

THE RAVEN AND THE DOVE

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Genesis 8:7-12 And he sent forth a raven, which went forth to and fro, until the waters were dried up from off the earth. 8 Also he sent forth a dove from him, to see if the waters were abated from off the face of the ground; 9 But the dove found no rest for the sole of her foot, and she returned unto him into the ark, for the waters *were* on the face of the whole earth: then he put forth his hand, and took her, and pulled her in unto him into the ark. 10 And he stayed yet other seven days; and again he sent forth the dove out of the ark; 11 And the dove came in to him in the evening; and, lo, in her mouth *was* an olive leaf plucked off: so Noah knew that the waters were abated from off the earth. 12 And he stayed yet other seven days; and sent forth the dove; which returned not again unto him any more.

God will always add some deep hidden keys to His messages so that we are fully equipped for our walk of grace in Him. While the flood waters were still above the face of the earth, Noah sent a raven out of the ark to investigate if the waters had begun dry up. The raven went forth to and fro until the floods began to subside. He also sent out a dove to investigate the flood waters, it kept on returning to the ark until it found a resting place for its feet. On the day the dove found dry land, it brought back an olive branch to Noah and seven days later it did not return. Little details like this can pass unnoticed, but I tell you there are lots of beneficial spiritual lessons hidden in all of this.

THE CRY OF THE RAVEN

The going forth of the Raven and finally, that of the dove, is a trend that occurs spiritually as Christ and His kingdom is being revealed in His chosen vessels. The Raven, a generally unattractive bird, normally black and gray in color and known to inhabit mostly desolate or wilderness-like places far away from the comfort zone of men, allegorically represents the spirit of Elijah that goes forth crying, “preparing the way for the Lord's coming”. I can imagine the raven crowing as it went forth to and fro over the flood waters; it cries out with a clear distinct voice which can be heard by all.

The Prophet Isaiah wrote on this voice that goes forth to prepare the way of the Lord.

Isaiah 40:3-5 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."

THE loud cry of the Raven is the symbol of a loud cry or the symbolic trumpet call unto the nations of this world, intimating them of the coming of the Lord and His glory that is to be revealed. The dull black and grey colors of the raven are symbols of mourning, fasting, repentance and lowliness for those seeking the salvation of God, these is what characterized John the baptized in the day of His manifestation to Israel [**Luke 7:24**]. John the Baptist allegorically represents the raven crying out in the spirit of Elijah, calling on people to repent while warning of the coming of the kingdom of God and His anointed one (The Christ) and the need to prepare the way for Him within their hearts. The ways of the Lord, simply talks of a return to the originality of all things as they were in the beginning before man descended into the lower realms of mortality which makes up this present world. The spirit of Elijah not just calls on men to repentance from elementary sins, but repentance from the ways of man; it also teaches men on the ways of the Lord that have been from the beginning, even before the introduction of the knowledge of good and evil or the laws of Moses. It is not here to tell you to stop smoking or to stop things that men have classified by sin according to their standards of righteousness; it simply tells us to walk in truth which consists of recognition of the true originality of all things, like our true essence as sons of the living God who have always been with the Father even before this world was.

That cry is here today again telling all men to repent of their ungodliness and all manner of man made traditions and standards of morality and put on Christ. It is a voice that is always present and meeting with people all over the world and educating them on repentance from dead works and beliefs. These dead works and beliefs are the things that have actually robbed mortal man of his

access to the Father. Elijah restores the ancient paths through which man can walk in true righteousness according to the way we were generated by the Father, no more according to elementary doctrines and traditions of men and of religion. The voice is quite different from the voices we heard in the past when we walked in darkness; in fact it dispels all high things in the minds of men that have obscured the minds of men from the truth that is in Christ Jesus by bringing to light truth that is from above.

The spirit of Elijah must come before the emergence of the Christ, because hearkening to His voice is what causes a manifestation of Christ within us. Men should not be fooled into thinking that there will be another physical manifestation of Elijah or John the Baptist, because He manifests by the spirit within us to bring about obedience to the Christ, so that once our obedience is complete, Christ the Lord is manifested through us. We should never be looking out for some outward sign in the form of physical manifestation otherwise the day of the Lord will pass us like a thief in the night.

