaving home, he followed the prophet Elijah and served him. In every sense of the word “servant” he ministered to the needs of his master, the prophet Elijah (2 Kg 3:11). He served the prophet Elijah faithfully for about seven years.

The fourth quality that the prophet Elisha possessed was he *passionately loved and adored* the prophet Elijah as a father. On four occasions the prophet Elijah tried to discourage Elisha from following him further, but his favorite protégé insisted that he would follow him till the end. He followed the prophet Elijah from Gilgal to Bethel (2 Kg 2:1-2). Then from Bethel to Jericho (2 Kg 2:4). Then from Jericho to the Jordan (2 Kg 2:6). He faithfully followed the prophet Elijah for a distance of about 250 miles (400 km) wanting to make sure his master’s needs were taken care of wherever he went until he was taken up to heaven. He would not leave the prophet Elijah. As a result of his wholehearted devotion, he inherited the spirit of Elijah.

The fifth quality that the prophet Elisha possessed was *steadfastness*. The sons of the prophets at Bethel and Jericho also tried to discourage him from following his master. But he did not give ear to such opposing and negative voices (2 Kg 2:3,5).

The sixth and final quality we find in the prophet Elisha is his faithfulness and ability to ignore distractions. When he asked for a double-portion of the prophet Elijah’s anointing, the prophet Elijah told him: “If you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so” (2 Kg 2:10). In the midst of the supernatural whirlwind, golden fiery chariot and

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horses of fire, he was not distracted by the awesome spectacle, but kept his eyes fully focused on his master. This tells us that he was a *faithful* servant.

The Scriptures says the following about a faithful man:

1. He will abound with blessings – Prov 28:20
2. And directly from the lips of the Lord Jesus Himself: “Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing. Assuredly, I say to you that he will make him ruler over all his goods” (Matt 24:45-47).

No wonder that the prophet Elisha was qualified to receive a double-portion of the prophet Elijah’s anointing. These are the keys for the last days’ prophetic generation to receive the spirit and power of Elijah.

David Wilkerson (1931-2011), a godly prophet of the same caliber as the prophets Elijah and John the Baptist, once said this: “I believe the prophet Malachi (as well as other Old Testament prophets) speaks of a company of holy people who will be raised up just prior to Christ’s second coming. They will minister under the very same spirit and power that rested upon Elijah and John the Baptist. This last-day company of believers will heed the prophecy of Isaiah, ‘Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins’ (Isa 58:1).”

The power of Elijah is available only to those who possess the spirit of Elijah.

CHAPTER 13

That Woman Jezebel

A warning from God: *an enemy is going to come after you*. This enemy targets prophets, prophetic intercessors, prophetic churches, and prophetic youths. As long as you come under the category of the prophetic, the spirit of Jezebel is your number one enemy. And of course, the reverse is also true – the enemy also considers you as the number one enemy.

The Lord Jesus once called me to fast for seven days in Jerusalem in 2014. During this fast, on April 26, I had a visitation from the saint Elijah. He said, “Beware the wiles of Jezebel.” Why this specific warning concerning Jezebel? Francis Frangipane, a noted prophetic minister of God, said: “Let it be known that if Elijah is coming before Jesus returns, so also is Jezebel.”

Please ponder this for a minute. Who was Elijah? He was no ordinary prophet. He was a prophet whom even kings feared. He stood in the very presence of God. He moved mightily in signs and wonders. And he single-handedly slaughtered the 450 prophets of Baal.

With this in your mind, consider what happened next. This great man of God ran for dear life after simply reading a letter with a death-threat written by Queen Jezebel. The point is this: The Jezebel spirit is no ordinary evil spirit and is not to be taken lightly.

WHO IS JEZEBEL?

We are first introduced to Jezebel in 1 Kings 16:31: “And it came to pass, as though it had been a trivial thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took as wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal, king of the Sidonians, ruler of the coastal Phoenician cities of Tyre and Sidon; and he went and served Baal and worshiped him.”

Jezebel, a Phoenician princess, was the daughter of King Ethbaal of Sidonia, another name for Phoenicia. King Ethbaal reigned in Tyre, probably over all Phoenicia. The name “Ethbaal” means *With him is Baal*. He was originally priest of Ashtoreth, goddess and consort of Ba’al, in Tyre. The Jewish historian Josephus reported that at the age of 36 he conspired against the Tyrian king, Pheles, killed him, and seized the throne. His reign lasted 32 years, and he established a dynasty which continued for at least another 62 years (Barnes’ Notes).

This tells us something about Jezebel’s heritage. She came from a royal household that had taken power from other rulers, so she was probably well-schooled in political intrigue. Her name in Phoenician translates roughly as *The Lord [Ba’al] exists*, but in biblical Hebrew her name means *without nobility*. That speaks very much of her character, doesn’t it?

Earlier in Israel’s history, King Solomon had entered into many alliances with neighboring countries by marrying their princesses. King Ahab did not learn from that mistake – a mistake which led King Solomon into idolatry. Instead, King Ahab married Jezebel, and she took him down the path of Baal worship. Baal was the most popular Canaanite god. King Ahab and Queen Jezebel reigned for 22 years (874-853 B.C.). Together they attempted to make Israel a pagan nation devoted to Baal and Asherah, the deities of the Sidonians (Holman Bible Handbook.)

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Just how sinister is the Jezebel spirit? *Easton's Bible Dictionary* says, "Jezebel has stamped her name on history as the representative of all that is designing, crafty, malicious, revengeful and cruel. She is the first great instigator of persecution against the saints of God. Guided by no principle, restrained by no fear of either God or man, passionate in her attachment to her heathen worship, she spared no pains to maintain idolatry around her in all its splendour."

Matthew Henry's Commentary calls Jezebel a "zealous idolater, extremely imperious and malicious in her natural temper, addicted to witchcrafts and whoredoms, and every way vicious."

Her Religion

The Sidonians worshipped Baal and Ashtoreth. King Ethbaal, Jezebel's father, was also the high priest of Ashtoreth. As such, when Jezebel was born, he dedicated her to Ashtoreth. The spirit of Ashtoreth came upon Jezebel and she was possessed with that spirit from the day she was born. That was why she was so wicked and full of sorcery.

Like her father, she was a priestess of Ashtoreth whom she served faithfully and with devotion. To her, the offering of blood sacrifices was a delight and it came as second nature. Every morning, while she was growing up under her father's care, she would go to the temple of Baal and Ashtoreth within the palace grounds. There, together with the priests and prophets of Baal and Ashtoreth, she would burn incense to these idols. She was carefully schooled in the ways of idol worship and witchcraft by them.

Ba'al

The name "Ba'al" means *lord* or *possessor*. Baal was the sun-god of Phoenicia, and the supreme deity among the Canaanites and

various other pagan nations. His full title is “Baal-Shemaim” which means *lord of heaven*. Among Baal’s titles were “Rider of the Clouds,” “Almighty,” and “Lord of the Earth.” He was the god of fertility, thunderstorms, a mighty warrior, the sun god and the protector of crops and livestock.

The Canaanites, all of whom were serious Baal worshipers, routinely participated in perverted sexual acts as part of their worship, fertility rites, religious prostitution and human sacrifice—all to pacify their gods. Child sacrifice was a delectable thing to Baal. The prophet Jeremiah indicates that infant sacrifices were offered to Baal as well as to other gods (Jer 19:5).

Ashtoreth

Ashtoreth, the mistress of Baal, is the principal goddess of the Sidonians. She is a Canaanite fertility goddess and a female demon of lust and war. She is also known as the “Queen of heaven” (Jer 7:18; 44:17-19). Ashtoreth was known as the horned goddess and was represented in the same way as Hathor, the cow goddess of Egypt, whom the Israelites worshipped as the golden calf in Sinai (Ex 32:4).

Ashtoreth’s main task is to entice God’s children into idol worship by confusing lust with love, thereby having their love for God grow cold and their need for physical pleasure increase.

JEZEBEL’S CHARACTERISTICS

Queen Jezebel was very smart, but she used her intelligence for evil purposes. She had great influence over her husband and corrupted him—both morally and spiritually—leading both of them to their downfall.

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This greatest enemy of the prophet Elijah will try to stop, manipulate, seduce or discredit a prophet or a prophetic ministry through any number of diabolical schemes. The last days' prophetic generation will either triumph over or fall to this timeless spirit as they rise to confront the Ahab's and Herod's in these last days.

Prideful

Being born with a silver spoon in her mouth and attendants at her beck and call, Jezebel is synonymous with pride and arrogance.

It was her prideful, arrogant and bossy nature that forced her husband, King Ahab – though a God-fearing man in the beginning – to go after pagan Canaanite gods as well as to make all Israel worship them (1 Kg 21:25). Her pride was evident when she threatened the prophet Elijah: “So let the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life as the life of one of [the executed prophets of Baal] by tomorrow about this time” (1 Kg 19:2).

When King Ahab was downcast because Naboth refused to sell him his vineyard, she proudly boasted: “I will give you the vineyard of Naboth the Jezreelite” (1 Kg 21:7). She showed her domineering and prideful character by promising something that wasn't hers to give. She usurped the king's authority and without his permission wrote letters to the elders of Jezreel using the king's name and sealing the letter with his royal seal.

During the 12-year reign of Joram, her son by Ahab, she took the title of “Queen Mother” and continued to weave her political webs (2 Kg 10:13). What is a “Queen Mother”? A queen mother is a dowager queen who is the mother of the reigning monarch (or an empress mother in the case of an empire). In this way, Queen Jezebel continued to wield her power and control all over Israel even after the death of King Ahab.

Elijah Is Coming

In the year 2012 the Lord called me to fast for three days in Israel during the season of Rosh Hashanah. I stayed at a hotel in Tel Aviv and prayed the whole day only taking an hour break in the evening for dinner. I did not watch television during the first two days of the fast. The television's remote control was always on a ledge by the bed. I did not even touch it.

On the third day of the fast—being Rosh Hashanah, after waiting on the Lord the whole day, at about 4.30 PM I audibly heard the sound of trumpets being blown. I thought that Jews were blowing shofars to mark the holiday and went to the window to investigate. But the atmosphere outside was so still you could hear a pin drop. When I sat back down, again I distinctly heard the sound of trumpets.

I humbled myself before the Lord to give Him thanks for allowing me to hear the trumpets being blown in heaven. Then, as I opened my Bible to look up some Scriptures, something unexplainable happened. The television suddenly turned on! I was shocked and stared at the TV in surprise. At first, I thought I had accidentally stepped on the remote control, but when I looked around it was still on the ledge by the bed. *How did this happen?* – I thought.

Without warning, a gorgeous woman – in the spirit of course – materialized in the hotel room, walked past the television set and sat on the chair opposite me. This spirit had turned on the television to announce her arrival. I recognized this “woman” as Ashtoreth. She had an air of arrogant superiority about her. She sat on the chair and stretched her right leg towards me, shoving her foot close to my face as if to say, *kiss my feet and pay homage to me*. For the next few minutes she spoke in an arrogant prideful manner that reminded me of the way Lucifer talked to God after his fall (Isa 14:12-14) and of how Queen Jezebel spoke.

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One of the last days' deceptions will be workers of false signs, wonders and spiritual experiences. Just as the magicians of Egypt imitated the miracles of the prophet Moses, the last days' prophetic generation will need to contend with such false workers. True spiritual experience is based on truth—the Word of God.

In the last days, believers should possess the character of the Lamb of God. That is, they must be *meek, humble, submissive, and willing to follow*—*willing to be led and guided by the Father*. Pride is the fruit of false spiritual experiences and encounters. *Arrogance, falsehood and pretentiousness* are the fruit of pride. This is another one of the works of Jezebel. She had 850 false prophets under her who see – divine – into the spiritual realm and prophesy. Jezebel is a displayer of false signs, false wonders, magic—witchcraft and false revelations. She will always seek to bring true prophets under her control.

Seductress

2 Kings 9:22,30-31

22 Now it happened, when Joram saw Jehu, that he said, "Is it peace, Jehu?" So he answered, "What peace, as long as the harlotries of your mother Jezebel and her witchcraft are so many?"

30 Now when Jehu had come to Jezreel, Jezebel heard of it; and she put paint on her eyes and adorned her head, and looked through a window.

31 Then, as Jehu entered at the gate, she said, "Is it peace, Zimri, murderer of your master?"

Queen Jezebel is a sensual seductress. She will seduce a person sexually and even prostitute herself to gain an advantage. When Jehu came to kill her, she put on makeup and her best cloths to seduce him. Seduction most often comes through some form of flattery. Flattery is a compliment or something that makes you

feel good about yourself. Everyone likes a pat on the back for a job well done, but it's the motive behind Jezebel's compliments we must discern.

When Jehu came looking for her, she attempted to seduce him through her artificial beauty and words of flattery by enquiring about his health. When she saw that Jehu was unmoved by her attempts at seduction, she threatened to expose his murderous act. The spirit of Jezebel will try to entice a prophet sexually. If she can succeed in making you fall into sexual sin, three things will result:

1. Your calling will be forfeited – as it happened to Samson and King Solomon.
2. She will steal your anointing and your gifting – as it happened to Samson.
3. She will kill you spiritually, if not physically.

One of her primary weapons is seduction—her sexual enticement. Observe the life of Joseph (Gen 39). He came to Potiphar's house as a slave. Potiphar was one of Pharaoh's most important and trusted captains – he oversaw Pharaoh's personal bodyguards. Joseph was his most trusted slave. The spirit of Ashtoreth wanted to take Joseph out, having recognized that he would be a deliverer for his family. So this spirit beguiled—enchanted Potiphar's wife to entice Joseph into a sexual tryst which would disqualify him from fulfilling the prophetic call of God on his life.

Maker of Eunuchs

Jezebel is a seductress and she enslaves men. Once she makes you fall, you become a eunuch. When you become a eunuch, you are under her thumb.

