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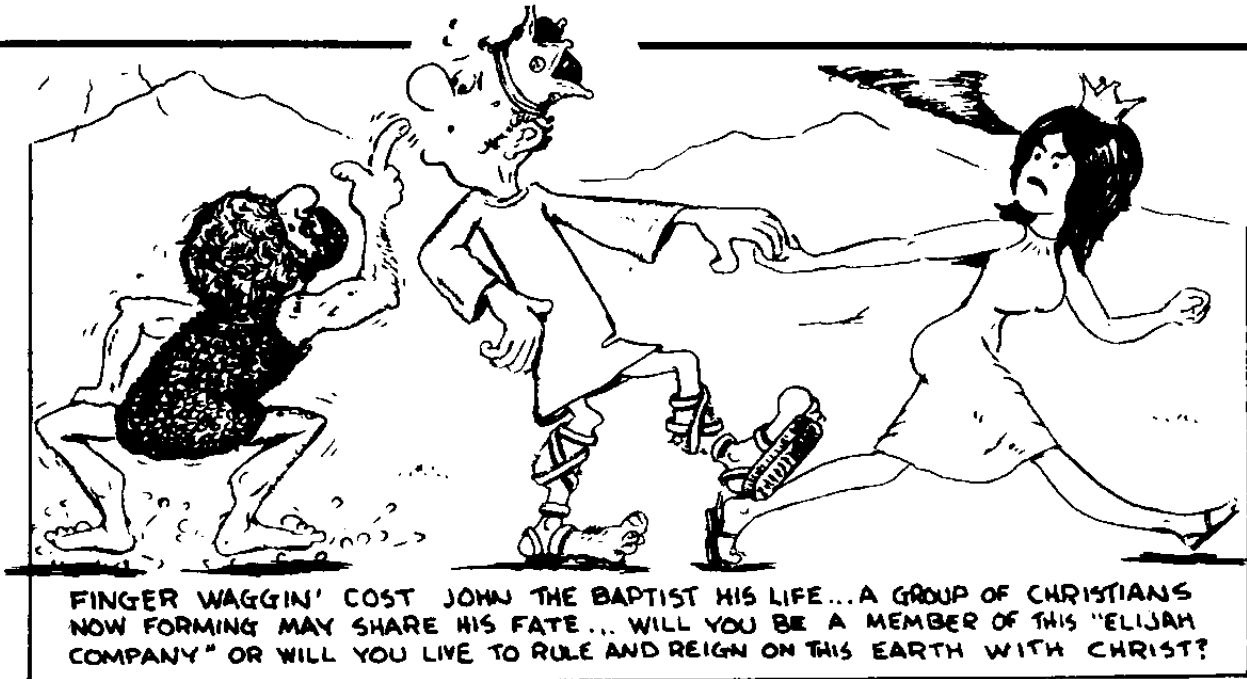
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# Monarch

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HONEST... WE WON'T BE OFFENDED  
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The cartoon above could be a picture of John the Baptist telling King Herod, "It's not lawful for you to have her" in reference to the Queen. (from Matt. 14)

But it could also be a picture of Elijah telling King Ahab, "It is not lawful for you to have her" in reference to Queen Jezebel. (from I Kings 16-22, especially 16:31).

This helps us to understand what Jesus meant when He said, "This (John the Baptist) is Elijah."

Another Clue is when Gabriel said, "John shall go in the spirit and power of Elijah." (Luke 1:17 and Matt. 11:14).

But our understanding of this relationship became even more complicated when Jesus said, "Elijah truly shall come first (before the return of Christ)" (Matt. 17:11, Mal. 4:5). Other Bible teachers have concluded that there shall be a manifestation of Elijah before the return of Christ and we agree. But our studies have shown that the return of Christ will probably be the return of the fullness of the anointing in the Body of Christ. The words Body of Christ indicate a whole group of people - not a single one.

Presently, Christians are separating from each other and polarizing by coming back together again into two distinct groups. The Elijah Company promotes a return to the law. But the group that is destined to rule over the coming kingdom is the Body of Christ because they promote proceeding onward into love and mercy.

Q. Dear Brother Ebaugh. I liked your article on the Elijah Company. It sure did make a lot of sense. Now I understand why I enjoy the company of Pentecostals and Charismatics - but every once in a while they make me feel very uncomfortable by what they say and/or do. Now I see that I feel uncomfortable when they try to lead me back to the law. It has been like a paradox - sometimes they are nice to be around and sometimes they are not. Thanks for showing me why. But, I still have somewhat of a problem with the difference between the Elijah Company and the Body of Christ. I can see that when we change our thinking from the Elijah Company to the Body of Christ we also enter into a freedom from the law. At that time we do not place other people under our own rules. Also we do not allow other people to place us under their own rules. It took me a long time in my Christian growth to see the difference between law and grace. Now you have shown me which group I can expect to act as Christian lawyers and which group I can expect to act in a manner full of grace and mercy. But since we are leaving the law, please tell me what is to keep us from growing apathetic to sin and indifferent to the carnal state of young Christians? I'm confused. Do we or don't we need law?

