Passages Some Misinterpret as Denying Reincarnation John 1:19ff – as well as Matthew 17:11ff Some interpret John the Baptist responding "No" when asked if he is Elijah as denying reincarnation, but he was simply responding factfully, since he was obviously not the same as someone who lived nearly a millennium earlier! He was, in fact, a later embodiment of the spark of eternity The Divine created at least tens of thousands of years prior, plus had numerous incarnations before that spark's Elijah one. The Divine had rejuvenated the eternal spark of Elijah during its sojourn back in what is more timelessness in Their Realms, whereby that spark acquired new capacities evident during Its subsequent lifetime on Earth as The Baptist. Another uninformed opinion, of Matthew 17:11ff, asserts Elijah appearing at Christos Jesus' transfiguration could not be John the Baptist because the latter had already been martyred. But Elijah/John was no longer incarnated as John! Hence, his appearance is perfectly consistent with the two embodiments being the same spark of eternity: the core reason each of we humans is a unique individual. Rather: Matthew preferring to use the name of John's earlier incarnation as Elijah is typical how Jews placed much significance on ancient patriarchs who established their traditions. Plus Matthew was also thereby wisely appealing to those he was addressing in hopes of convincing them regarding Christos being the Messiah, since Jews then held Elijah in very high regard, whereas Baptist John was very much more a newcomer, indeed a trailblazer striving to lead them into further stages of human evolution, destined for The New Jerusalem.* *an epoch still quite distant in the future (despite some present-day assertions otherwise)