The prophet Malachi prophesied about the coming of the Lord, and confirms that His coming will be preceded by the emergence of the prophet Elijah.

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."

Reading carefully through the lines of Malachi's prophesy, we can discern here that he is talking about a restoration of a family order, which by the spirit of revelation we know is the original family of

God in Christ [**Ephesians 3:14-15**]. Any one who does not receive this revelation remains under the curse.

Many years later, Jesus confirmed that John the Baptist is the Elijah they were all waiting for.

Matthew 11:11-15 11 "Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. 12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force. 13 For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. 14 And if you are willing to receive it, he is Elijah who is to come. 15 He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

The end time religious watchers of that time were all looking forward to some form of manifestation of Elijah as they knew in the biblical manuscripts, but they must have been disappointed to hear that it was just a lowly John the Baptist fulfilling the prophesy of Malachi. This is the reason why men have to be spiritually watchful never being carried away by physical appearances. These men eventually crucified the Christ, thinking that they were doing service to God. As long as men watch out for physical signs they risk falling into the same category of men who crucify Christ.

Basically the restoration message of Elijah calls men to return back to the family pattern in Christ. All men are admonished to come back into that place of perfect oneness and love that was in existence before their minds were obscured by the darkness of this material realm. The spirit of Elijah restores that true love for the brethren that existed in Adam before the fall. This call is a call to firstly recognition and love of the brethren. Elijah reveals our true

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substance in Christ and how that we must decrease in the false knowledge of self after the flesh and increase in the knowledge of our true substance in Christ before this world was. It basically reveals the fellowship in light with the brethren and the glory that goes with it.

One may ask, “Who are the brethren?” they are the peoples dispersed all over this world and lost in the nations and systems of this world of appearances. The spirit of Elijah reveals that we are all one body in the son of the living God, and that we are all of the same Father, from the same maternal womb and the same spirit, but we lost this knowledge in our descent into a world of physical appearances. Before man’s descent into a material consciousness otherwise known as dust, there was no black or white, male or female, poor or rich, Arab or Jew nor where there Christians or non Christian religious sects. There was only one in the beginning and there remains only one eternally, they are the Father and the son and they are one. The Father appears as the son and the son as the Father they are one and inseparable, this is the only true God and eternal life. We are the ones who form the son in the unity of perfect love. In the beginning, it was this one Family of perfected spirits in heaven, one Father, one love and one mind all in perfect harmony.

The raven otherwise known as the spirit of Elijah, restores us back into that union of oneness by causing repentance from dead works according to the flesh that have provoked the divisions among the brethren.

During his contact with men who heeded to His call to repentance, John the Baptist was asked on what they should do to escape the judgment of the wicked that accompanies the revelation of the Lord, the reply of John the Baptist was, attend to the needy by clothing the naked and feeding the hungry, also seize from oppressing others, and learn to live with contentment.

Luke 3:10-15 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."

What the spirit of Elijah is simply saying is that we should repent from our old tendencies after the old natural man to oppress others, and begin afresh to manifest love to all men by covering up the sense of nakedness and unworthiness as we come in contact with them. Doing this releases healing not only in us but also in all brethren that we come in contact with, because boldness and faith towards God that was lost in the beginning is restored. Harkening to the voice of Elijah also means edifying one another of the lost glory and the free gift unto the glory in Christ that causes us ascend once more into favor; it also means converting ourselves to become bread to humanity so that they can eat and live again. We should learn to educate people on their true essence as sons of God in Christ Jesus, by applying the keys of truth to set all men including ourselves, free from their prison houses of corruption and condemnation, so that we can come forth into the glorious liberty of the sons of God. Basically all this is about walking in truth which means walking in the originality of all things, the way they were before we put on the form of man of the dust. This is a call to recognition of the true man on the inside of every man, which is Christ is us the hope of glory. It is only as we humble ourselves and reach out to the Christ within us and within the brethren that we ourselves can begin to see light.