A. I need to comment on your question a little at a time. The first comment I would like to make is that we don't make freedom from the law our goal. I mean we shouldn't. Our goal is to become the Body of Christ with all the scriptural manifestations. In other words, manifested Sons of God. Freedom from the law will be a result, not our goal. We are wrong if we make freedom our goal. The manifest Sons of God will be led by the Holy Spirit, not the law (Rom. 8:14). The Holy Spirit will give us new rules to live by. Then we will have to deal with a whole new set of problems. In other words, church groups make rules for their members to follow based on the maturity of each group. Some say they can't eat processed food; some can't eat meat; some pork. Each group is convinced that they are right. If they find that you have broken their rules there'll be a lot of trouble.

We are told in Romans 14 that when we are with people who cannot eat meat, then we are bound to their law of not eating meat while we are with the group. That doesn't mean that we must refrain from meat. It only means that we must refrain from eating meat while we're with those people who are not mature enough to eat it. Those who cannot eat meat, drink wine or must observe one day above another are called the weaker brethren in the scripture, but that does not change their status as being saved brothers. It only indicates that those who are under law are weaker than those who are led by the Spirit.

The scriptures are clear in regard to the fact that we must be very concerned about the rules made by our weaker brethren when we attend meetings in their society, church, party, etc. But the Bible is just as clear in regard to the fact that we are free to drink wine, or eat meat, or go to church on any day we choose when we are not with them. We follow freedom to be led by the Holy Spirit when we are away from a group or church that is bound by the law - but we follow their law when we are with them.

Specifically your question says, "What is to keep us from growing apathetic to sin and indifferent to the carnal state of young Christians?"

Two things will keep that from happening. #1. We will be led by the Holy Spirit at that time - that is, at the time we are free from the law. Naturally, the Holy Spirit would not lead us into growing apathetic to sin and becoming indifferent to the carnal state of the young Christians. In other words, the leading of the Holy Spirit will always be right.

Let's say it another way. As long as people are led by the law, they are immature Christians and they need a law such as touch not, taste not and handle not, because of their immaturity to know what to do and what not to do. When a Christian becomes mature and is led by the Holy Spirit, then the Holy Spirit would not lead that person into doing something wrong, so they're free from the law.

As an example: In the law, Moses said we are not to eat the shewbread and if we do, death is the penalty. However, later on David did eat the shewbread but the penalty was removed because there was no sin because he was led by the Spirit.

'Our Lord Jesus used that as an example when His own disciples were challenged for plucking corn on the Sabbath.

#2. The second thing that will happen is that the law will change. Our ideas of what constitutes sin will change. This idea infuriates some church leaders who do not understand the Bible patterns of what God has been doing for the past 6000 years.

Let me give you an example of the fact that one time something was sin and then later on things changed and the very same act was not sin at all.

Moses said if you look upon the ark you will have to be killed. That was the law, yet King David later changed the law and placed the ark in the open-ended tent and commanded all Israel, including women and children and the strangers in the gate, to look upon the ark. Now according to Moses' law they should have been killed for such an act, but the Bible records that the presence of God filled all the place indicating that the law changed because the Spirit led them into a new law. In the book of Revelation we find that there will be a time when heaven shall be opened and the ark shall be revealed to all the world again. Now answer the question yourself. Assume that you are here on earth at the time that the ark will be revealed and assume that you look at the revealed ark. Would you rather be under Moses' law that demands death for looking at it; or would you rather be under the changed law of David that gives life and love for the very same act?

We praise God that He changes the law as we mature.

In summary: The Holy Spirit would never lead us to become indifferent. Also remember the law of love would never cause anyone to be apathetic or indifferent to the state of anyone.

So the whole question revolves around the concept of whether God's laws change or not. We believe that with God there is no variableness or shadow of turning; but we also believe that God's laws and methods of dealing with us do change as we mature.

God does not change - but His laws do. Remember it - because you won't hear it very many places.

There are many other examples of how David changed Moses' laws and how the Son of David changed David's laws. Acts 3:20, Matt. 17:11, Matt. 22:44, Acts 2:32-36, Heb. 1:13, Heb. 10:12-13, Acts 1:8, Mark 16: 15-18, Rev. 20:6, Matt. 11:3, Col. 2:21, Matt. 14:3, I Kings 18:21, John 21:19, Acts 5:19, Matt. 11:14, Luke 1:17

In September 1978 we published a Monarch on the Elijah Company. The headline read, BEFORE JESUS RETURNS. That issue caused a lot of flurry. But more people wrote in to say that they liked the article than wrote in to say they didn't. Some of the most highly respected men in the Pentecostal, Charismatic and Full Gospel realms have written complimentary letters. But they all contained the thought that it took a lot of nerve to publish such an article. What can I say? I had to do it. It burned within me. I believe it was the Holy Spirit.

If you would like a copy of the 1978 Monarch on the Elijah Company, then just write to me and let me know. I'll send it right away. Also, you may benefit from hearing the original tape called, BEFORE JESUS RETURNS (Elijah Company) but it will cost \$5.00.

If you really get into this study there are two other tapes that you should hear, REINCARNATION - \$5.00 and also THERE'S MORE - \$10.00.

This ministry does not exist apart from your gifts.

