

The Kingdom of Heaven is at Hand – Part 2



What was John the Baptist's Message?

Matthew 3:1 In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, **2** and saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!”

Elijah to Elisha is a picture of the Old Covenant transferring to the New Covenant.

The reality is John the Baptist bringing in the New Covenant of Jesus.



Mark 8:38 For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation (Strong's 1074 – genea – generation, race of men, a perverse race) , of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”

Mark 9:1 And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.”



Mark 9:2 Now after **six** days Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and led them up on a high mountain apart by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. **3** His clothes became shining, exceedingly white, like snow, such as no launderer on earth can whiten them. **4** And Elijah appeared to them with Moses, and they were talking with Jesus. **5** Then Peter answered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; and let us make **three tabernacles**: one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”— **6** because he did not know what to say, for they were greatly afraid.



Mark 9:7 and a cloud came and overshadowed them; and a voice came out of the cloud, saying, “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!” **8** Suddenly, when they had looked around, they saw no one anymore, but only Jesus with themselves. **9** Now as they came down from the mountain, He commanded them that they should tell no one the things they had seen, till the Son of Man had risen from the dead. **10** So they kept this word to themselves, questioning what the rising from the dead meant. **11** And they asked Him, saying, “Why do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?”



Matthew 17:10 And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Why then do the scribes say that Elijah must come first?”
Jesus answered and said to them, “Indeed, Elijah is coming first and will **restore** all things. (Malachi 4:6)

Restore – apokathistémi - properly, restore back to original standing, i.e. that existed before a fall; *re-establish*, returning back to the (ultimate) ideal; (figuratively) restore back to *full freedom* (the *liberty* of the original standing); to *enjoy again*, i.e. what was taken away by a destructive or life-dominating power.



Mark 9:14 And when He came to the disciples, He saw a great multitude around them, and scribes disputing with them. **15** Immediately, when they saw Him, all the people were greatly amazed, and running to *Him*, greeted Him. **16** And He asked the scribes, “What are you discussing with them?” **17** Then one of the crowd answered and said, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit.



Mark 9:18 And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not.”

19 He answered him and said, “O faithless **generation (genea)**, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” **20** Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.



Mark 9:21 So He asked his father, “How long has this been happening to him?”

And he said, “From childhood. **22** And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us.”

23 Jesus said to him, “If you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes.”

24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, “Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!”



Mark 9:25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: “Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!” **26** Then *the spirit* cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, “He is dead.” **27** But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.

28 And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?”

29 So He said to them, “This kind (genea – generation) can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting.” (NU omits fasting)



Repent – change what you believe. The generation of the Old Covenant was passing away and judged.

All things have been **restored** – properly, restore back to original standing, i.e. that existed before a fall; *re-establish*, returning back to the (ultimate) ideal

The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand – you enter in by belief!

A mustard seed of belief in Jesus is all you need. You are complete in Him, nothing lacking!



*Expect God's Favor this week...
He loves you!*

See you next week!

