

In the Spirit & Power of Elijah

**BUILDING
BLOCKS**

SEARCHING FOR THE K I N G

In [Luke 1](#), an old priest named Zechariah was given an incredible message from God:

But the angel said to him, “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name _____. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great before the Lord... And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of _____, 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.” ([Luke 1:13-17](#))

What would it mean for someone to act **“in the spirit and power of Elijah”**? Maybe [1 Kings 17:1](#) would come to mind...

Now Elijah...said to Ahab, “As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, before whom I stand, there shall be neither dew nor _____ these years, except by my word.”

...or [1 Kings 18:21](#)...

Elijah came near to all the people and said, “How long will you go limping between two different opinions? If the LORD is _____, follow him; but if Baal, then follow him.”

What was the great goal of Elijah’s work?

“...that this people may know that you, O LORD, are God, and that you have _____ their hearts back.” ([1 Kings 18:37](#))

John the Baptist, son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, grew to serve God **“in the spirit and power of Elijah.”** In [Matthew 3:2](#) he preached, “_____”, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” Listen carefully to what Jesus made clear in [Matthew 11:13-14](#):

“For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come.”

Just as the angel promised Zechariah, John went “before” God’s Son “to make ready for the Lord a people prepared” ([Luke 1:17](#)). Recognizing John helps us see Jesus—the Lord our God—clearly.



FOUNDATION STONES

Let's open our Bibles and read [Matthew 3:1-17](#) together about one of the most special moments in Jesus' and John's life. What happened?



How did John "prepare the way of the Lord" ([Luke 3:4-6](#))?

Matthew 3:17

And behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased."

