

Dial Daily Bread: The Elijah Message: The Most Effective Reconciliation the World has ever seen.
Nov 25, 2017

Dear Friends of "Dial Daily Bread,"

When God promised to send us "Elijah the prophet" just before the second coming of Christ ("the great and dreadful day of the Lord"), his message is not to be a thunder and lightning denunciation of mankind reminiscent of his slaying the 450 prophets of Baal at the Kishon River (1 Kings 18:40).

Rather, "Elijah's" message will perform the most effective reconciliation of alienated peoples the world has ever known: "he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers" (Mal. 4:6). That is the last message of much more abounding grace this world will hear--that of the fourth great "angel" in Revelation 18 that "lightens the earth with glory" (vss. 1-4).

Only one Bible message can close the great gospel commission with such glorious success--the lifting up of Christ on His cross as He predicted: "When I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to Me." (In saying this He indicated the kind of death He was going to suffer)" (John 12:32, 33, *Good News Bible*).

The message of the three great angels of Revelation 14 appears superficially to be the most terrorizing ever proclaimed, the greatest fear possible for human hearts: whoever takes the "mark of the beast" "shall also drink of the wine of the wrath of God, ... poured out full strength into the cup of His indignation. ... He shall be tormented with fire and brimstone ... in the presence of the Lamb ... forever and ever; and they have no rest day or night" (vss. 9-11). Could any message be more blood-curdling?

But wait a moment: it's introduced as "*the everlasting gospel*" of Good News (vss. 6, 7). Look more closely! It's the last effective call: "Be reconciled to God"! (2 Cor. 5:19, 20). How? By His love at last fully revealed at His cross (vss. 14, 15)!

--Robert J. Wieland

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