

Elijah Forerunner Ministry

Scripture reading: Malachi 4:5-6

It is God's way to send a "forerunner" or watchman to warn His people whenever great happenings are to take place. At the advent of Christ, John the Baptist was sent as a forerunner, and Jesus Christ described him in Matthew 11:14 as "...*Elijah, which was for to come*" before the coming of Messiah. There is, however, a prophecy (Malachi 4:5) that said that there would be yet another Elijah coming, "...before the great and dreadful day of the Lord." This Elijah is a body of people or a watchman church which is sent to awaken the Church.

I first began to hear this voice in 1948 through the prophetic ministry of a man named William Branham. (Note: 1948 was also the same year that the state of Israel was reborn.) It would be very easy to find a lot of faults and weaknesses in any one of us, but when we divide the "*Thus saith the Lord*" word from the man, we find that God did indeed speak in 1948, which was also the time of the birth of the "*Latter Rain*" movement. This prophetic, Elijah forerunner ministry began to grow from that time, which I would classify as *the beginning of the trumpet call to the Church to awake*, until now which I would classify as *the end of the trumpet call to the Church to awake*.

We see many true prophets arising today in the Church, and also many false ones and many pretenders. Besides all this, there is the voice of prophecy within the Church itself, so that every true child of God is receiving some sort of signal from the realms of heaven concerning the end of time. At this time, therefore, God has sent and is sending into the Body of Christ, prophets and prophetesses. It is Zion that we are speaking about, and He said,

"The Lord shall roar out of Zion, and utter His voice from Jerusalem" (Joel 3:16, Amos 1:2).

These are people who have paid the price, and have maintained their foothold on the mountain of God so that they may be watchmen to see above the heads of the people and warn them of the good and of the evil.

Let us read from Matthew 25:6, "*And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him.*"

Who made the cry? Was it the sleeping body crying out to herself? It was the watchman who never slept. I see this as the prophetic ministry which God has placed in the Church. We note from history that God always had someone to cry aloud no matter how dark it was in Israel. This then is what we are dealing with at this moment. The ministry that "*...sighs and cries*" (Ezekiel 9:4) in the earth is none other than that Elijah ministry.

(Excerpt from *The Omega Message*, August 1996, pg. 1-2)

Thought for today: Let us hear the prophetic utterances in the midst of the Body of Christ. Let us obey the Voice of God and be ready for the great and dreadful Day of the Lord.