

# A PROPHETIC PEOPLE YET TO EMERGE

## The Translation Generation~Part One

**Thesis:** In God's plan there will be, eventually, ultimately, a "Translation Generation." It may as well be *this* generation, *our* generation. Sooner or later, there will be a distinguished category of human beings who will triumphantly by-pass "the valley of the shadow of death" as they exit this world into the heavenly kingdom. It may as well be sooner than later, and we may as well be that distinct group of people who never enter the dark clutches of death. Some company of men and women will pass over Jordan into the land of Canaan without ever tasting the bitterness of dying on this wilderness planet. Why not you and me? Dear friend, why not?

**Matthew 16:27-28; 17:1-3—27** "For the Son of Man will come in the glory of His Father with His angels, and then He will reward each according to his works. **28** Assuredly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death till they see the Son of Man coming in His kingdom." **1** Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; **2** and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. **3** And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him.

### Moses A Type of The Resurrected Saints

**Deuteronomy 34:1, 4-5—1** Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is across from Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land of (Canaan)... **4** Then the LORD said to him, "This *is* the land of which I swore to give Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'I will give it to your descendants.' I have caused you to see *it* with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there." **5** So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD. **6** And He buried him in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth Peor; but no one knows his grave to this day.

**Jude 9—**Yet Michael the archangel, in contending with the devil, when he disputed about the body of Moses, dared not bring against him a reviling accusation, but said, "The Lord rebuke you!"

### Elijah A Type of the Translation Generation

**2 Kings 2:1, 6, 8, 11—1** And it came to pass, when the LORD was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal... **6** Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, please, for the LORD has sent me on to the Jordan." But he said, "As the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So the two of them went on... **8** Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled *it* up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground... **11** Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire *appeared* with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.

**NOTE:** Sometimes people say Moses got the better deal in dying before Israel entered Canaan, since, they reason, he was resurrected and taken to heaven. But this idea reasons from a self-centric point of view that has only personal salvation in mind and little concern for the glory of God. Moses did not enter Canaan alive due to the fact that he misrepresented the character of God by striking the rock in anger at rebellious Israel. Moses would have much rather entered Canaan alive, thus indicating that he had fully revealed God's character to Israel.

**NOTE:** The fact that Michael had to contend with Satan in order to resurrect the body of Moses indicates that there are some aspects of the great war between God and the Devil that are as of yet unresolved. Moses was raised from the dead in anticipation of a future development that would fully defeat Satan's claim of jurisdiction over the dead.

## Those Who Are Alive and Remain

**1 Thessalonians 4:15-17**—15For this we say to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive *and* remain until the coming of the Lord will by no means precede those who are asleep. 16For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

**Hebrews 11:35-40**—35Women received their dead raised to life again. And others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. 36Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. 37They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented—38of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, *in* dens and caves of the earth. 39And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, 40God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

**NLT**—39All of these people we have mentioned received God's approval because of their faith, yet none of them received all that God had promised. 40For God had far better things in mind for us that would also benefit them, for they can't receive the prize at the end of the race until we finish the race.

**TM**—Not one of these people, even though their lives of faith were exemplary, got their hands on what was promised. God had a better plan for us: that their faith and our faith would come together to make one complete whole, their lives of faith not complete apart from ours.

## The Promise Fully Realized

**1 Thessalonians 4:17**—And thus we shall always be with the Lord.

**Revelation 21:3-7**—3I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God *is* with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them *and be* their God. 4And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." 5Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new..." 7He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son.

**Revelation 22:4**—They shall see His face, and His name *shall be* on their foreheads.

**Luke 15:20-25**—20...when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him... 22But the father said to his servants, "Bring out the best robe and put *it* on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on *his* feet. 23And bring the fatted calf here and kill *it*, and let us eat and be merry... 24and they began to be merry... 25music and dancing.

**Luke 12:37**—He will gird himself and have them sit down *to eat*, and will come and serve them.

**Zephaniah 3:17, NIV**—He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with his love, He will rejoice over you with singing.

**Revelation 2:17, NIV**—Everyone who is victorious will eat of the manna that has been hidden away in heaven. And I will give to each one a white stone, and on the stone will be engraved a new name that no one knows except the one who receives it.

**NOTE:** There is a task that only the final generation can accomplish, a task so great that its fulfillment will epitomize God original and ultimate purpose for all of humanity.

## "Behold Your God"—Isaiah 40:9

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All Scripture References are from the New King James Version unless otherwise noted.