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The word “eunuch” in the Hebrew is *cariyc* meaning *a castrated person and keeper of the bedchamber; neutered*. Eunuchs were often found in the households of kings, particularly as the custodians of women (Est 2:3), keeping charge of the king’s concubines (Est 2:14-15), and those who worked in women’s bedchambers. Eunuchs were permitted to work in female bedchambers because they had essentially been emasculated. We know there were eunuchs in Jezebel’s household (2 Kg 9:32). Queen Esther had a personal attendant who was a eunuch (Est 4:5).

There were even eunuchs who worked for kings (Jer 38:7; Dan 1:3) – such as the seven who worked for King Ahasuerus (Est 1:10). Some eunuchs, like the Ethiopian eunuch to whom Philip preached the gospel and later baptized in water, served in a very high position for the queen, being the minister in charge of all her finances (Acts 8:27).

As chamberlains, Queen Jezebel’s eunuchs were allowed unrestricted access to her private dwelling—including her bedroom. These eunuchs also served – among their many other duties – the sensual pleasure-loving Queen Jezebel sexually. Once a person is castrated they cannot procreate (Isa 56:3). So they pleased her carnally with unnatural sexual activities. These men were neutralized—unable to stand against the wiles and power of Jezebel.

Queen Jezebel used eunuchs for the following purposes:

1. To carry her messages, perform errands, deliver letters and invitations and spread rumors.
2. Authorized official agents and delegates.
3. Full-time students of the teachings of Jezebel.
4. Servants required to meet even the most trifling desires.
5. Operatives to gather vital information to maintain her control and influence.

Elijah Is Coming

As I was praying on September 16, 2017, the saint Elijah visited me and said, “Jezebel will raise up an army of eunuchs in these last days as she did during her earthly lifetime. These eunuchs are gays who are worshippers of Baal and Ashtoreth – the god and goddess of immorality, power and witchcraft. These eunuchs are positioned in the government. From that position of power they will seek to exert their influence so that they can introduce Baal worship throughout the world. They will legislate laws to legitimize the worship of false gods.

The last days’ generation will need to confront a godless people and godless governments as I did. That is why God is going to release me to empower the youths and your godly ministers with the Spirit of boldness to confront evil regimes with the Word from the mouth of the holy God and to demonstrate the power of God.

The last days’ generation must learn to be separated from the world – to live a separated life, as I did. Be sober-minded; dwell on the things that are from above. Behold, the God of Elijah is coming soon with fury and power upon the world to set the church free.”

THE WILES OF JEZEBEL

On March 4, 2014, while flying out of Australia, I heard the thunder-like voice of God the Father say, “Beware of Jezebel’s wiles and snares.” A few months later I heard a similar statement of caution from none other than Elijah himself – the prophet who had to constantly contend with her during his earthly ministry.

What are *wiles*? Wiles are clever tricks that people, especially women, use to persuade other people to do something. Queen Jezebel’s tactics – the way she operated during the prophet

Elijah's days – will be the same tactics that the wicked spirit of Jezebel will use in the last days. Let us take a closer look at some of her wiles:

Master Manipulator

1 KINGS 21:25-26

25 But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up.

26 And he behaved very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel.

The word “stirred” in verse 25 in Hebrew is *soot* meaning *to prick, i.e. stimulate; to seduce: entice, move, persuade, provoke, remove, set on, stir up, take away*. *Soot* is derived from the word *shayit* meaning *scrub or trash, i.e. wild growth of weeds or briars (as if put on the field): thorns*. This means that Queen Jezebel had the ability to speak enticing words that would stimulate a person with seduction until they were moved or provoked to action.

She masterfully influenced – even forced – King Ahab through manipulative persuasion to serve her Canaanite gods and to also make Baal and Ashtoreth the official gods of Israel, replacing the Lord God Jehovah (1 Kg 16:31-33).

Murderer

1 KINGS 18:4

4 For so it was, while Jezebel massacred the prophets of the Lord, that Obadiah had taken one hundred prophets and hidden them, fifty to a cave, and had fed them with bread and water.)

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Queen Jezebel masterminded and issued the edict to kill all of the Lord God's true prophets so that the worship of Yahweh God would be totally eradicated from the territory of Israel.

One more time this murderous spirit – the confluence of Ashtoreth and Jezebel – is going to mastermind the execution of the last days' prophetic generation (Dan 7:21; Rev 12:17; 13:7) as well as the Two Witnesses (Rev 11:7).

Cunning Schemer

King Ahab badly wanted the vineyard of Naboth which was located close to his palace. The king offered Naboth to barter his vineyard for another better vineyard. He was even willing to pay whatever extra money Naboth would demand. But he refused the king's seemingly generous offer citing the fact that the vineyard was his family inheritance.

King Ahab was sorely saddened and displeased. When Queen Jezebel heard of her husband's sulking and dejection, she told him not to fret and promised that she would take care of everything and hand him the vineyard on a silver platter.

She forged letters, supposedly written by King Ahab himself, and sealed them with his own seal, inviting the elders and nobles of the area on the pretext of praying and fasting. Naboth also attended the meeting. Queen Jezebel cunningly set-up two scoundrels to accuse Naboth of cursing God and the king in front of the whole assembly.

When Naboth was framed for treason and blasphemy the elders were to take Naboth out and execute him. Her plan worked and Naboth was stoned to death. After Naboth's death, Queen Jezebel gleefully announced to her husband that the vineyard which he had wanted so badly was his for the taking (1 Kg 21:1-16).

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This is exactly what the spirit of Jezebel will do in the last days. She will set up false accusations and false accusers and enact plans to murder the innocent. She will cunningly scheme for people to frame us, blacken our reputation with false accusations and use mudslinging against the prophetic generation. Her purpose is to character-assassinate you, to kill your character and reputation, and to spoil your name and thereby kill your ministry. That's her game plan.

Criticizing, backbiting, gossip, slander, talking behind one's back – such acts done in any form: in person, by anonymous letters or on social media platforms... these are the fruit of the Jezebel spirit.

Witchcraft

2 KINGS 9:22 AMP

*22 When Joram saw Jehu, he said, Is it peace, Jehu?
And he answered, How can peace exist as long as the
fornications of your mother Jezebel and her witchcrafts
are so many?*

Queen Jezebel, being a priestess of Baal and Ashtoreth, also practiced witchcraft. That was why she had 850 false prophets on her payroll. The whole nation of Israel was turned into a temple of witchcraft.

“Witchcraft” in Hebrew is *kesheph* meaning *sorcery* and *witchcraft*. Merriam-Webster defines witchcraft as “the use of sorcery or magic, communication with a familiar.” Sorcery is defined as “the use of magical powers that are obtained through evil spirits.” Queen Jezebel herself was influenced by Ashtoreth and she practiced witchcraft (sorcery) against her enemies.

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Sometime in the year 2012, Jennifer LeClaire, a prophetess of God from Florida, felt unusually exhausted for several weeks in a row. She couldn't think of any natural reason for it. She had been eating well, drinking lots of water, getting lots of exercise and, needless to say, plenty of sleep. Yet she would feel so exhausted after getting up in the morning that she would go right back to sleep for another two or more hours after taking her daughter to school. And after she woke up, she still felt exhausted. As she prayerfully wondered what was wrong with her, the Holy Spirit whispered to her one word: *witchcraft*.

Isn't that what exactly happened to the prophet Elijah after he read Queen Jezebel's letter? She released curses through the words of that letter that sent the mighty prophet of Yahweh running for dear life. The curses sent *missiles* of fear and depression into the prophet. He reached Beersheba totally exhausted and just wanted to sleep, and continued to sleep even after a meal.

Witchcraft is a diabolical attempt to control and works in three steps: *manipulation*, *intimidation* and *domination*. Only the combination of the Jehu (kingly/apostolic) anointing and the Elisha (prophetic) anointing can break the witchcraft spells and curses of the Jezebel spirit. Just as the messenger of the prophet Elisha anointed Jehu with oil, so the Lord God is going to give the last days' generation a new oil—a new anointing and a new sharp and powerful weapon—to counter the combined Ashtoreth-Jezebel witchcraft spells and curses.

JEZEBEL'S WEAPONS

When Queen Jezebel heard that the prophet Elijah had killed 450 of her choice false prophets, she became furious and vowed before her principle deity, Ashtoreth, that she would kill him. When the prophet Elijah read her murderous, venom-“anointed”

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letter, fear and intimidation began to strangle him like two large pythons. Unable to withstand, he ran away from Jezreel for dear life.

As I was praying on the morning of March 2, 2018, the Lord graced me to have a visitation from the saint Elijah. He shared with me how the spirit of python worked through Jezebel. The spirit of python is also a spirit of divination (*cp.* Acts 16:16), and Jezebel called herself a prophetess in addition to being a priestess of Ashtaroth.

As the saint spoke with me, the Holy Spirit enabled me to see what happened to him at the gates of Jezreel. As he was waiting there, a messenger – obviously an eunuch – brought a letter from the queen. When the prophet unrolled the scroll and started to read, a faint and odorless white smoke arose from the letter—unseen by him, and began to coil around the prophet's neck, choking his fearless boldness out of him. Then, the spirit of python opened its mouth and bit him, sinking its fangs of fear and intimidation deep into his heart.

When that happened, his boldness evaporated like mist and it was the poison of fear that caused him to run away as if he was being physically choked. Snakes either strike when threatened or ambush at unsuspecting targets.

Let's analyze the weapons that Jezebel uses and what their effects are. The two arrows she shot at the prophet Elijah were *fear* and *intimidation*. These two missiles were like a double-edged sword that pierced right through the heart of the prophet who stood in the presence of God.

When she induces fear in a person, she imposes her control and makes the target of her attack become fearful and timid. Her venom causes a paralyzing effect of fear and trauma. You

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will feel paralyzed and unable to act against the attacks due to fear and intimidation. Queen Jezebel, in a fit of rage, released a flood of witchcraft and demonic power against the prophet Elijah that overwhelmed him, swamping his soul with fear and discouragement, causing him to flee.

During the visitation I mentioned earlier, the saint Elijah shared with me what Queen Jezebel did to him. He revealed that when she sent out the threat to kill him, he became paralyzed and couldn't fight back. Only one thought raced through his mind – run! Take cover! Hide! Her witchcraft curse released a venom that caused him to doubt his call. That doubt created confusion and blurred his thinking. The only thing he wanted to do was to “throw-in the towel” in desperation and run somewhere far away to hide and die. The pressure of Jezebel's torment overwhelmed this great prophet so much that he fell prey to Jezebel's weapons of fear and discouragement.

As part of the last days' prophetic generation, you must take a stand against the Jezebel spirit, and guard your mind and soul against the curses of fear and discouragement, for these will be sent against you to smother your prayer-life and silence your prophetic voice.

I have personally felt this attack from the confluence of the spirits of Ashtoreth and Jezebel twice thus far in my life. The first time was in 2006. I was praying one day, when suddenly, out of nowhere, an arrow struck me. I literally felt as though an arrow had hit me. For the next six months I felt very fearful. That was the time we had just started Angel TV and these spirits' aim was to shut down the channel.

I did not share what was happening to me with anyone. I felt so fearful and I doubted whether I was the right person to do this great work. After six months, one day as I was praying,

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I felt a chain around me breaking. Then the realization came to me that the Lord had allowed this to happen so that I might know potency of the spirits Ashtoreth and Jezebel. Never ever underestimate the power of the evil one!

The second and the most vicious attack came in May 2013. I fasted for seven days for the ministry. Every day I would go to my office early in the morning before any staff to pray and sanctify the whole office. On the seventh day, after praying, I went to my office. While waiting for a cup of tea, I decided to answer some pending emails. As I was answering the first email, out of nowhere, I felt a spear pierce my heart. I physically felt it go right inside of me. In that instant, a great paralyzing and intimidating fear came all over me.

I was scared even to go and stand in the studio to preach. Thoughts of fear and dread swirled inside my head telling me that God had left me, I had lost the anointing and I was now doomed to hell. This fear tormented me for more than six months. One day, I cried bitterly to God and asked him to show me what the problem was. For nine months I cried to God. I felt disillusioned, lost interest in food and could not find any peace.

One day, one of the Angel TV viewers sent me an email. A young girl wrote to me: "Dear Uncle, I don't know why I am sending you this article, but I was strongly impressed by the Holy Spirit to send it to you." I opened the attachment and saw an article entitled "Thirty Traits of the Jezebel Spirit." When I read it, to my great shock I realized that a certain man of God whom I had trusted very highly was all the while operating under the confluence of the powers of Ashtoreth and Jezebel.

Below, I reproduce this informative and eye-opening article by Steve Sampson (Excerpt from "Confronting Jezebel: Discerning and Defeating the Spirit of Control.")

Characteristics of the Jezebel spirit operating through a person (whether man or woman...)

1. Refuses to admit guilt or wrong

Is never wrong, unless it is a temporary admittance of guilt to gain “favor” with someone. To accept responsibility would violate the core of insecurity and pride from which it operates. When a Jezebel apologizes it is never in true repentance or acknowledgment of wrongdoing but rather “I’m sorry your feelings were hurt.”

2. Takes credit for everything

He is quick to take credit for benefits for which he contributed no effort.

3. Uses people to accomplish its agenda

Lets others do its dirty work. Gets another person’s emotions stirred up, then lets that person go into a rage. The Jezebel sits back looking innocent, saying “Who me? What did I do?” This behavior makes it difficult for even the most ardent truth seekers to pin one down. The Jezebel spirit is clever in its agenda.

4. Withholds information

This is a form of control. A Jezebel wields power over you by knowing something you don’t know in a situation. In the eyes of a Jezebel, having information you don’t have is a powerful weapon of control.

5. Talks in confusion

It is impossible to converse with a Jezebel in logic. The minister often wrote me long letters of revelations from God of punishments the of which context was so vague that I always ended up confused than being enlightened. This is a way to maintain control and domination. Confusion keeps them “undiscovered” and unexposed.

6. Volunteers for anything

A Jezebel volunteers in order to establish control. He seemingly has endless (nervous) energy and eagerly looks for opportunities to be in charge of projects. Although he will work hard, his motive is never pure, and eventually his secret agenda cannot be hidden.