In the past when we walked in ignorance we were like the unjust soldiers (accusers) that John the Baptist admonished [**Luke 3:14**]. Accusations lead to prison sentences, spiritually speaking we in our mistaken identities were like offspring of the serpent unleashing poisonous accusations to other men we came in contact with. We once lived in a realm where we pointed the finger and always saw evil in others. This attitude has to be overcome with the healing power of love, which comes by recognition of the truth.

If any man hearkens to the cry of the Raven within him calling on repentance then healing will be ushered into His life. No matter how low He may have been brought low, God will lift Him up. The glory He once lost is restored in its totality, He begins to see the living God face to face and the breach or gap is closed as He continues on hearkening to the cry of the raven. Just as the ravens went forth to and fro over the waters till they dried up (the waters representing man's desolations), so also will all the desolations in the lives of the obedient be no more as they hearken to this call unto repentance from dead works and conformation unto Christ. The bitter waters and every flood of iniquity that has obscured our sight from the glory of God will be completely dried up, no need pondering on how it will be done, just believe and it shall come to pass in your life.

All this is confirmed in Isaiah Chapter 58

Isaiah 58:6-9 6 "Is this not the fast that I have chosen: To loose the bonds of wickedness, To undo the heavy burdens, To let the oppressed go free, And that you break every yoke? 7 Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, And that you bring to your house the poor who are cast out; When you see the naked, that you cover him, And not hide yourself from your own flesh? 8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, Your healing shall spring forth speedily, And your

righteousness shall go before you; The glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. 9 Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; You shall cry, and He will say, 'Here I am.'

Isaiah 58 basically talks of true fasting and repentance; it confirms the teaching of the Apostle John walking in the spirit of Elijah. If any man seeks the perfect day of the Lord found within the confines of God's kingdom, where the darkness of this world becomes a thing of the past, He must exercise Himself to this spiritual fast by applying the truth in the form of the word to break every bondage to corruption and the elementary rudiments of this world, to edify the soul, and to restore the covering of the righteousness of Christ in Himself and in the brethren he comes in contact with. It is about repentance from our old ways according to our carnal reasoning, and conformation unto the ways of the Lord, as we do this we recover ourselves once more in the glory of Christ who is our true inner man [**Isaiah 58:13-14**].

Spiritually speaking the raven prepares the way for the dove to come; the dove finds an abiding place only after the flood waters, representing the endless flow of lies and ignorance are no more. John the Baptist comes in the spirit of Elijah (the raven) to cause a preparation of the temple or house of God by purifying it with the word of truth. Like Malachi says, the purification occurs only as the Levites, representing the chosen vessels of the Lord are conformed to the days of old otherwise known as the ways from the beginning before they put on a consciousness of flesh and blood.

Malachi 3:1-4 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come,

saith the LORD of hosts. 2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: 3 And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. 4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

It is only after restoration of the old ways, that the dove finds a resting place, like it did in Jesus over two thousand years ago. The dove found a resting place in Jesus, being a vessel well prepared for its coming.

A large wooden ark is shown on a hillside, with a dove perched on its roof. The ark is made of light-colored wood and has a ramp leading to an open doorway. The background shows a hazy landscape with mountains and a sky with soft clouds.

THE EMERGENCE OF THE DOVE

Shortly after sending out the raven to explore the flood waters, Noah also sent out a dove which kept on returning until it found a place to rest its feet. Let us interpret what God intended to teach us from this.

The dove (normally white) has been known to be a symbol of peace and purity, dedication and innocence in all spheres of human beliefs. When the dove is mentioned, what men immediately picture in their minds is a innocent white bird with deep ties with humanity. They have certain traits of loyalty and unity that even surpasses that of most men. They are noted to mate for life, are incredibly loyal to each other and work together to build their nest and raise their young. Unlike most other animals, doves commonly tend to nest in areas that humans inhabit, like in roof tops.

The dove in this context represents the spirit of Christ and its descent in man as it did in Jesus of Nazareth. It was after the descent of the spirit in Jesus that He now truly walked in the capacity as son of the living God. The descent of the spirit of Christ as a

dove in man represents it's unveiling in those who have obediently prepared themselves to receive Him by hearken to the call of Elijah (The raven); it can also be called the revelation of the Lord from heaven or the emergence of the Lord in His temple [Malachi 3:1].

