

Behold
Gen.1:29-30; Deut.5:24
10-23-2016

Mal.4:5-6 "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

Behold, I show you to day great and wonderful things concerning Jesus. Behold is not used too much in the normal course of our conversations these days but we have a fair idea what it means when we do. To see, look at, recognize, know or understand something as real or true

In Gen 1:29 God is saying Look or under stand this, I have given you all these things for food. In Deut. 5:24 the people said to Moses, we understand that God has shown us His glory and greatness. The words, whether in Hebrew or Greek, mean the same basic thing: behold this ___ as true or relevant or real. The reason for such a word is to convey understanding and thru understanding direction and obedience. (Its frequency in usage is over 1000)

In Malachi 4:5-6 the prophecy is to enlighten and command. Elijah is coming, listen to what he says and obey him or else. In Mat.3:16 we learn that Jesus was baptized and then something significant happens that requires the readers full attention: the Spirit of God descends on Jesus and a voice from heaven speaks. Two 'beholds'. Why?

Jesus often used "Truly truly" to get peoples attention and communicate great and important truths. He

does so after quoting Malachi's "Behold, I send my messenger..." to reinforce how important it was for the people to recognize and understand and submit to the content of the message. Both John the Baptist's and Jesus' message was that He (Jesus) was in fact the Christ. (Messiah)

The consequence of missing that huge a truth bore an eternal outcome. It did for the Jews of Jesus day and it has ever since. Behold, there is no other name where by a person might gain salvation. No Other Way! (Act.4:12) [emphasis mine: the 'behold'] Notice Jesus usage of 'Behold' in this passage: Mat.12:41-42 Behold, something greater than Jonah and Solomon.

Even in the giving of the great commission Jesus emphasized His own existence and the forever nature of the command by saying 'Behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.' John was right when he said: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world!" (Jn.1:29,36) Behold, Jesus still does take away sins. When Jesus was condemned by Pilate all he could see was Jesus the man and that is all the Jews could see too. (Jn.19:5; Act.13:27; 1Cor.2:8)

Even today the evidence is overwhelming, Jesus was crucified, died and was buried but behold, on the 3rd day Jesus was resurrected and He even now continues to live and labor on our behalf. There is yet another 'Behold' that ought to be paid attention to: Behold, the Lord comes with ten thousand of His Holy ones, to execute Judgment on all and to convict all the ungodly of all their deeds of ungodliness that they have committed..." (Jude 1:14-25) Behold, our Lord, God and Savior Jesus the Christ.