7. Lies

A Jezebel lies convincingly. No one can lie better than he can. He can turn on the charm and make you believe anything. He always fools those whom he's just met while those who have been victimized by his tactics stand by helplessly. The fact that Jezebel can look you in the eye and lie just shows how strong and adamant this rebellious and recalcitrant spirit is.

8. Ignores people

A classic ploy of a controller is to ignore you when you disagree with him. This tactic is frequently used by leaders when someone doesn't agree with their plans, and they isolate the person by ignoring him. This puts the person out of the leader's grace and forces him to either "come around" to the leader's way of thinking or be indefinitely ignored.

9. Never gives credit or shows gratitude

A Jezebel will rarely acknowledge another person's actions, not even for something that turned out to greatly benefit the Jezebel. He just cannot bring himself to say thank you or to acknowledge that someone else did something right. There are those who have gone out of their way to bless a Jezebel by being the catalyst of giving a gift. Yet never will there be a thank you. This again puts the controller in a position of power.

10. Criticizes everyone

He has to be the one who looks good and spiritual, so he will be quick to sharply criticize anyone and everyone. Criticizing others elevates the controller in his own mind.

11. Oneupmanship

A person with a Jezebel spirit will always upstage another person. He feels threatened by anyone who dares to steal the limelight or anyone who is a threat to his power and control. If you are with such a person and tell of your accomplishment or victory, you can be assured he will quickly tell of something he has accomplished.

12. Sequesters information

A Jezebel loves to be in control of information. If there is ever a situation where information is important, he will push to be the “first” to know it. He seems to know everything about everyone. Where he gets all his information is beyond comprehension, but he can dictate to you data and details about people’s lives and actions in mass quantities.

13. Uses information

A Jezebel uses information as a leverage for power and then shares tidbits with you, often things told him in confidence. This gives him a sense of power, even to the point of trying to impress people by “knowing things” that others do not.

14. Talks incessantly

A Jezebel uses talking as a form of control. In a typical conversation, he does all the talking, whether it is about sports, the weather or the Kingdom of God. Because of this form of control, he is unable to receive input from anyone in his life. All conversation with him is one-sided. You are doing the listening.

15. Spiritualizes everything

When a controller is confronted, he commonly spiritualizes the situation, explaining it off on God. This prevents him from owning up to responsibility required of him. The implication is always, “You’ve got a problem; I don’t.”

16. Insubordinate

A Jezebel never takes the side of the employer or a person in authority, unless it is a temporary action to make himself look good. He often will take credit for someone else's idea. His main desire is for power and control. There is no conscience when an opportunity for recognition presents itself.

17. Pushy and domineering

A person with a Jezebel spirit pressures you to do things, seemingly ripping from you your right to choose or make a decision for yourself. He makes others feel as though they don't have enough sense to think for themselves.

18. Clairvoyant

Many who operate with a spirit of control also have a clairvoyant spirit. Clairvoyance is the opposite of being truly prophetic. A Jezebel has supernatural help in knowing and sensing information; pretends to be prophetic. If he uses this against you, he may say "I can't tell you how I know this. I just know it." Their supposed prophetic revelations and spiritual experiences are not from the Holy Spirit, but received with the help of familiar spirits.

19. Uses the element of surprise

A Jezebel's main thrust is to be in control, and a large part of control is catching you off guard. Therefore, the element of surprise works well when he shows up unannounced.

20. Sows seeds of discord

A Jezebel will continually belittle another person in the subtlest way. The strategy is to "gain" control by minimizing the value of another person. It is often common for him to tell half-truths to implicate another person in your eyes. By sowing these seeds, he hopes to eventually reap a harvest of destruction, improving his position of power.

21. Commands attention

A Jezebel likes to be the center of attention and doesn't like to see others recognized and lauded. When someone else is recognized, he will quickly undermine the person's accomplishments verbally.

22. Vengeful

Since a Jezebel is never wrong, if you contradict or confront one, get ready to become his worst enemy. As long as you are in agreement with him, all is fine. But if you confront or challenge him, then look out. You are the target of his fiercest venom. A Jezebel will stop at nothing to destroy your reputation.

23. Attempts to make you look like you're the Jezebel

A Jezebel spirit is difficult to pin down. If the person is near to being confronted, he or she will skillfully twist the entire situation, trying to make the innocent person look like the one who is attempting to control. As always, the Jezebel will do anything to look like the one who is right.

24. Insinuates disapproval

A Jezebel will often imply disapproval to those under his or her control. The controlled person feels no freedom to express an opinion, for fear of disapproval. This often manifests in a marriage or in a working environment.

25. Knows it all

A Jezebel is usually blatant regarding his knowledge of everything. Quick to express his opinion in any area, he leaves little room for anyone to point out the other side of an issue. He has made idols of his opinions.

26. Ambitious

The Jezebel has strong desire, but all for self. "I want what I want when I want it," describes his worship of self-will. A Jezebel leader will never use the words, "We have a vision," but rather,

“My vision is thus and so” thereby imposing his vision on others and “forcing” others to carry out his visions, plans, wishes or aspirations often-at-times under the clout of threat of divine retribution if not carried out.

27. Gift giving

Gift giving is a form of manipulation a Jezebel uses that always makes you feel obligated to him. It also compromises the victim in speaking direct and confrontive truth. Naturally, not everyone who gives gifts is guilty of control, but gift giving is a tactic used by those who have a need to control.

28. Independent

No one has input in a Jezebel’s life. He fraternizes with no one unless it is to get you to “cooperate” with his agenda.

29. Religious

A Jezebel dwells in the local church but doesn’t like authority unless he is in the position of authority. Always appears very prayerful and spiritual.

30. Hides – pretentious

We all want to believe that the person with a Jezebel spirit is delivered. The person may seem “normal” for a period, exhibiting none of the classic traits. Then suddenly without warning a situation will arise, once again with the spirit taking control and wreaking havoc over lives.

When I read through the article outlining the characteristics of the spirit of Jezebel, I was shocked to note that 95% of what I read directly applied to the life of the minister of God with whom I was closely associated with. Finally, I could see where the attacks were coming from—the Jezebel spirit manifesting through that minister. This was also confirmed by several saintly men and women of God from several different nations.

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What was my cardinal mistake? I had elevated that minister to the status of God. Whenever he gave me a prophecy or counsel I never took it before God in prayer because I equated his word with God's word. I even chided others for saying "*let me pray about it*" when they received a word from him. At the center of my folly was *idolatry*. I made this man a god in my life. My greatest folly, something of which I am ashamed every time I think about it, was when I told this man of God, "Please don't leave me or forsake me." He gleefully accepted my plea saying, "I am here for you. When I am caught up to heaven I will take you with me."

During the period of six or more months that I was crying out to God for help, I would get words like "idolatry" pop into my spirit. Whenever I opened the Bible to read, I would find the Lord speaking to me about idolatry. *I am not worshipping any idols*, I mused. I didn't know that my respect and elevation of this man of God was the idol that the Lord was dealing with.

As the Lord God tried to wake the prophet Elijah out of the confusion and lethargy he had descended into, so the Lord, in His great love, tried to open my eyes to see the python – in the form of this Jezebelic man of God – that was strangling me.

Three times God tried to wake me and help me come out of it. The first time, the Lord spoke to me directly concerning what I should do to come out of the Jezebel-controlling situation. At the time, I felt so spiritually weak and I couldn't muster the courage to come out of it. It was largely due to the thought that this man of God had planted in my mind that I have lost my calling, that God had given my anointing to someone in the United States and, worst of all, that God had forsaken me.

The second time was during a prophetic conference we conducted in Singapore in 2013. The Lord, in His merciful

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kindness, spoke to me through a word of prophecy delivered through a servant of God. This minister whom I hardly knew gave a very accurate word concerning what I was going through. I was shocked that a prophet of God whom I had just met for the first time gave such an accurate word.

I even had a visitation from the saint Moses at the conference during which he spoke very kindly to me concerning God's great love for me. A minister of God from the United States whom I knew, someone who interceded for me regularly, while praying for me on that particular day also saw a vision of Moses visiting me and talking to me. That should have been a sure confirmation.

But do you want to know how foolishly I reacted? Sitting there in the conference and hearing this word of edification and comfort, I said to the Lord, "Lord, is this a true word? If this is a true word let it be confirmed by the (Jezebel-anointed) man of God whom I respect." I was blindly bowing down and worshipping the idol that I had erected in my heart.

The third time was when two months later the Lord sent another man of God who prophesied accurately to me concerning my situation even though he had no clue about the ordeal I was going through. I prayed again, "Lord, if this Word is truly from you, please confirm it through the (Jezebel-anointed) man of God." Even until that moment, I still hadn't fully comprehend that man of God whom I highly respected and adored was operating under the Jezebel anointing. My ordeal should not have lasted that long. It lasted that long because of my stubborn foolishness.

On January 4, 2014, a certain saintly Bishop invited me to his town. After dinner that night, we sat down and talked for several hours. Our talk centered on the man of God who was tormenting

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me. As we compared notes, we realized that the man of God is really operating under the combined power of Ashtoreth-Jezebel. The Bishop also shared with me what God had revealed to him about that man. Finally, the undeniable truth dawned on me – it was God's great mercies and long-suffering that finally allowed me to see it.

When I arrived back in Chennai on January 5, at 4:30 in the morning, I decided to spend some time praying instead of going to bed after the eight-hour drive. As I was praying I saw a vision. In the vision, I saw myself seated near the mouth of an ancient tomb – something like I might imagine in biblical times. And the wheel-like rolling stone that was supposed to cover the entrance of the tomb lay on my lap. I took a big hammer and hit the stone several times until it was broken to pieces.

When I broke the stone, the confluence of the powers of Ashtoreth-Jezebel was broken over my life. The stranglehold of fear, intimidation and control was broken. Then the blessed Holy Spirit showed me that for over 24 months I had been kept inside a tomb. My soul had been trapped and imprisoned. The Jezebel spirit entrapped my soul through its witchcraft. It then manipulated my soul with the emotions of fear and intimidation.

The spirit of Jezebel has one goal – to kill or otherwise silence the prophets (1 Kg 18:4,13; 19:2). When they are killed or silenced through fear or other means, prophetic people will give up their call to fight and run for dear life to peace and security. The arrows that Jezebel will hurl at you will hit your heart and release the venom of fear, intimidation, and control.

The Ashtoreth and Jezebel weapons of warfare are mighty. However, the last days' prophetic generation should know these two truths beyond a shadow of doubt:

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1 JOHN 4:4

4 You are of God, little children, and have overcome them, because He who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

2 CORINTHIANS 10:4-6

*4 For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,
5 casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ,
6 and being ready to punish all disobedience when your obedience is fulfilled.*

Now stomp your feet and crush the head of the Jezebel-python spirit and shout a loud “Amen!”

LAST DAYS’ JEZEBEL SPIRIT

REVELATION 2:20-23

20 Nevertheless I have a few things against you, because you allow that woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, to teach and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.

21 And I gave her time to repent of her sexual immorality, and she did not repent.

22 Indeed I will cast her into a sickbed, and those who commit adultery with her into great tribulation, unless they repent of their deeds.

23 I will kill her children with death, and all the churches shall know that I am He who searches the minds and hearts. And I will give to each one of you according to your works.

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The Book of Revelation – the final book of the Bible – contains end-times revelation from God the Father through the Lord Jesus. And it specifically contains a warning about Jezebel's role in the last days.

The Lord Jesus clearly warns the last days' church against Jezebel's *false teachings*. So even though the Jezebel spirit is mostly known as a spirit of control and manipulation, this ancient evil has a deeper agenda. Indeed, most do not see the spirit of Jezebel as the propagator of false teachings that give the saints a license to sin.

Let us analyze this passage of Scriptures very closely.

V. 20: "...who calls herself a prophetess..." That's what she calls herself. But she is neither called by God nor sent by God. Claiming to be a prophetess, she will obviously prophesy, claim to see visions and dreams, have spiritual experiences and even receive revelations from God.

This spirit will do everything it can to make you cling on to it for spiritual guidance rather than depend on God for direction. First, this spirit, through its human agents, will give you prophecies and then make you cling on to them. You will not seek God, because the human agent through which this spirit operates appear to have all the words about you and for you. People "anointed" with the Jezebel spirit will come and tell you, "God has revealed to me everything about you." These people will also claim to have mystical experiences. Familiar spirits work together with them to give them seemingly accurate revelations.

V. 20 (continued) "...to teach..." The Greek word for *Jezebel* in Rev. 2:20 is actually a synonym for *false teacher*. She will possess the teaching ministry gift claiming to teach by visions and revelations. She will claim that all her teachings are received

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directly from God and that no man taught her. She will claim that she has no need to read other Christian books, even ones that are good and anointed.

People with the Jezebel anointing appear to be excellent prophetic teachers. Of course, that does not mean that every good teacher has a Jezebel spirit. When the devil tempted the Lord Jesus, he twisted Scriptures and used them against the Lord Jesus. He quoted the Scriptures, but in twisted, misleading way (Matt 4:6). Satan even tried to persuade the Lord Jesus to worship him, to which the Lord unflinchingly replied, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written: 'You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve'" (vv. 9-10). Those who are undiscerning would be deceived by Jezebel's false teachings and fall. But because the Lord Jesus was full of the Word, He discerned the half-truths of twisted Scripture and did not submit to Satan's wiles.

The last days' prophetic generation must be full of the Word of God (Col 3:16). When you are full of the Word, your spirit will be like a double-edged sword; it will give you the gift of discerning of spirits. Being full of the Word will also make you strong in the Lord and in the power of His might (Eph 6:10).

Jezebel's teachings, the Bible strictly warns us, are from demons: "Now the Spirit expressly says that in latter times some will depart from the faith, giving heed to deceiving spirits and doctrines of demons, speaking lies in hypocrisy, having their own conscience seared with a hot iron, forbidding to marry, and commanding to abstain from foods which God created to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and know the truth" (1 Tim 4:1-3).

