

## HOPE from Eternity PAST ~ John 1:1-5

→Scripture Reading John 1:1-4, Malachi 4:5-6, John 1:10-12

### INTRODUCTION

#### →Chart Empires and Years of Silence

<sup>6</sup> Both of them were upright in the sight of God, OBSERVING ALL the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. **Luke 1:6-18** (NIV)

<sup>14</sup> He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth...

<sup>17</sup> And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children...

### Before ALL Things ~ John 1:1-3

**John 1:1-3** (NIV) <sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was with God in the beginning. <sup>3</sup> Through Him ALL things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.

1- Before there was a beginning the WORD had BEEN - HNTC

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning **the WORD** already **EXISTED**... (NLT)

### IMPLICATIONS

**GENERAL Revelation** is God speaking to us about Himself through the Universe He CREATED

**Colossians 1:16-17** (NIV) For BY Him ALL things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; ALL things were created BY Him and FOR Him. <sup>17</sup> He is before ALL things, and IN Him ALL things hold together.

### PROMISED from the BEGINNING ~ Genesis 1:26-28

**Genesis 1:26-27** (NIV) Then God said, Let US make man in OUR image, in OUR likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." <sup>27</sup> So God CREATED man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.

**Genesis 3:14-15** (NIV) Then the LORD God said to the serpent, Because you have done this, you are cursed more than all animals, domestic and wild. You will crawl on your belly, groveling in the dust as long as you live. <sup>15</sup> And I will cause hostility between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring. He will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.

**Genesis 12:2-3** (NIV) I will make you into a great nation and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and ALL peoples on earth will be BLESSED through you.

### The PROMISED Elijah has COME ending God's SILENCE ~ Matthew 11:13-14

**Isaiah 40:3-5** (NIV) A voice of one calling: In the desert prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the wilderness a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all mankind together will see it. For the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

**Malachi 4:5-6** (NIV) See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. <sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse.

**Mark 1:4-5** (NIV) ...John came, baptizing in the desert region and preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River.

**John 1:20-23** (NIV) He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, **I am not the Christ.** <sup>21</sup> They asked him, Then who are you? Are you **Elijah**? He said, **I am not.** Are you the **Prophet**? He answered, **No.**

<sup>22</sup> Finally they said, Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself? <sup>23</sup> John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the desert, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.'"

**Matthew 11:13-14** (NIV) For ALL the Prophets and the Law PROPHESED until JOHN. <sup>14</sup> And if you are willing to accept it, he IS the Elijah who was to come.

**John 1:29** (NIV) The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!

## IMPLICATIONS

...a voice of one calling in the desert, Make straight the way for the Lord... Jn. 20:23

HE must INCREASE, but I must decrease. John 3:30 (ESV)

**John 3:30** (NET) He must become MORE important while I become less important.

**Mark 1:6-7** (NIV) John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And this was his message: "After me will come one more powerful than I, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.

### John the Baptist

- was HUMBLE
- lived very SIMPLY
- SINGLE HEARTED focus
- could NOT be sidetracked

## IMPLICATIONS

**GENERAL Revelation** is God speaking to us about Himself through the Universe He CREATED

**SPECIAL Revelation** is God speaking to us through the **Living WORD** (Jesus) and the **Written WORD** (the Bible)

**Hebrews 1:1-2** (NIV) In the past God spoke to our forefathers THROUGH the prophets at many times and in various ways, <sup>2</sup> but in these last days he has spoken to us BY His Son, whom He appointed heir of all things, and through whom He made the universe.

**John 1:14** (NIV) The WORD became flesh and made His dwelling among us. We have seen His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, FULL of grace and truth.

## TAKE AWAY ??

**Galatians 4:4-5** (NIV) But when the TIME had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born under law, <sup>5</sup> to REDEEM those under law, that we might receive the full rights of sons.

### Preparations for the Coming Messiah

- Old Testament translated into Greek LXX
- Rome built a System of Roads
- Rome enforce PEACE

**John 1:11-12** (NIV) He came to that which was His own, but His own did NOT receive Him. <sup>12</sup> Yet to ALL who received Him, to those who BELIEVED in His Name, He gave the RIGHT to become children of God...

11- Even in His own land and among His own people, **He was NOT accepted.** (NLT)