

Session 5: Prepare the Way for the Lord

*“Do two walk together, unless they have **agreed** to meet?... “For the Lord God does **nothing** without revealing his secret to his servants the prophets.” **Amos 3:3, 7***

What God _____, Jesus _____.

Revelation 19:10: *For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*

A Voice Cries in the Wilderness

*A voice cries: “In the wilderness **prepare the way for the Lord**; make straight **in the desert** a highway for our God. **Isaiah 40:3***

_____ precedes outpourings.

*If you turn at my reproof, behold, I will **pour out my spirit to you**; I will **make my words known to you**. **Proverbs 1:23***

Turning our hearts toward Him will _____ for the Lord.

Scripture reveals that _____ was that voice.

Matthew 3:1-3 *In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” ³ For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.’”*

Malachi 3:1 *“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; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts.”*

Malachi 4:5-6 *“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”*

Matthew 11:7-15

Jesus suggested a _____ is still coming. (**Verse 14**)

A shift happened with John. Now, the _____ in the kingdom will be even _____ than he. (**Verse 11**)

Matthew 17:1-13

God had one message to declare on the mount of transfiguration: _____ to Jesus.

Matthew 17:5 *“This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; **listen to him**.”*

“Elijah does come, and he _____ restore all things.” (Verse 11)

- When Jesus spoke this, John was already _____.

No one understood at that time that Christ would come to earth _____.

“Elijah does come, and he *will* restore all things.”

Luke 1:16-17 says of John, *And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, **17 and he will 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 for the Lord a people prepared.”*

Just as God’s Spirit in John prepared the way for Jesus’ first coming, the _____ of Elijah operating through us will usher in Christ’s return.

- **Psalm 85:13** *Righteousness will go before him and make his footsteps a way.*

Religious leaders who are bound to the law but deny the Spirit will _____ the spirit of Elijah.

Jesus will return when His _____ has been made _____.

Revelation 19:6-8 *“Hallelujah! For the Lord our God the Almighty reigns. ⁷ Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and **his Bride has made herself ready**; ⁸ it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure”—for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.*

Revelation 21:2 *And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

Jesus invites us now to ready His bride through _____.

Isaiah 52:8 *The voice of your watchmen—they lift up their voice; together they sing for joy; for eye to eye they see the return of the Lord to Zion.*

The _____ of the watchmen will usher in the Lord’s _____.

We become the earthy voice aligning with God’s own and giving it a place to _____.

The anointing _____ when Elijah passed the mantle on to Elisha.

Isaiah 61:6-7 *⁶ but you shall be called the priests of the **Lord**; they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God...⁷ Instead of your shame there shall be **a double portion**; instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot; therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion; they shall have everlasting joy.*

God’s mantles have been _____ and _____.

Only _____ can the fullness of God’s glory be revealed.

*Awake, awake, put on your strength, O Zion; **put on your beautiful garments. Isaiah 52:1***