V. 20 (continued) "...and seduce My servants to commit sexual immorality..." Among all sins mentioned in the Bible, sins of a sexual nature are the most damaging ones because

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through sexual union the person is joined as one to demons and sins against their body, which is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor 6:13-20). Samson, one of the Judges chosen by God for Israel even before he was born, lost his calling and anointing through the sin of fornication (Judg 16). Many servants of God, both in modern church history and in these present times, have likewise been seduced by the spirit of Jezebel into sexual sin thereby losing their calling, anointing, reputation and ministry.

Queen Jezebel was a false prophetess operating in a false gift of prophecy. One time, the Lord graced me to see a vision of an event in her life as I was meditating on Revelation 2:20. In the vision I saw her prophesy to King Ahab that if he offered blood sacrifices on the altar of Baal then his rulership would continue forever. Believing his wife's prophecies, King Ahab and his wife had the true prophets of God killed. He even killed the prophets' babies and children to offer them as human sacrifices to Baal.

As the priestess of Ashtoreth, the goddess of lust, Queen Jezebel condoned regular homosexual orgies on the pagan altars in the temples dedicated to the deity. Male seed was caused to fall all over the altar and throughout the temple. Female temple prostitutes would walk on the men's seed with perverted lust. They engage in all kinds of unimaginable sexual acts. Homosexuality and temple prostitution were common practices in the temple of Ashtoreth and were considered integral to the worship. Infants born to the temple prostitutes were often offered as sacrifices to Baal.

King Ahab sanctioned all of this at the behest of Queen Jezebel. That is why the Bible says of him: "But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord, because Jezebel his wife stirred him up. And he behaved very abominably in following idols, according to all that the Amorites had done, whom the Lord had cast out before the children of Israel" (1 Kg 21:25-26).

V. 20 (continued) "... and eat things sacrificed to idols." During the 40 years of wandering in the wilderness, the children of Israel ate food from heaven, and that food sustained them. The Lord Jesus even said that "man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4). Therefore, the food that Jezebel offers are the doctrines of demons that legitimize sin as God-approved.

A classic example of this is found in the life of King Ahab. Jezebel moved him to do wickedness against God by introducing idol worship into Israel (1 Kg 16:32-33; 21:25). Idol worship includes eating food offered to the idols, which we know from the New Testament represent demons, and sexual immorality.

NUMBERS 25:1-3

1 Now Israel remained in Acacia Grove, and the people began to commit harlotry with the women of Moab.

2 They invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods.

3 So Israel was joined to Baal of Peor, and the anger of the Lord was aroused against Israel.

The Bible warns that Balaam's ploy to cause the children of Israel to fall before their enemies enacted thousands of years ago will be reintroduced in the last days by the confluence of the powers of Ashtoreth and Jezebel (Rev 2:14).

V. 21. "And I gave her *time* to repent of her sexual immorality..." In the Greek the word "time" used here is *chronos*, meaning *a space of time*, which denotes *a particular period or interval*. The Lord, in His kindness and gracious mercy, gave her a set period of time to repent of her fornication but she did not repent. Some very old manuscripts read, "and she willed not to repent of (so as to come out of) her fornication" (Jamieson, Fausset, Brown Commentary).

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V. 22-23. False prophets, teachers and workers who operate under the Jezebel spirit will be “killed with death” just as Queen Jezebel herself, and also King Ahab and her sons were killed (1Kg 18:40; 2 Kg 10:6-7,24-25).

V. 24. “depths of Satan” is from where the spirit of Jezebel has her foundation and that’s from where she draws her power.

THE ASHTORETH-JEZEBEL CONFLUENCE

In these last days, Jezebel is going to join forces with her mother Ashtoreth and come against the last days’ prophetic generation that consists of prophets, prophetic children, prophetic youths, prophetic ministers, prophetic intercessors and prophetic churches.

We are not just going to have to deal with one spirit but with two spirits combined: Ashtoreth and Jezebel. This confluence will produce an avalanche of false teachings and licentious sexual filth, even in the church. All forms of the gay lifestyle promoted by the LGBTQ community will be endorsed as a legitimate standard of sanctity by the false Babylonian church leadership.

In the name of peace and ecumenism, false religious teachings will be promoted and live alongside with the truth—which is spiritual fornication in the church.

During the days of the prophet Elijah, Queen Jezebel killed all true prophets of God. But the Jezebel spirit in the last days, instead of killing the last days’ prophetic generation, will seek to force them into spiritual fornication by mixing truth with demonic lies. There will arise a new breed of demon-indoctrinated clergy who will teach from other religious books as inspired writings, equating them to the holy Bible.

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Instead of serving the “flesh and blood” of the Lord Jesus in the form of bread and wine as the Lord’s Supper, these agents of Satan will draw out from the depths of Satan food offered to idols to serve their congregants. Church-goers will be taught to chant songs from foreign religions and utter names of foreign gods intermixed with traditional hymns and Christian songs.

The sword of Elijah will be given to the last days’ prophetic generation to “slay” these false workers of God and cast them out of the “temple of God” as the Lord Jesus did. The temple of God—the true church—must be cleansed before the King of Glory can pour out the latter rain for the last days’ harvest.

By the same token, God will not wait forever to pour out His judgments on those who refuse to repent of flowing in a Jezebel spirit. On the flip-side, those who refuse to tolerate that spirit will be rewarded by Him in this lifetime. I can tell you this from experience. If you refuse to bow down to Jezebel—no matter what it costs you—God will repay you, at least in part, even now.

With regard to Jezebel’s false teachings, the late David Wilkerson put it this way in an article he wrote in 1988: “I want to say, in no uncertain terms, that it is dangerous to sit under the wrong teaching. *False doctrine* can damn you more readily than all the lusts and sins of the flesh. False preachers and teachers are sending more people to hell than all the drug pushers, pimps and prostitutes combined. That is not an overstatement—I believe it. Multitudes of blind, misled Christians are singing and praising the Lord in churches, enslaved by false doctrine. Thousands are sitting under teachers who are pouring out the doctrine of demons—and they come away saying, ‘Wasn’t that wonderful?’”

PROTECTION FROM JEZEBEL

While praying in Jerusalem on June 21, 2014, the saint Elijah visited me in the Spirit and said, “Beware of the wiles of Jezebel. She will come to entice the prophets. Her power is in her words. She, like the snake, releases poisonous darts through her words which can entrap a person. Stand guard against it like our Lord Jesus did. He did not listen to Satan’s word; rather He countered the devil’s word with the Word of God. This is a key to overcome.”

How can we protect ourselves from the onslaught of the Jezebel spirit that is going to come in the form of gross darkness?

1. *Hide yourself in God, in the power of His might and under the shadow of His wings* – Ps 91:1

We can hide ourselves by dwelling and abiding in God. The God who hid the prophet Elijah from the murderous eyes of King Ahab, his wife Queen Jezebel and the king’s soldiers is more than able to protect us if we continually dwell in Him.

2. *Guard your body from sexual impurity* – 1 Thes 4:3

In this respect, keep the youthful Joseph as your role model. He guarded himself from the daily sexual overtures of his boss’s wife (Gen 39). And keep Samson as a warning before you as someone who became Jezebel’s prisoner due to his unbridled lust (Judg 16).

Unmarried young people should guard their virginity till the day of their marriage. Don’t let Jezebel beguile and entice you into premarital sex. No matter how strongly you are tempted, don’t fall for it. If you fall, the spirit of Jezebel will seek access to control your body through your thoughts. She will then inject her venom into your thought-life and fertilize impure thoughts in your mind.

3. *Stand guard and watch over your mind* – Matt 5:28

Guard your thoughts from vain and impure imaginations. Let your minds be filled with the Word of God and with His presence.

4. *Don't allow or tolerate the Jezebel spirit no matter what form it takes* – Rev 2:20

Don't be passive and limbless before her. Be bold like Jehu. Where the prophet Elijah failed, Jehu overcame and was victorious. The prophet failed to go into Queen Jezebel's palace to kill her but instead stayed at the gates of Jezreel (1 Kg 18:46). In contrast, Jehu went past the gates of the city, onto the palace grounds and right up to her bedroom window (2 Kg 9:30-31).

Jehu, remembering Elijah's prophecy concerning Jezebel's death (1 Kg 21:23), was not enticed by her flatteries but commanded the eunuchs to throw her down. Jehu set the eunuchs free. The liberated eunuchs celebrated their new-found freedom by violently throwing their wicked master out the window – the person who had sexually abused them to fulfill her perverted fantasies.

Queen Jezebel fell headlong to the pavement below, her head smashed, her body broken, and her blood splashed upon the palace wall. After a brief victory meal, it occurred to Jehu that perhaps, as wicked as she was, she still deserved a decent burial since she was “a king's daughter.” However, when he sent some people to do it, it turned out that the city dogs had already devoured her flesh, leaving only the skull, feet, and palms (2 Kg 9:34-37).

In a vision I saw Angels of the Lord commanding dogs to eat Jezebel's flesh in fulfillment of God's word spoken through the prophet Elijah. But why such a violent and gruesome

end? Because that is what she had done to the holy prophets of God. The anger of God and His vengeance on her was so strong that her body was physically destroyed so that no memorial could be erected in her memory (2 Kg 9:37).

The reason the prophet Elijah slaughtered the 450 false prophets of Baal is because they had a hand in killing the true prophets in Israel (1 Kg 18:4). Queen Jezebel had the true prophets and their families killed. Her false prophets offered the blood of the true prophets upon the altar of Baal and Molech. Some of the prophets' children were as young as two years old.

The dead bodies of these true prophets of God were given as food to the dogs and the false prophets also ate their flesh, including Jezebel herself. She drank their blood and ate their flesh as though partaking of the Lord's flesh and blood. That was why God exacted vengeance on Jezebel by having her own body eaten by dogs. Similarly, Ashtoreth's body will be devoured as part of the final judgement of God (Rev 18:8).

5. *Hold fast to what you have* – Rev 2:25

This is the counsel from the Lord Jesus. In other words, don't give in to the false prophetic teachings of Jezebel—don't be deceived by her.

6. *Put on true holiness* – Eph 4:24

Put on the armor of light by putting on true holiness (Rom 13:12). That will set you – a warrior of the Kingdom of Light – apart from the warriors of the kingdom of darkness.

7. *Overcome Jezebel* – Rev 2:26

The Lord Jesus counsels you and expects you to overcome the Jezebel spirit. How do you overcome? As there will be a confluence of two of the most wicked spirits—Ashtoreth and

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Jezebel—likewise, there must be a combination of two special forces from God.

The prophet Elijah was told to anoint Hazel as king over Syria, Jehu as king over Israel and Elisha as prophet to continue his work (1 Kg 19:15-16). However, the prophet Elijah anointed only Elisha. The other two persons were anointed as kings by the prophet Elisha (2 Kg 8:12-13; 9:1-3).

Jehu had the kingly anointing and Elisha had the prophetic anointing. Jehu was literally on a mission from God to execute judgement on Queen Jezebel. Both Jehu and the prophet Elisha joined forces to defeat Jezebel.

On December 19, 2006, I saw a vision. In the vision I saw myself standing outside a bedroom of a certain house. In the bedroom, I saw Ashtoreth lying on a stretcher and a certain prophet of God trying to restrain her by pushing down on her shoulders with his hands and, at the same time, trying to bind her with a rope. Ashtoreth struggled violently to free herself. The man of God was struggling to pin her down but could not do it alone.

When I saw all this, I told the man of God, “My brother, you can’t do this alone. We will fight Ashtoreth together. Let me come and help you.” Upon saying this, I went over and held down her legs forcefully and helped the man of God tie the last knot around her neck. As soon as I came and united myself with the man of God and held Ashtoreth down, she quit struggling and was subdued. When I came out of the vision I realized that “two is better than one” (Ecc 4:9).

When the prophet Elijah was taken to heaven, his mantle came upon the prophet Elisha, giving him two-fold power. Likewise, in the vision, one prophet could not defeat Ashtoreth alone; it took two prophets. For this reason, God will also send

out the last days' prophetic remnant two-by-two to defeat the combine works of Ashtaroth and Jezebel. The last days' war cannot be waged by one minister, or by one ministry or by one church. It can only be waged by the combined force of the entire remnant prophetic company of God.

The last days' prophetic generation needs both the kingly anointing—that is, *apostolic authority*—as well as the prophetic anointing—that is, *fire*—to defeat the combined spirit of Ashtoreth and Jezebel.

COUNSEL FROM ELIJAH

On April 26, 2014, as I was praying during the night in Jerusalem, the saint Elijah visited me in the hotel room in the Spirit. When the saint manifested, the evil spirit Jezebel also appeared standing near the door of the room, trying to get in. Elijah put forth his hand and prevented her from taking even a step forward. She hissed at him like a snake. Only then did I noticed her form: she looked like a serpent from the waist downwards and was writhing like a snake.

The saint Elijah then said to me, “Where I failed, the last days' generation must not fail, but overcome—*overcome Jezebel!*” I reeled with shock at the statement: “Where I failed.” *How could the prophet Elijah fail?* I thought. *He is the super-hero of prophets!*

Not paying any attention to my thoughts, the saint continued, “Where I failed, the last days' prophetic generation must not fail. The spirit of Jezebel will rise up one more time and will confront this prophetic generation.” This spirit will not attack any other group; her target will exclusively be the prophets, prophetic intercessors, prophetic churches and prophetic ministries.

That Woman Jezebel

He continued to reveal further details about the wiles of this evil spirit: "Beware of Jezebel. She seeks to manipulate through fear and intimidation. That was what she did to me. And she still does that to all prophets. When she overpowers us through threat and intimidation, we become fearful and timid. Her venom causes a paralyzing effect of fear and trauma; instead of boldly standing up to fight, we want to run away and hide.

She causes us to doubt our calling. God tried to wake me up to my calling (1 Kg 19:9), but I couldn't see it because of the paralyzing effect of fear and intimidation. Her goal is to either kill the prophets outright or neutralize them through fear so that we will give up our call to fight against her and run away to preserve our life and security."

All the while that the saint was talking to me, I could see the spirit of Jezebel writhing and hissing in anger at being exposed.

