

The Easter Story is Bigger than You Think
The Coming of One in the Spirit of Elijah
Malachi 4:1-6; Isaiah 40:3

The last prophecy made in the Old Testament is the first prophecy to be fulfilled and documented in the New Testament.

This prophetic fulfillment is attended by many supernatural events that attest that this is something divine from God.

- Gabriel, an angel appears to Zechariah.
- Gabriel declares that Zechariah and Elizabeth would have a son.
- Gabriel declares that this son is to be named John and that “he is the one prophesied about who will come in the spirit and power of Elijah.”
Luke 1:12
- Because Zechariah doubts, Gabriel makes him unable to speak.
- Gabriel also appears to Mary and declares that she will have a son—when doing so, he tells her Elizabeth is pregnant.
- When Mary sees Elizabeth, John does a back-flip in her womb.
- When John is born, Zechariah can instantly talk and testifies that John is the fulfillment of the prophecies of the OT.

Jesus declares that John is the one who comes in the Spirit of Elijah fulfilling Malachi 4:1-6.

- At the baptism of Jesus.
Matthew 3:13-17
- When answering the questions of the disciples.
Matthew 9:11-13
- When John has a moment of doubt.
Matthew 11:11-15
- When explaining the transfiguration.
Matthew 17:10-13

If it was so obvious, why didn't the people recognize it?

They couldn't recognize John without recognizing Jesus and they didn't believe that Jesus was the Messiah.

Luke 20:1-8

This prophecy is a double prophecy. It also points to a second coming of Jesus in which Elijah will also come before he returns.

Revelation 11

What does this mean for us today?