

Jesus, the Great I AM

(5) The Testimony of John

Interrogation of John the Baptist...John 1:19-28

Who was specifically sent from Jerusalem to find out who John claimed to be? 1:19, 24

Priests, Levites (priestly order), and Pharisees (ultra-right, orthodox leadership).

And what was John the Baptist's clear testimony re being the Messiah? 1:20

He was clear and open that he, John the Baptist, was NOT the Christ, Messiah.

Still trying to determine what authority he assumed to preach/baptize, what's next? 1:21

If you're not Messiah are you then Elijah? Reference to Mal.4:5-6. Anticipated by Jews.

Why was this a 'logical' question? Mark 1:6; II Kings 1:8; Mt.3:10-12; I Kings 21:17-24

His appearance and his message of judgment were reminiscent of Elijah.

However, what was foretold of John before his birth? Lu.1:5-17

John would be the forerunner before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah.

And what does Jesus proclaim about John in Mt.11:2-15 (vs.14-15)?

That John is Elijah who was (prophesied) to come! Not literally, but in spirit and power.

Regarding Mal.4:5, what phenomenal event is prophesied? Mt.16:28

That some (Peter, James, John) would see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom!

And then, about a week later, what happens? Mt.17:1-8 (also Mk.9:2-13; Lu.9:28-36)

Jesus is transfigured before them. Moses and Elijah appear, talking with Him.

What might they (Christ, Moses, Elijah) be talking about?? Lu.9:30-31

They were talking about His soon *departure*, that is, His death on the cross. Interesting...

How does this event (transfiguration) fulfill Mt.16:28, "seeing the Kingdom"?

Jesus is seen glorified; Moses (*Law*), Elijah (*Prophets*) and disciples (*Church*) all there!

How is Jesus seen in 2 ways in this event? Jn.1:14

He is 100% man and 100% God, at once. His deity was unveiled temporarily. God with us.

Did this event have an impact on Peter, James and John? IPet.1:12,16-18; Jn.1:14;

Yes, it profoundly changed their life. They were steadfast in declaring His glory.

About Elijah...

The disciples are confused about Elijah/John, Mt.17:10. What does Jesus say? Mt.17:11-13

That Elijah is coming per Mal.4:5-6, but John had fulfilled the spirit/power already.

When/how might the literal coming of Elijah be fulfilled? Rev.11:1-11 (Note vs. 5-6)

Some feel the two witnesses are Moses/Elijah. Note 1260 days/ 42 mo/ 3.5 yrs & 3.5 days.

What were hallmarks of Elijah/Moses' ministries? James 5:17, I Kings 18; Ex.9:13-17

No rain for 3.5 yrs, fire from heaven, water turned to blood, plagues of all kinds...

Our God knows the ending from the beginning!