The saint Elijah continued, "In the last days she is going to join forces with her mother, Ashtoreth, and come very strongly against the end-time prophetic company. Hide yourself in God and in the power of His might. Guard your body from sexual impurities. She will seek to gain access to control your body through your thoughts. That's where she injects her venom. Stand guard and watch over your mind. Be filled with the Word and the presence of God in your mind.

I also am with you. I will teach you to fight her. I will expose her weakness and nakedness to you. A prophet who stands boldly before God is her weakness, for she cannot control such a person. She will not be able to penetrate such a person. A snake cannot bite into thick metal armor. Likewise, boldness before God enables a soldier of Christ to wear the armor of God. Boldness before God and confidence in Christ Jesus is our hope of glory."

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As he was speaking, I glanced at Jezebel and saw a hood behind her head which resembled a five-headed snake. The saint said, “Her five heads represent her five venoms: *fear, intimidation, threats, lies and manipulation*. She spews these venoms at unsuspecting victims. Her goal is domination – to make her victims subservient eunuchs to her. She demands submission and worship. Her desire is to manipulate, dominate and exercise control.

The saint Elijah went on, “Putting on true holiness is the armor of light that will set the last days’ warriors apart from the kingdom of darkness. The chalice of venom that Jezebel offers is the vinegar that was offered to our Lord to drink (*cf.* Matt 27:34). It is a false cross without the thorns and sufferings. A gospel of peace that is devoid of the kingdom of holiness. A gospel of false security in self-righteousness. True peace comes in the midst of sufferings as was displayed in the life of our dear Lord. Learn to stand strong in sufferings as our Lord did and as did the prophets before you.

To overcome Jezebel, one must have strong self-discipline and obedience. The last days prophets’ opposition will be like that of the days of Jezebel. Jezebel, the woman, needs to ride upon Ahab, the beast – the power base. She needs weaklings like Ahab to control, manipulate and establish her authority over. The last days’ prophets must be bold and confrontational.”

Jezebel will also raise a company of false prophetesses to seduce and entice true young prophets. Her game plan is to seduce through false visions and prophesies relating to marriage and relationships. This will lead to immorality, sexual sin and lost calling.

The last days’ prophets must content with her. As much as God is raising up a company of true prophets like Elijah, the

That Woman Jezebel

spirit of Jezebel will also raise up a company of false prophets just like the ones she had in Israel.

One day, as I was reading the Scriptures, I noticed something in 1 Kings 22:6 that greatly surprised me, “Then the king of Israel gathered the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said unto them, ‘Shall I go against Ramoth Gilead to battle, or shall I forbear?’ And they said, ‘Go up; for the Lord shall deliver it into the hand of the king.’”

Where did these 400 prophets come from? I wondered. I presumed that the prophet Elijah had already slaughtered all the false prophets. If all 850 false prophets had already been killed, how could 400 new false prophets have just mushroomed within a few weeks or months? This puzzled me. Then I found the answer in 1 Kings 18:19,22,40.

The prophet Elijah told King Ahab to gather all 850 false prophets on Mount Carmel. However, only 450 false prophets of Baal turned up together with King Ahab. After the victory, the prophet Elijah had all the 450 prophets of Baal killed. For some mysterious reason, the 400 prophets of Ashtoreth failed to come to Mount Carmel. They stayed back with Queen Jezebel at the palace in Jezreel. When the Spirit of the Lord enabled the prophet Elijah to run faster than King Ahab’s chariot, it was to finish the job and execute Queen Jezebel and the 400 false prophets of Asherah. Sadly, the prophet failed to slaughter them all.

It was these 400 prophets who prophesied to King Ahab in 1 Kings 22:6. So the work that was left undone by the prophet Elijah, the last days’ prophetic generation is going to complete. The last days’ army will do that. It is for this reason the Lord God is raising up the last days’ army.

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The confluence of the spirits of Ashtoreth and Jezebel are going to rise up in a powerful manner in the last days to contend with the last days' prophetic generation. Your only safety lies in hiding under the cross of the Lord Jesus. Churches must be warned to stand guard against the spirit of Jezebel.

CHAPTER 14

A Prophet's Legacy

What is a legacy? Collins Cobuild Dictionary defines it as follows: *A legacy is money or property which someone leaves to you when they die.* Instead of money or property it can also be something of an intangible nature. Before the Lord Jesus died he left behind something for all His followers – *peace*: “Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid” (Jn 14:27).

Unfinished Task

When the prophet Elijah was on Mount Horeb wallowing in self-pity, the Lord God asked him, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” (1 Kg 19:9). After a series of supernatural displays, the Lord asked him the same question a second time: “What are you doing here, Elijah?” (1 Kg 19:13). Why did the Lord God ask the prophet the same question twice? The answer can be found in a biblical principle recorded in Genesis 41:32: “And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass.”

When God speaks about a matter two or three times, one, it is to stress the importance of the question or message, and, two, it is to confirm or established the matter (Due 19:15; Matt 18:16; 2 Cor 13:1). Therefore, by asking the prophet Elijah the question

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twice, the Lord was affirming to him that his work was not yet finished – though he was not willing to accept it.

When God saw that the prophet could not be woken from his stupor, He asked him to do three things: “Then the Lord said to him: “Go, return on your way to the Wilderness of Damascus; and when you arrive, anoint Hazael as king over Syria. Also you shall anoint Jehu the son of Nimshi as king over Israel. And Elisha the son of Shaphat of Abel Meholah you shall anoint as prophet in your place” (1 Kg 19:15-16).

Armed with a new assignment, the prophet Elijah however did only one of the three works assigned to him. He anointed Elisha as prophet to replace him (1 Kg 19:19). But the prophet did not anoint Jehu as king over Israel, that work, however was done by his successor, the prophet Elisha (2 Kg 9:1-6). Neither did he anoint Hazael as king over Syria. “It is nowhere related that Elijah did go to Damascus, and anoint Hazael, though it may be he did; however he acquainted Elisha with it, and he declared it to Hazael, that he should be king of Syria (2 Kg 8:11-13), and which perhaps is all that is meant by anointing; that is, that he should be made king, and which was declared by both these prophets, see” (Gill’s Exposition of the Entire Bible.)

This shows that some of the tasks we are commissioned with may not be done in our lifetime, but will be carried out by our successor.

Training and Mentoring

So what legacy did the prophet Elijah leave behind? *Knowledge* and *training*.

After Elisha left his father’s house to follow the prophet Elijah, he served him for about seven years. Elisha served the

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prophet Elijah faithfully as a servant and loved him dearly like a father. On his part, the prophet Elijah began to mentor Elisha, teaching him everything that he had learned during his walk with God.

For example, when the Shunamite woman's son died, the prophet Elisha lay on the child prayed him back to life (2 Kg 4:34). How did he know to do that? Where did he learn that method? When the widow of Zarephath's son died, that's exactly what the prophet Elijah himself did: "And he stretched himself out on the child three times, and cried out to the Lord and said, "O Lord my God, I pray, let this child's soul come back to him" (1 Kg 17:21).

The prophet Elijah mentored Elisha by teaching him all the things he himself had learned from his teacher, the prophet Ahijah, and from the Lord Himself. Though it was not God's will that the prophet Elijah be replaced, yet when he anointed Elisha as "prophet in [his] place", he unselfishly and lovingly nurtured and mentored him. Elisha loved the prophet Elijah as dearly as a son loves his father. That is why Elisha cried, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" (2 Kg 2:12) when he saw the elder prophet caught up in a whirlwind.

It was during the seven-year hiatus of the prophet Elijah that he established schools of prophets after the pattern of the prophet Samuel (1 Sam 19:19-24). It was the Lord who instructed him to do that. And Elisha ably helped in this great work, all the while absorbing the older prophet's wisdom and experience along the process.

The enduring legacy of the prophet Elijah is to be found in these schools where they carried on in the spirit and power of Elijah.

SCHOOLS OF PROPHETS

The prophet Elijah left a legacy behind by setting up schools for prophets on Mount Carmel, at Bethel, Gilgal, and Jericho for the purpose of training potential prophets. He spent the seven-year period setting up these schools to train, groom and mentor budding prophets, among whom Elisha was chief and his protégé.

After the false prophets were killed, the 100 prophets who had been kept in hiding by Obadiah felt safe enough to come out and once again minister to the people. It can also be seen that these 100 prophets later became *sons* to the prophet Elijah in his School of the Prophets. We know this through the ministry of one of them:

1 KINGS 20:35-43

35 Now a certain man of the sons of the prophets said to his neighbor by the word of the Lord, "Strike me, please." And the man refused to strike him.

36 Then he said to him, "Because you have not obeyed the voice of the Lord, surely, as soon as you depart from me, a lion shall kill you." And as soon as he left him, a lion found him and killed him.

37 And he found another man, and said, "Strike me, please." So the man struck him, inflicting a wound.

38 Then the prophet departed and waited for the king by the road, and disguised himself with a bandage over his eyes.

39 Now as the king passed by, he cried out to the king and said, "Your servant went out into the midst of the battle; and there, a man came over and brought a man to me, and said, 'Guard this man; if by any means he is missing, your life shall be for his life, or else you shall pay a talent of silver.'"

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40 While your servant was busy here and there, he was gone." Then the king of Israel said to him, "So shall your judgment be; you yourself have decided it."

41 And he hastened to take the bandage away from his eyes; and the king of Israel recognized him as one of the prophets.

42 Then he said to him, "Thus says the Lord: 'Because you have let slip out of your hand a man whom I appointed to utter destruction, therefore your life shall go for his life, and your people for his people.'"

43 So the king of Israel went to his house sullen and displeased, and came to Samaria.

Not only did the sons of the prophets restart their prophetic ministry, but they also found new boldness – thanks to the prophet Elijah – even to confront King Ahab, the same man before whom not too long ago they were hiding for fear of being killed.

While on a ministry trip to Lagos, Nigeria, as I was praying on the morning of May 21, 2015, I saw a vision. In the vision, I saw an adult eagle fly to its nest. In it were three new-born eaglets. They opened their mouths and the adult eagle fed them.

The Word of the Lord then came to me: Prophets must train and mentor younger prophets in their schools of prophets. The prophets Samuel and Elijah did so. The younger prophets were trained to hear and see God. They were taught the ways of God. These emerging prophets were protected from Jezebel during her reign of terror (1 Kg 18:13).

The Legacy Continues

On March 10, 2015, while in Jerusalem, as I sat before God in prayer, I heard a voice say, "Welcome to the school of the prophets." Then after, the Voice of the Lord began to speak to me about a prophet's characteristics.

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Subsequently, after a year of being taught by the Lord and His saints about the calling, the ministry, the habits, the lifestyle, and the message that the Lord's prophets need to carry in these last days, on March 6, 2016 by the mercies of God, I saw the Lord Jesus in the heavens in a vision. He looked at me and gave me this mandate: "I want you to start a School of Prophets in July 2016." He then graciously proceeded to give me an outline concerning what needed to be taught at the school.

We conducted the first school called *Eagle's Nest School of Prophets* in July 2016 in Chennai. 100 students from 15 nations participated. The second school was held in July 2017 in Chennai where 90 students from 12 nations participated. During the prayer sessions the glory of God visited the students – many of them ministers of God – and opened their eyes to behold glories of God just like when the prophet Elisha prayed for his servant's eyes to be opened to see a mountain full of fiery horses and fiery chariots when the Syrian army came to capture him (2 Kg 6:17).

During a visitation on September 1, 2017, the saint Elijah told me the following concerning this event when the Syrian army surrounded Elisha's town: "Look carefully at this incident. Elisha did not just come out of his house to suddenly see an army of fiery chariots and angels. Even before the Syrians got there, he was already engaged in prayer as was his custom. He learned from me how to engage and work together with heaven. That was why he was able to engage the Lord's army to overpower the Syrian army."

Believers should be disciplined to be warriors for the last days. As the prophet Elisha had to deal with the Syrian army so must the last days' prophetic company deal with the Antichrist army.

CHAPTER 15

Elijah is Coming

Among many Jewish and Messianic believers, there is an expectation of the one who will appear in the power and spirit of Elijah before the final coming of the Messiah. This expectation is evidenced by the traditional Passover *seder* service, where a cup of wine is symbolically set out for the prophet Elijah. In many traditions, the front door of the house is opened at this point. Psalms 79:6-7 is recited in both Ashkenazi and Sephardi traditions, plus Lamentations 3:66 among Ashkenazim.

These beliefs are based on passages of Scriptures from the prophetic book of Malachi:

MALACHI 3:1

1 "Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," says the Lord of hosts.

MALACHI 4:5-6

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

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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."

This same belief and expectation was present during the ministry of the Lord Jesus. That was why the Pharisees asked the prophet John the Baptist if he was the Elijah to come (Jn 1:21). Furthermore, when the Lord Jesus cried to the Father, "Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?" that is, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (Matt 27:46), the Pharisees and the people standing near the cross thought that the Lord was calling for the prophet Elijah to come (Matt 27:47).

The Word of the Lord

So what is next in the calendar of God?

MALACHI 4:5-6

5 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."

Please look closely at this Scripture again: "Behold, I will send you Elijah." 2017 was a very important year in the calendar of God. Before the year 2017 was born, I was praying and waiting on God during the third week of December 2016. My heart turned towards seeking God for His Word concerning the year 2017.

The Lord showed me that among the few important events that would begin to take place starting with the year 2017, one of them would be the coming of Elijah. The Word of the Lord came unto me, "I am sending Elijah. I am going to send Elijah; he is now going to come."

When will Elijah Come?

MALACHI 4:5

5 Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.

This Scripture gives us the exact time when the prophet Elijah will come back to this world. When the prophet first arrived on the scene in 1 Kings 17, there was much darkness in Israel. Idol worship was rampant, false prophets spread their message and a false religion was practiced and widely propagated throughout the land. These false prophets were prophets of Ashtaroth who is the goddess of sensual pleasure. Temple prostitutes were part of the official state religion and the false prophets and false priests were given over to a life of unimaginable sexual sins which invaded the entire nation.

