

ELIJAH and EZEKIEL in Masonic Ritual

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I was reading our ritual and on page 24 I found the mention of ELIJAH and EZEKIEL. I became interested in why they were referred to in the ritual. I then decided to research and the Masonic connection.

ELIJAH---was around approximately 875 B.C. He was God's answer to Ahab and Jezebel. God sent Elijah to eradicate the idol worship of Baal a false God.

Baalism was a cruel religion. Ahab did evil in the sight of the Lord, more than all whom before him. They worshiped the idol BAAL and abolished the worship of the Lord Baal, who maintained 850 prophets and killed God's prophets. The idol took many different shapes, mostly of Bulls.

Elijah raised the "widows' son" (I Kings 17-17) the mistress of the house's son became ill and no breath was in him. Elijah said give me your son and carried him to the upper room and cried "Oh Lord have you brought calamity upon this widow". Lord my God let this child's life come into him again, and he was revived. The widow said to Elijah "now I know you are a man of God and the word of the Lord is in your mouth and is the Truth".

The people turned to Baal as their God. Elijah confronted the people and God gave Elijah the power to shut the heavens for 3 1/2 years so that it did not rain.

Elijah killed all the prophets of Baal. Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah and said he would be killed. Elijah fled to a cave in the Kerith Ravine and was fed by ravens and by the widow of Sarepta, whose jar of flour and jug of oil never ran out.

Elijah became discouraged and fled to Mount Horeb where he as God lead him and let him die there. His ministry had been one of miracles. He had caused a drought and had been fed by ravens and by a widow whose jars was always full.

Centuries later Elijah appeared again on Mount of Transfiguration and talked with Jesus and Moses. Elijah foretold of his death. The Lord sent down chariots of fire and horses of fire. Elijah went up to heaven by a whirlwind with the sound of the ocean. This description has caused some modern scholars to believe that decries some sort of spaceship as in the book "Chariots of the Gods".

EZEKIEL----means "GOD WILL STRENGTHEN HIM"

Ezekiel was a prophet and priest who was exiled to Babylon in 597 B.C. His ministry lasted at least 23 years. He became a prophet during his 5th year of captivity

God spoke to him saying "son of man I sent you to the people of Israel who have rebelled against me". The Babylonian Captivity cured the Jews of their idolatry.

In April of 572 B.C. 14 years after the destruction of Jerusalem, Ezekiel had his second journey to Jerusalem in a vision. This second vision was to give specifications for Jerusalem's reconstruction and details of the new temple. This temple of Ezekiel's vision with its courts, arrangements and furnishings follows roughly the general plan for Solomon's which we are all familiar in Masonic History.

His vision of the Valley of Dry Bones is a classic picture of God's ability to breathe new life into those who are spiritually dead.

I believe I now understand why they are in our ritual; they were all great thinkers and spread knowledge throughout the ancient world.

Ref: Holy Bible
Masonic Bible
Halley's Bible Handbook
SRICF Ritual

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