John 1:29-34 29 The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! 30 This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' 31 "I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." 32 And John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. 33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' 34 "And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God

The sign that was given to John the Baptist to recognize the Christ was, **"Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him"**. Notice that the spirit descended as a dove and remained in Jesus, meaning that there was a possibility that the spirit would not remain if it did not find the house (Jesus) well prepared. This implies that those who are worthy to receive this visitation are those who have left no stone unturned in obeying the Lord into total submission to Christ. The appearing of the Lord in those who have this precious revelation and seek His appearing will follow this trend throughout all generations.

These are mysteries hidden from the foundation of this world which God is causing us to comprehend now so that we can enter in and be saved. Any man, who gets this revelation, repents of his

old ways and calls on the name of the Lord will be saved by the sealing of the spirit unto total redemption. Never should we look to the physical sky for the appearing of the Lord Jesus, He appears in us and we appear in Him, a trend that reveals that we are Him [John 14:20]. When we fully realize this mystery, the curse of Adam is no more and we enter in to enjoy the abundance of riches in God's glory which is the inheritance of the saints. You see, our redemption occurs in our awakening to the reality that we are Him and beside Him there is no other.

Allegorically speaking, the whole earth was baptized unto death in the days of Noah, so also we must be baptized by the spirit of Elijah unto death to ourselves.

1 Peter 3:18-22 18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, 19 by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, 20 who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine long-suffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. 21 There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, 22 who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him

As we emerge out of the waters of death like the earth emerged of the flood waters the spirit of Christ like the dove finds a place to settle in us. This is a process that is continuous in we who have the revelation; we must be baptized unto death and reduce in our human sense of life so that Christ increases in us. Like John the

Baptist who walked in the spirit of Elijah Baptized all so also must we be baptized this day. We are not speaking of literal physical water like is preached in traditional religion, we are talking of a baptism unto death to our carnal existence so that the true man which is Christ is resurrected in us and now lives in us. It is only as we emerge from the water that the Christ can really be revealed in us. It will be after the same manner Jesus was filled with the spirit descending as a dove from above as He emerged out of the water. The man Jesus by this act had put to death that form of carnal existence that He walked in for His first thirty years as a man. From that moment He was no longer Hebrew, no more born of earthly man or woman, He connected back to His roots in the beginning in the Father.

As the earth emerged out of the water so also was there a restoration of fruitfulness as symbolized by the olive branch which the dove brought back. True fruitfulness is found only within the confines of God's kingdom and is a sign of the true believer. God's kingdom is characterized by peace, joy, and power in the Holy Ghost where nothing of the sorrows and pains of this world can enter or defile. Like the prophets said, the desolate lands and the solitary place shall be glad and they shall be turned into the likeness of a blossoming garden where all sorrow and travail will be no more.

The spirit of exceeding joy, wisdom, power and delight in the name of the Lord begins to emerge within those who have patiently waited for the coming of the Lord. His unveiling in us is joy, health and safety to those who wait for His coming. The period of mourning in sackcloth and ashes according the voice of Elijah is converted into a new era of gladness where the garments of heaviness are changed into garments of true praise.

Psalms 30:11 11 You have turned for me my mourning in-

to dancing; You have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with gladness,

Those who have mourned at their state of helplessness, insatiability and utter corruption and sought the Lord with all their hearts with patience and perseverance will be satisfied with His righteousness; it shall be a garment of praise for heaviness, oil of joy for mourning. It shall be release from the bondages to corruption and sin into the glorious liberty of the sons of God where they can shout Abba father. This is God's good will towards all men; His desire is to see us saved.

Isaiah 61:1-3 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; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To console those who mourn in Zion, To give them beauty for ashes, The oil of joy for mourning, The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness; That they may be called trees of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified."

On the other hand, it is a moment of anguish for those who rebel and reject Elijah's call to repentance when they behold the brightness of His glory revealed in the obedient sons. In that they will stand afar in awe as they behold the wondrous things that the Lord will do in His people.

The spirit as a dove will speak kindly to you in that day and will restore all comforts to you so that you will no more lack any good thing. The spirit when He is come will lead you unto the fountains of living water where you will thirst no more.