If you were to compare the times of 1 Kings 17 with these present times, you would find that we are no better than they and in a very similar spiritual condition. During those days, people made gods of wood and stone and worshiped them everywhere. Today we have idols that come in the form of gold, silver and money; we have created our own idols.

The Day of the Lord

So when will the prophet come back? The clue is in the phrase: “the great and terrible day of the Lord.” What is the Day of the Lord? *The Day of the Lord* is a biblical term and theme used in both the Hebrew Bible and the New Testament.

The phrase *Day of the Lord* usually identifies events that take place at the end of the history of the world (Isa 7:18-25) and it is also known as “That Day” in the Bible. It is a span of time during

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which the Lord God will personally intervene in history to accomplish some specific aspect of His plan. The phrase *The Day of the Lord* is used 19 times in the Old Testament and five times in the New Testament.

It is a “day”—a period of time—when God will openly intervene in the affairs of this world to judge. What will He judge?

1. The demonic host of heaven – Isa 24:21-22
2. God will take vengeance on His foes – Jer 46:10
3. Doom for the nations – Ezek 30:3-4
4. God will judge man’s secrets – Rom 2:16
5. Destruction will come upon the world – Joel 1:15

When the prophet Elijah first arrived on the national scene in Israel, it was a period of darkness and gloom. These present times are similar – spiritually dark and full of gloom – like the “thick darkness” mentioned in Joel 2:2. Furthermore, the Scriptures say: “The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord” (Joel 2:31; Acts 2:20). According to the interpretation of this Scripture by the Jewish sages, the “sun” refers to the heathen gentile world while the “moon” refers to Israel.

That means that there will be much spiritual darkness and moral corruption in the world and Israel will face much bloodshed. Before that day comes, God will send the prophet Elijah back to this world to restore all things.

That time of his coming is now!

THE CONTINUING MINISTRY OF ELIJAH

A careful study of the Bible shows us that the ministry of the prophet Elijah continued even after he was caught up (translated alive) into heaven. In fact, the Bible records *several instances* of his ministry before the great and terrible day of the Lord.

I. Through Elisha

2 KINGS 2:11-15

11 Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

12 And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces.

13 He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan.

14 Then he took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.

15 Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him.

The anointing that was upon the ministry of the prophet Elisha was the anointing of the spirit and power of the prophet Elijah. The sons of the prophets confirmed that in verse 15.

2. Letter from Elijah

2 CHRONICLES 21:12-15

12 And a letter came to him from Elijah the prophet, saying, Thus says the Lord God of your father David: Because you have not walked in the ways of Jehoshaphat your father, or in the ways of Asa king of Judah,

13 but have walked in the way of the kings of Israel, and have made Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem to play the harlot like the harlotry of the house of Ahab, and also have killed your brothers, those of your father's household, who were better than yourself,

14 behold, the Lord will strike your people with a serious affliction — your children, your wives, and all your possessions;

15 and you will become very sick with a disease of your intestines, until your intestines come out by reason of the sickness, day by day.

Jehoram, a very wicked king of Judah, received a letter written by the prophet Elijah. No doubt, this startled and shocked him because it had been about ten years since the prophet had been caught up to heaven. How could a letter arrive from the prophet *after* he had been taken alive to heaven? This mystery has been carefully explained in chapter 10.

3. Through John the Baptist

LUKE 1:11-17

11 Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing on the right side of the altar of incense.

12 And when Zacharias saw him, he was troubled, and fear fell upon him.

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13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your prayer is heard; and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John.

14 And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth.

15 For he will be great in the sight of the Lord, and shall drink neither wine nor strong drink. He will also be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.

16 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."

As the spirit and power of Elijah rested upon the prophet Elisha so did it rest upon the prophet John the Baptist.

The spirit and power of Elijah that rested upon the prophet John the Baptist is a preview of the coming of Elijah in the last days. *How so?* you may ask. *Good question*, I say. Hebrews 1:2 calls the time of the Lord Jesus' first coming "these last days". The prophet John the Baptist came in the spirit and power of Elijah to prepare the way for the Lord's coming before the Lord began His public ministry.

Similarly, at the close of the "end-times" dispensation, the Lord Jesus is coming back again as it has been prophesied. The spirit and power of Elijah will come and rest on the last days' prophetic generation to prepare the way for the final coming of the Lord.

The Lord Jesus told the disciples: "But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did

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to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands" (Matt 17:12). When the disciples heard this, they understood that the Lord spoke concerning the prophet John the Baptist (Matt 17:13).

But take note! In Matthew 17:11 the Lord Jesus had already said, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things." Then, in verse 12, He said, "Elijah *has* come already." Clearly, the Lord Jesus was talking about *two separate ministries* of the same Elijah anointing: *one in the future* and *one that had already past*. If the Lord had been talking about one and the same ministry, he wouldn't have said in one breath, "Elijah is coming first and will restore all things" and in the next, "Elijah has come already".

The Lord Jesus knew that the prophet Elijah's ministry that will restore all things was in the future and that it did not pertain to the time of the disciples. He therefore redirected His message to the ministry of the prophet John the Baptist, which *did* pertain to the time of the disciples. That is why in verse 12 He said, "Elijah has come already." The prophet John the Baptist did *not* restore all things. The restoration of all things before the Lord Jesus' final coming is the work of the spirit and power of Elijah resting upon the last days' prophetic generation.

4. Mount of Transfiguration

LUKE 9:28-33

28 Now it came to pass, about eight days after these sayings, that He took Peter, John, and James and went up on the mountain to pray.

29 As He prayed, the appearance of His face was altered, and His robe became white and glistening.

30 And behold, two men talked with Him, who were Moses and Elijah,

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31 who appeared in glory and spoke of His decease which He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem.

32 But Peter and those with him were heavy with sleep; and when they were fully awake, they saw His glory and the two men who stood with Him.

33 Then it happened, as they were parting from Him, that Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is good for us to be here; and let us make three tabernacles: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah" — not knowing what he said.

The saints Moses and Elijah visited the Lord Jesus on Mount Tabor as he was praying. They spoke with the Lord concerning His ministry.

After seeing this vision of the glorified and transfigured Lord Jesus and the saints Moses and Elijah, the disciples asked the Lord regarding the teaching that the prophet Elijah had to come before the Messiah could appear:

MATTHEW 17:9-13

9 Now as they came down from the mountain, Jesus commanded them, saying, "Tell the vision to no one until the Son of Man is risen from the dead."

10 And his disciples asked him, saying, "Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?"

11 Jesus answered and said to them, "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things.

12 But I say to you that Elijah has come already, and they did not know him but did to him whatever they wished. Likewise the Son of Man is also about to suffer at their hands."

13 Then the disciples understood that he spoke to them of John the Baptist.

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The Lord Jesus' answer to their question revealed the dual aspect of this prophecy. Most of the prophecies written in the Bible have at least two fulfillments, and this one is no exception. As the Lord explained, the prophet John the Baptist was the Elijah who was to come before His first coming. But there remains yet *another* appearance of Elijah before "the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord" (Mal 4:5).

However, some people have been confused concerning this prophecy, because the prophet John the Baptist himself denied to the Jewish leadership that he was the expected Elijah:

JOHN 1:19-23

19 Now this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?"

20 He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, "I am not the Christ."

21 And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the Prophet?" And he answered, "No."

22 Then they said to him, "Who are you, that we may give an answer to those who sent us? What do you say about yourself?"

23 He said: "I am 'The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said."

In a sense, the prophet John the Baptist's denial of being Elijah was accurate, because he was **not** the final, full realization of prophecy of Elijah's coming. But he clearly identified himself with the prophesied messenger who was to come before the Messiah by quoting Isaiah 40:1-5. Let's examine this passage together with its context in detail to see if it was *only* for John the Baptist's time:

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- 1 *"Comfort, yes, comfort My people!" Says your God.*
- 2 *"Speak comfort to Jerusalem, and cry out to her, That her warfare is ended, That her iniquity is pardoned; For she has received from the Lord's hand Double for all her sins."*
- 3 *The voice of one crying in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord; Make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*
- 4 *Every valley shall be exalted and every mountain and hill brought low; The crooked places shall be made straight and the rough places smooth;*
- 5 *The glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together; For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."*

This prophecy, which the prophet John quoted only in part, speaks of the coming of a messenger who heralds the imminent redemption of Jerusalem and the coming of the Messiah in glory. This salvation will only occur *after* the end-time messenger, whom the prophet Malachi identifies as Elijah, will "turned the hearts of the children back to the fathers" just "before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord" (Mal. 4:5-6).

5. Two Witnesses

REVELATION 11:3-6

- 3 *And I will give power to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy one thousand two hundred and sixty days, clothed in sackcloth."*
- 4 *These are the two olive trees and the two lampstands standing before the God of the earth.*
- 5 *And if anyone wants to harm them, fire proceeds from their mouth and devours their enemies. And if anyone wants to harm them, he must be killed in this manner.*

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6 These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls in the days of their prophecy; and they have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to strike the earth with all plagues, as often as they desire.

The identities of the Two Witnesses is a much debated issue amongst Bible teachers and scholars. Why the Bible is silent about the identities is anyone's guess.

Early Christian Church Fathers such as Tertullian, Irenaeus, and Hippolytus of Rome had concluded that the Two Witnesses would be *Enoch* and *Elijah*, prophets who did not die because God “took” them, according to the Scriptures. Others have suggested Moses as one of the witnesses, because of his ability to turn water into blood and the power to plague the earth.

Modern theologians, such as Dr. John Walvoord, have agreed with the interpretation that the Two Witnesses are two actual people by comparing the “two lampstands” and the “two olive trees” of Revelation 11 to the two golden pipes and two olive trees and branches of Zechariah 4. By the identification of the two olive branches as “two anointed ones” or “two sons of the oil”, in Zechariah, this reinforces the interpretation that the Two Witnesses are two people. Walvoord further pointed out that because the Revelation passage does not specifically identify who the Two Witnesses are, it would be safer to conclude that they are not related to any previous historical characters. (Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Two_witnesses).

The Scriptures do not attach any previously-known identity to the Two Witnesses. If their identities were the prophets Moses and Elijah, or Enoch and Elijah, why would the Scriptures be silent about this? God is perfectly capable of taking two “ordinary” modern-day believers and enabling them to perform

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the same signs and wonders that the prophets Moses and Elijah themselves did.

However, the ministry of the Two Witnesses bears a resemblance to the ministries of the prophets Moses and Elijah. “These have power to shut heaven, so that no rain falls... and they have power over waters to turn them to blood” (Rev 11:6). This is the return of the saints Elijah and Moses. Moses turned water into blood in his ministry in Egypt and Elijah shut up the heaven and stopped rain during his ministry.

The prophet Elijah did not taste death because he had not finished his ministry. When the Lord Jesus was demonstrating a rehearsal of His glory at His future second coming on the Mount of Transfiguration, these same prophets – Elijah and Moses – appeared to Him (Mathew 17:1-7).

On March 1, 2018, around 3 PM, as I was praying in tongues, the Lord Jesus graciously visited me and spoke to me about what happened on Mount Tabor – the Mount of Transfiguration. The two saints appeared and spoke to the Lord about the sufferings and death He was about to accomplish at Jerusalem (Lk 9:30-31). When they finished, the Lord turned his attention to Moses and looked at him lovingly. As He looked Moses deep in the eye, I saw back in time to the incident when the prophet Moses pleaded with the Lord God to allow him to enter the Promised Land (Deu 3:23-27). At the time, that passionate request was denied because of his wilful disobedience (Num 20:7-12).

The Lord smiled and said to Moses that He was going to grant his request. Putting His right hand on Moses’ shoulder and His left hand on Elijah’s shoulder, the Lord spoke to them both about the end-time ministry that they would need to accomplish in the last days. Revelation 11:3-12 clearly details this future ministry.

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However, exactly *how* they will come still remains a mystery. Perhaps the spirits and powers of these two prophets of Israel will come upon two living prophets just as the prophets Elisha and John the Baptist received the spirit and power of Elijah.

The Lord God told the prophet Elijah to present himself to King Ahab, promising that afterward He would send rain on the earth to end the drought (1 Kg 18:1). In Hosea 6:1-3 we see a beautiful illustration that compares the coming of the Messiah to rain coming upon the earth. This points us to a prophetic picture that the rain that was promised to fall after the prophet Elijah confronted King Ahab is a preview of the return of the Messiah after the end-time prophetic generation—empowered by the spirit of Elijah—confronts the Antichrist.

While praying on August 31, 2017, I was brought in the Spirit to the Prophets' Council in heaven. The saint Abraham spoke to me about the works of the prophet Elijah. He said that the prophet Elijah cleansed the nation of idols by destroying them. He killed the prophets of Baal. He turned the nation back to the true living God.

Evil government leaders will arise in these last days that will turn whole nations towards idol worship, witchcraft and the worship of demons. This will be encouraged and implemented worldwide. The spirit of Elijah will come upon the last days' company of dedicated, fearless and true ministers of God to boldly raise up a standard of righteousness and holiness to the true living God.

NOW IS THE TIME

The time is now ripe – right now! – for the prophet Elijah to come. In his days there was apostasy in the form of the worship of Baal and Ashtaroath. Today, these same Canaanite deities are being revived.

A multinational group headed by the United Arab Emirates (UAE), the Italian mission to the United Nations (UN), and the Institute of Digital Archaeology (IDA) that recreated the Palmyra Victory Arch and sent it on a world tour. This group has also recreated a statue of Athena, *part of the Greek pantheon of gods, and was later associated with the Roman goddess of wisdom and war, Minerva*, for an exhibit in the United Nations.

Mr Omar Sultan AlOlama of the UAE officially inaugurated the Digital Archaeology Exhibition, “The Spirit in the Stone”, at the UN’s headquarters in New York City sometime in November 2017. The UAE, the Italian mission to the UN, and the Institute of Digital Archaeology (IDA) cooperated in recreating a statue of the Greek goddess Athena for the exhibit.

The original Athena statue stood in Palmyra, Syria, until it was destroyed by ISIS in 2015. The UAE announcement described the goddess as “synonymous with reason, refuge and the rule of law, all of the same values on which that historic institution was built,” but the statue depicts Athena in her classic pose grasping a spear, belying her prominent role as the Greek goddess associated with war.

It is also believed that the Greek goddess Athena was based on the earlier Mesopotamian goddess Asherah. This would be consistent with the statue’s history at the site in Palmyra, a city in Muslim Syria, which was used as a temple by the Mesopotamians, the Romans and the Muslims in succession.

Rabbi Elad Dokow, the head rabbi and lecturer at Israel’s Technion Institute of Technology, said, “There is currently an unmistakable rise of paganism and idol worship in the world, more than any other religion, and it is naive to believe this display is disconnected from this phenomenon,” Rabbi Dokow told *Breaking Israel News*.

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The amalgamation of the Muslim-majority UAE with Italy to recreate a Greek pagan idol seems incongruous, but such a union was prophesied in the Bible: “For they have consulted together with one consent; They form a confederacy against You: The tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites; Moab and the Hagrites;” (Ps 83:5-6).

The UAE has worked with the IDA in the past. Their first collaboration, the 3-D printed Arch of Palmyra, was prominently featured in the UN exhibit as a full-size projection onto a screen. The original Arch of Palmyra was a Roman victory arch that stood for 1,800 years in front of the temple of Ba’al in Palmyra until, like the statue of Athena, it was destroyed by ISIS.

The reproduction of the Arch was first presented in April 2016 at London’s Trafalgar Square for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage Week. The unveiling coincided with the most important pagan holiday of the year, *Beltane*, ushering in a 13-day period known in the occult as “the Blood Sacrifice to the Beast”, which was traditionally celebrated with child sacrifice and bisexual orgies—acts of homage to Ashtaroath. (Source:<https://www.breakingisraelnews.com/98498/pagan-war-goddess-statue-unveiled-un-idol-worship-makes-global-comeback/#evcOIOLRysPWjdok.99>)

Elijah Comes to Confront Baal

Two thousand years ago the Lord Jesus stated that the ministry of the prophet Elijah was not over. He promised, “Elijah is coming and will restore all things...” (Matt 17:11). The prophet Malachi also wrote, “Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the Lord” (Mal 4:5). The spirit of Elijah will return before the great and terrible day of the Lord! His purpose will be to restore all things.

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Even as the Lord used the spirit of Elijah to empower the prophets Elisha and then John the Baptist, so the Lord is raising up an Elijah company of prophets, Spirit-filled men and women sent forth to prepare the way for the return of the Lord Jesus. Let it also be known that if Elijah is coming before Jesus returns, so also is Jezebel.

In these present times, we do find an abundance of witchcraft and harlotries in many nations. Schools, too, are widely seen promoting such. This spirit is beguiling even God's powerfully anointed servants to commit acts of immorality (Rev 2:20). The fact that we see the spirit of Jezebel so blatantly manifest herself only confirms that the spirit of Elijah is also here to bring repentance and help prepare God's people for the return of the Lord.

There was another evil thing that was done in the days of Elijah: *altars for Baal were set up all over Israel*. In March 2016, news came out that the United Nations has approved the setting up of 1,000 temples of Baal all over the world.

Reproductions of the 50-foot arch that stood at the Temple of Baal in Palmyra, Syria, were erected in New York City and London in April 2016, the first of many to come. Plans have been made to erect replicas of these arches in hundreds of cities all over the world. The Institute of Digital Archaeology, which is a joint venture between Harvard University, University of Oxford and Dubai's Museum of the Future, are spearheading this mammoth project. The first arches from the Temple of Baal that was erected in New York and London as part of UNESCO's World Heritage Week in April 2016 were intended "as a gesture of defiance", but ultimately the plan is to share this "cultural treasure" with as many cities around the world as possible.

The life-size model of the original 2,000-year-old structure, known as the Arch of the Temple of Bel, stands approximately

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48 feet high and 23 feet wide. It was one of two constructed in China for exhibition in Times Square and London's Trafalgar Square as part of a World Heritage Week held on April 2016, said Roger Michel, executive director for the Institute for Digital Archaeology.

The worship of Baal is definitely not something that we should be celebrating as a society. There were very good reasons why the Lord God found it so incredibly repulsive. The following description of what went on during Baal worship comes from Scott Brown...

There were usually lots of people gathered, often on a high hill (like a theatre or stadium) to observe public sex, just like we see in movies and television and on the Internet today (Num 22:41; 1 Kg 12:25-33). The whole community came out and all of the best pagan ideas for success in crops and fertility were promoted.

Wicked individuals were honored and given the platform. Some of them were great dancers while others were great musicians (1 Kg 15:12-14). People danced around the Asherah pole, which was nothing more than a male phallic symbol. The people also acted out lustful, licentious, bawdy scenes for the enjoyment of all who came (Isa 57:5-8; Deu 23:17). They had all the different kinds of sexual experiences on display including men with women, men with men and all of the combinations that are popular today in sitcoms, movies and news reports. On top of that, they invited the crowd to participate (1 Kg 14:24).

In addition to everything that you just read, child sacrifice was a central feature of Baal worship. This is what the prophet Jeremiah says ...

Jeremiah 19:4-6

4 "Because they have forsaken Me and made this an alien place, because they have burned incense in it to other gods whom neither they, their fathers, nor the kings of Judah have known, and have filled this place with the blood of the innocents

5 (they have also built the high places of Baal, to burn their sons with fire for burnt offerings to Baal, which I did not command or speak, nor did it come into My mind),

6 therefore behold, the days are coming," says the Lord, "that this place shall no more be called Tophet or the Valley of the Son of Hinnom, but the Valley of Slaughter.

Just like ancient Baal worshippers, present society—including Christians—is addicted to watching other people have sex—*pornography*. And just like ancient Baal worshippers, we are a society that is engaged in child sacrifice—*abortion*.

It's quite ironic that a reproduction of part of the Temple of Baal was erected in Times Square, New York City, where the modern-day prophet of fire, David Wilkerson, once preached a message entitled "Tearing Down The Altars Of Baal" at his Times Square Church. (Article by Michael Snyder, Source: www.charismanews.com/world/56074-it-s-not-just-times-square-altars-to-baal-will-be-built-around-the-world).

When I read this news, I was puzzled and thought: *of all the idols in the world, why is it Baal in particular?* As I pondered this, it dawned on me that this is a sign pointing to the imminent coming of the spirit of Elijah, since it was in the days of Elijah that Baal arose as the predominant deity of Israel.

The time is ripe for the prophet Elijah to come upon the last days' prophetic generation through the spirit and power of Elijah

to confront the same demonic forces that were present in the days of King Ahab.

THE WORKS OF ELIJAH IN THE LAST DAYS

Remember, the ministry of Elijah is but a *ministry of transition*, not the end-game. He hands the bride over to the coming bridegroom, inaugurating the ultimate reign of the King. The Lord Jesus told his disciples “To be sure, Elijah does come first, and restores all things” (Mk 9:12).

The word “restore” in Greek is *apokatasteesei*. The gospel of Mark borrows this word from the Septuagint (the Greek translation of the Hebrew Old Testament completed in the second century BC) which renders the Hebrew *whesheb leeb* ‘*abowt ‘al baniym* (he will cause the heart of the fathers to turn to the children) as *Hos apokatasteesei kardian patros pros huion* (who will convert, or restore, the heart of the father to the son) (Adam Clarke’s Commentary).

“Restore” means *to put in order*. To put what in order? *The Church*. All things in the church must first be put in order before it can become an altar of the Lord for the fire of God to fall for the display of the glory of God so that all the world can see and believe the Lord Jesus, falling down on their faces and crying out *He is Lord!* (1 Kg 18:39).

What will the prophet Elijah restore when he comes? Taking a cue from what we read he did in 1 Kings 18:21-40, he will restore 12 things.

1. Asked people to make a choice

A problem that was prevalent then is also common in our times. The prophet asked them a question: “How long will you falter between two opinions?” (1 Kg 18:21). Why

did he ask them this question? The people feared the holy God of Israel while at the same time they worshipped idols propagated by 850 false prophets (2 Kg 17:29-41). They lived a compromising life.

Didn't the Lord Jesus admonish us saying, "No man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon" (Matt 6:24). They were torn between two opinions as we are today. Two gods: *God* and *mammon—money*.

The last days' prophetic company of believers must heed the prophecy of Isaiah, "Cry aloud, spare not; Lift up your voice like a trumpet; Tell My people their transgression, And the house of Jacob their sins" (Isa 58:1). The time has now come for you to go and preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God (Matt 24:14) warning all men and women with the message of Revelation 14:6-7.

2. *Rebuilt broken altar*

Restore *prayer* back to the church. After cleansing the temple in Jerusalem, the Lord Jesus thundered, "My house shall be called a house of prayer" (Matt 21:13).

3. *Cut the ox into pieces*

Pride must be cut from churches and ministry leaders. The self must die. All ministers of God and even believers can learn an important lesson from the prophet Elijah. Let's look at several Scriptures:

- **1 Kings 18:22:** "Then Elijah said to the people, "*I alone am left* a prophet of the Lord; but Baal's prophets are four hundred and fifty men."

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- **1 Kings 19:10:** “So he said, “*I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; for the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.*”
- **1 Kings 19:14:** “And he said, “*I have been very zealous for the Lord God of hosts; because the children of Israel have forsaken Your covenant, torn down Your altars, and killed Your prophets with the sword. I alone am left; and they seek to take my life.*”

Five times the prophet Elijah repeated one particular word – the word “I”. Even after God had confronted him, he still kept on saying, “I”. We must humble ourselves. We must crucify the *self* and humble ourselves by bending low to carry our cross.

The *I* in you must die. When the fire of God comes down upon you, it must consume the *I* – as it did the ox on the altar, which is a picture of our flesh. Unless and until this *I* is crucified, the spirit and power of Elijah will not come upon you.

4. Laid wood in order

Most Bible teachers agree that wood signifies humility. When you look at a piece of wood, there is no beauty in it and it appears insignificant. The wood represents the *nobodies*, those who presently just sit in churches, not doing much of anything at all. They are like the donkey and its foal which were tied to the door post for who-knows-how-long until the Lord Jesus sent His disciples to set them loose (Matt 21:2). The nobodies in the church – *children, youths, women, senior citizens* – must be given their proper place in ministry (Ps 8:2; Joel 2:28; Matt 21:2,15-16).

5. *Gathered 12 stones*

This represents the gathering of the outcasts of Israel which the Two Witnesses will chiefly do. Proper church government must be restored giving the Lord Jesus the rightful place as the Head of the Church.

6. *Dug trench*

Redig the old wells of revival for God is going to revisit them. Prepare and establish the church that it may contain the last days' revival and not lose it as in times past.

7. *Poured water*

God has already poured out the *early* rain of the prophesied Joel 2:28 anointing. This is visible all over the world. We must continue to pray for the soon-coming outpouring of the *latter* rain—the full measure of the Joel 2:28 anointing.

8. *Prayed to God in humility and with passion*

The prophet Elijah leaned not on his own understanding nor did he presume to do any works of God without first seeking God's guidance. The last days' prophetic generation must place its trust and dependence in God alone. It must not be self-seeking.

9. *Turned the people back to the living God*

The last days' prophetic generation, like the prophet Elijah, must endeavour to turn the hearts of the people to God. Point them and get them connected with God.

When you prepare the way for the Lord, you are opening up a two-way flow: for people to come unhindered to God and for the Lord Jesus to come freely to meet His people without the bondages of man's religious traditions standing in the way as stumbling blocks.

10. Demonstrated power of God

After the Lord Jesus cleansed the temple, the power of God was present for the Lord to heal the blind and the lame who came to Him (Matt 21:14).

God will demonstrate His awesome powers of the age to come through the Seven Spirits of God in an unprecedented manner – an event even angels are eagerly waiting to witness.

11. False prophets were slaughtered

The prophet Elijah slaughtered the 450 prophets of Baal. The Lord Jesus cleared the temple of false workers and cleansed the temple (Matt 21:12). As much as God is raising up the last days' prophetic company, false prophets and false prophetesses are also arising in the body of Christ.

In the eighteenth year of King Josiah's reign he gave an order to repair the temple. Soon after repairs began, the high priest found the book of the Law in the temple, having been lost and forgotten among the barrage of idols (2 Kg 22).

As soon as King Josiah heard the words of the book, he wasted no time in bringing an end to the kingdom of darkness. He went on a relentless mission of tearing down pagan altars in the land. He deposed pagan priests and destroyed Asherah poles. He desecrated the area dedicated to Molech for child sacrifice. He destroyed altars erected by his own grandfather. He killed the mediums and necromancers and crushed to pieces household gods and idols from his land (2 Kg 23:4-20)

The last days' prophetic generation must cleanse the temple and smash the idols in these last days. The last days' generation, like the prophet Elijah, must be a people who will bow to God's will and submit to His instruction. The last

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days' generation must be fearless and faithful revolutionary reformers who will conquer the places surrendered to the devil.

In these present days people go to churches to be enamored with celebrity preachers, teachers and prophets, when they should be doing the opposite – they should be exalting the Lord Jesus alone. The Scriptures counsel us: “I will sing of mercy and justice; To You, O Lord, I will sing praises. I will behave wisely in a perfect way. Oh, when will You come to me? I will walk within my house with a perfect heart. I will set nothing wicked before my eyes; I hate the work of those who fall away; It shall not cling to me” (Ps 101:1-3).

Today, sin is tolerated, accepted and lifted up as a standard to follow. Idolatry and evil practices have been welcomed into the church in the name of *inclusion*. The call to holiness is frowned-upon as outdated and too costly or unobtainable.

The last days' prophetic generation must become like prophetic wrecking balls to smash the idols into oblivion. The only way to obliterate idols is to turn the hearts of the people back to the living God as the prophet Elijah did. The last days' generation must not – as the Lord Jesus counselled the Thyatira church – tolerate Jezebel nor the false prophets who merchandize the Word of God in these last days.

12. Restored prophetic people back to serving God

After the prophet Elijah slaughtered the 450 false prophets, 100 true prophets of God who had been in hiding for fear of their lives were liberated (1 Kg 18:4). When they were set free they served God with boldness – even though they were anonymous. Four of them even confronted King Ahab and boldly prophesied to him (1 Kg 20:13-14, 22, 28, 35-43).

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When the fullness of the Joel 2:28 anointing is poured out, the last days' prophetic generation will do the works outlined in Revelation 10:11: *prophecy to many peoples, nations, tongues, and kings.*

The prophet Elijah performed these twelve acts to prepare for the fire of God to manifest. One of the purposes of the spirit and power of Elijah is to prepare the way of the Lord. When you preach the Gospel of the Kingdom of God, you are preparing the way for the King of Glory to come.

So who is this Elijah that is going to come back in the last days? I believe the prophet Malachi (as well as other Old Testament prophets) speaks of a company of holy people who will be raised up just prior to the Lord Jesus' second coming. They will minister under the very same spirit and power that rested upon the prophets Elijah, Elisha and John the Baptist.

As I write this concluding paragraph, the Holy Spirit graciously opened my spiritual eyes to see the saint Elijah – full of glory – coming down to earth in a golden fiery chariot pulled by fiery horses and he says, “Rise up people of the living God. Take up the mantle the Lord has reserved for you. Fear neither man nor devil. For great is your God in heaven and on earth who shall empower you to do works greater than those that Moses and I did. So arise and shine for your light has come and the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. Shun evil and fear God all the days of your lives.”

This is your work now: go everywhere and preach the Gospel of the Kingdom. Prepare the way of the Lord and say to the people: The King is coming; the Lion of Judah is coming. He is coming to judge the world in righteousness. The Kingdom of God – the kingdom of righteousness and peace – is coming.

EPILOGUE

Testimonies of Elijah's Visitation

The Lord gave me a mandate to bring the 1,100 delegates who had come from 24 nations to our annual Open Heaven Prophetic Conference held in Jerusalem in June 2017 up to Mount Carmel. The Lord let me know that He was going to release the anointing of the spirit and power of Elijah.

1,100 saints worshipped the Holy One of Israel on the very mount which witnessed the prophet Elijah slaughter 450 false prophets and proved to an apostate nation that the Lord God Yahweh – He is God! This location is also in close proximity to the Valley of Jezreel where the last days' Battle of Armageddon will be fought (Rev 16:16). Once again, evil, wicked and apostate nations will be slaughtered by the Armies of Heaven (Rev 19:17-21).

After sharing a brief message on the spirit and power of Elijah that is going to be released in the last days, all the delegates knelt on the rough mountain terrain – disregarding their personal comfort – to pray for the Elijah anointing. When the time came for the Lord to pour out the anointing, I saw the heavens opened and the saint come down in a golden fiery chariot. When I shared what I saw in the Spirit, almost all were filled with the Elijah's anointing.

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Many delegates' spiritual eyes were opened and they testified of seeing the saint in our midst. Many were powerfully anointed and fell down, unable to stand under the power of the anointing. Many testified seeing eagles fly into them which is symbolic of receiving the Elijah anointing.

The Lord also mandated me to broadcast this event live on all of Angel TV's 12 networks because this release of the Elijah anointing will be world-wide. This was a historic first live broadcast from Mount Carmel in the history of broadcasting in Israel.

Below, are some of the many testimonies our office received from around the world of visitations from the saint Elijah during the live broadcast from Mount Carmel:

1. I watched the August 27, 2017 prophetic conference on YouTube a couple of days after it happened. As the man of God was explaining what had happened earlier that year on Mount Carmel, I prayed and asked God that I could partake of the blessing that was released at that time.

After less than an hour of praying, I saw the prophet Elijah standing next to me. He was radiant, had a long beard and wore a long robe and what seems like a coat over it, the type that had thin strips of bright colors.

He did not have to tell me his name; I just seemed to know that he was the prophet Elijah. When I asked him if he indeed was Elijah, he answered, "Yes, it is I. I was sent to teach you." Later that day, when I went to attend our church's evening service, during the worship the prophet Elijah appeared to me once again and said, "Surely the church will be persecuted and if the church is failing in its

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worship now when they are free, how will they manage in times of persecution?" he further said, "That is why I am here to help prepare you, for a decree has been made in the kingdom of darkness to kill all prophets just as in my days. The enemy plans to kill all the prophets before they attack the church, for they are the eyes of the church."

- *Febe Nghinongwa, Namibia*

2. I was watching on my phone in Florida and received the Elijah anointing. As Bro. Sadhu said "Let them not be able to contain it in their bodies," I fell down.

- *Lochemet H, USA*

3. I was travelling on the MRT [train] while listening to the message broadcast live from Mount Carmel when I felt the awesome presence of the Lord. The anointing was so real and unbelievable. God can touch a person even when underneath the earth, travelling on a train.

Later that night at about 7 - 8:30pm, my daughter Abe and I knelt down and prayed for the final anointing of the prophet Elijah to fill us. I felt a powerful anointing fall on me. I was unable to stand; I went down on my knees and bowed down to the floor. In a vision, I saw a scroll given into my hand.

-*Saral Daniel, Singapore*

4. My body received the spirit of Elijah during the direct broadcast. I humbled myself and offered myself on the altar. It was the most powerful broadcast experience for me. Thank you, Almighty God Jehovah, and our savior Jesus Christ.

- *Arild Sandodden, Sweden*

5. On 8/6/17, as my ten-year-old son and I were watching the Open Heaven Prophetic Conference on Angel TV, the prophet

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Sadhu Sundar Selvaraj prayed for all to receive the anointing of the spirit and power of Elijah. My son felt a powerful bright light enter into his body. He felt so hot and his body shook.

- *Clarisa Vincent, India*

6. While watching the service at Mt Carmel, I was trembling and felt the presence of the Holy Spirit as you prayed for the congregation on Mt Carmel. Although I didn't see Elijah, I could feel the great presence and the anointing. My tears rolled down even though I was only watching over YouTube. Praise the Lord! He can speak to anyone anywhere even through TV or Internet.

- *Lay See Teo, Singapore*

7. The Open Heavens Prophetic Conference was very helpful to me. I thank God for filling me with the anointing and power of the prophet Elijah. It was a very good experience to see the supernatural power of God in our house too. I thank God for all these blessings. I thank God that he blessed Jesus Ministries to telecast these meetings live.

- *Jennifer James, India*

8. During the year-end prayer for the Jesus Ministries staff in 2015, if I remember correctly, we were taught about the Moses and Elijah company. Though I didn't feel any tangible touch from God during the prayer time then, still, I felt that I belong to the Elijah company.

But during the meeting at Mt. Carmel in June 2017, as Uncle Sadhu led in prayer, I said to the Lord, "Lord, if it is true that I belong to Elijah's company, let me see him." Sadly, I didn't. But something else happened. During the prayer you said, "Let the eagles of Elijah come." At that moment, I felt a brown eagle with a white head come flying towards me, hit

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me in the back and become attached to me. So now I know that I have received the Elijah anointing.

- *Vincy Beulah, India*

9. I was blessed to watch the entire Open Heavens Israel conference broadcast live from Jerusalem.

After the live broadcast from Mount Carmel ended, a prophet of God from central India, Chattisgath, visited our house. He testified that the prophet Elijah visited him. His hands started to feel different and he was shaken after the encounter. I told him that just a few minutes ago, the Lord revealed to Sadhuji that the prophet Elijah would visit and has come. He was thrilled and glorified the Lord Jesus Christ.

- *Mandeep Narang, India*

10. My family and I saw the Mount Carmel event on YouTube in August 2017. We were really blessed through the Word of God.

Earlier that year, sometime in July, I heard a voice early one morning saying: "Elijah." Now I understand what the word meant and we were inspired while you spoke about the anointing of Elijah. Thank God that He is giving the anointing of Elijah to His people.

- *Peter K. Sabapathy, India*

11. As per your prophetic words of the holy God Jesus Christ, I saw Elijah face to face in August of 2017.

There was a quarrel and misunderstanding between two pastors from the same ministry and I was counseling the two pastors to walk in love. While we were talking, one of the brothers saw Elijah come and stand in front of me. When the

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brother said that Elijah was standing beside me, I told him, "Look even Elijah has come to help us."

- *Raja Balan, India*

12. A student with "The Call" School at Kansas City heard the Lord say to her sometime in 2011 that the spirit of Elijah was coming on this generation.

After the wonderful and blessed event on Mount Carmel, someone sent me two informative articles that confirmed the continuing ministry of the prophet Elijah in the Spirit:

Rabbi Receives Heavenly Message in the Cave of Elijah the Prophet By Dr. Rivkah Lambert Adler | June 12, 2015

On the morning of Tuesday, June 9, Israeli mystic Rabbi Amram Vaknin, led a prayer service at the Cave of Elijah the Prophet in Haifa, Israel, along with approximately 30 Jewish men and 30 Jewish women, to pray for the welfare of the Jewish people (1 Kg 19:9).

Gil Nachman, an aide to the Rabbi and an eyewitness, told *Breaking Israel News* that at approximately 11:30 AM, Rabbi Amram Vaknin suddenly fell to the ground, into the mud and water on the floor of the cave.

When Rabbi Vaknin was lying on the floor in that cave, he received a message for the Jewish people from Elijah the Prophet that there is a decree from Heaven that war will be starting in the south of Israel, will move to the north of Israel and will continue inside of Israel. Thousands of people will die, God-forbid."

Rabbi Vaknin, a 76 year-old mystic who lives in Ashdod, comes from a family of mystics. His mother and his

grandmother had the same gift of receiving revelations from Heaven. Through these messages, Rabbi Vaknin accurately predicted the "Gaza Freedom Flotilla" in May, 2010, the deadly fire in the Carmel forest in December of 2010 as well as Operation Pillar of Defense in 2012 and Operation Protective Edge in 2014.

Prophet Elijah Visits Mystic Rabbi With Message: "Four Gates of Mercy Are Closed, But One is Open" by Adam Eliyahu Berkowitz | February 8, 2017

Last Saturday night, February 4, 2017, a mystic rabbi fell into a trance and received a divine vision that warned of heavenly gates closing, bringing about a period of global suffering. The vision revealed that one gate has been forced open temporarily by Elijah the prophet, but the key to keeping that gate open is in the hands of people.

Rabbi Vaknin, who has had several powerful visions of Elijah, frequently prays at the prophet's cave in Haifa. The prophet appears to him as a *spiritual guide* in his visions.

Many of the predictions have come true. In October 2015, Rabbi Vaknin had a chilling vision that much Jewish blood was going to be spilled in Israel. Tragically, the vision proved to be accurate. The wave of violence that began just a few weeks before that vision continued with increasing intensity until the summer. In that time, there were almost one thousand stabbing, shooting, and vehicular attacks that injured over 650 Israelis and killed 47.

"Hello, Elijah the Prophet," Rabbi Vaknin continued while in the trance. "Please, Elijah, open one of the five gates for them in Heaven. Just in case they want to do *teshuva* (atone) and pray, and stop with the lies and the

Elijah Is Coming

falseness, so that one gate will be open for them. And if they don't repent, then that gate will also close."

After another long pause, the rabbi received an answer. "Elijah the prophet opened one good gate. But what will be in Jerusalem will be good and bad," he said. "They don't want to pray! They don't want to stop the lies and evil. I don't understand. Elijah opened one gate of the five, one gate for good, but where is that good gate?"

Rabbi Vaknin later explained his vision to Gil Nachman, his personal assistant. "Elijah the Prophet came to give him this message because a difficult time is coming to Jerusalem," Nachman told *Breaking Israel News*. "There are five gates that can be used to access heaven's mercy, but only one is open. Elijah opened that final gate for the sake of Israel. There is about to be a difficult time with much blood being spilled, and two great rabbis are going to die."

The rabbi's vision might be connected to the five actual gates that entered the First and Second Temple.

"At one point in his vision, Rabbi Vaknin asked Elijah, 'If it is a good gate that you have opened, then why are so many going to die?'" The rabbi received a message which explained this seeming contradiction. "He was told that from our perspective it is bad, but from Heaven, it looks good because in the end, there will be a great victory and Elijah the prophet will clearly arrive. The gate is open, but whether or not we go through the gate is up to us. He was told that everyone needs to pray and repent right now," Nachman concluded. "Elijah said 'from great to small' needs to pray."



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Do You Need Prayer ?

Oh, that one might plead for a man with God, as a man pleads for his neighbor! (Job 16:21). Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven (Matt. 18:19).

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The prophet who sent shock waves throughout Israel and shivers down the spines of kings, queens and nations is coming back.

The very last prophecy in the Old Testament says:

MALACHI 4:5-6

5 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."

It was this very Scripture that the Lord Jesus was referring to when he said: "Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will restore all things" (Matt 17:11).

Just as the spirit and power of Elijah came upon the prophets Elisha and John the Baptist, so will it come upon the last days' prophetic generation.

The moral and spiritual conditions that exists in the world in these present times are no different from the moral and spiritual decline that existed during the time when Elijah made his appearance, as recorded in the Old Testament. As the Lord sent the prophet Elijah to restore the worship of the only true living God in Israel in times past, He is sending Elijah back one more time to restore and to put all things in order before the coming of the Lord Jesus in the end-times.

If you believe you are part of the last days' prophetic remnant, read this book to more fully understand your destiny. Learn how to prepare yourself to preach the Gospel of the Kingdom in the spirit and power of Elijah.



SADHU SUNDAR SELVARAJ is a forerunner who has been graced to prepare the way of the Lord for His Second Coming. At 16, he experienced a supernatural encounter with the Living Christ. He has been preaching the Gospel and bringing the healing power of God since 1979 to more than 55 nations. His television network, Angel TV, currently reaches all the six continents with 12 channels in 8 different languages. Brother Sadhu, as he is affectionately called, is the author of 18 books. His life and ministry will provoke, encourage and teach you the fear of God and to walk intimately with Christ Jesus.

