

Children's Worship

❄️ **Ages 4 to 4th Grade.**

❄️ **Age-appropriate teaching.**

❄️ **Crafts.**

❄️ **Fun.**



Youth

❄️ Grades 5th-12th

❄️ THIS Wed.

❄️ Check e-mail!

You're Invited

to HCC's Youth Group

Christmas Party

at The Helander's Home

550 22nd Ave NW, Glenwood

Call (320)634-4451 for directions

Date: Wednesday
12/14/11

Time: 6:30 - 9:00pm

We'll be sharing a **great meal** together, then we'll be getting down to some **serious fun**.

Bring a **White Elephant gift** to join in the **craziness!**

We'll be serving Ham and Cheesy potatoes . . .

Please bring a veggie salad, a fruit salad or a dessert
to share!



**Be Blameless, Be Blessed, Be Prepared,
and Believe for the Lord is Coming**

Luke 1:1-25

December 11, 2011

Pastor Kelly J. Mahoney

Luke 1:1-4

- ❄ Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile an account of the things accomplished among us, 2 just as they were handed down to us by those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and servants of the word, 3 it seemed fitting for me as well, having investigated everything carefully from the beginning, to write it out for you in consecutive order, most excellent Theophilus;
- ❄ 4 so that you may know the exact truth about the things you have been taught.

I) Be blameless in God's sight regardless of:
a. Unfavorable cultural conditions.

❄️ Luke 1:5-6

❄️ In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord.

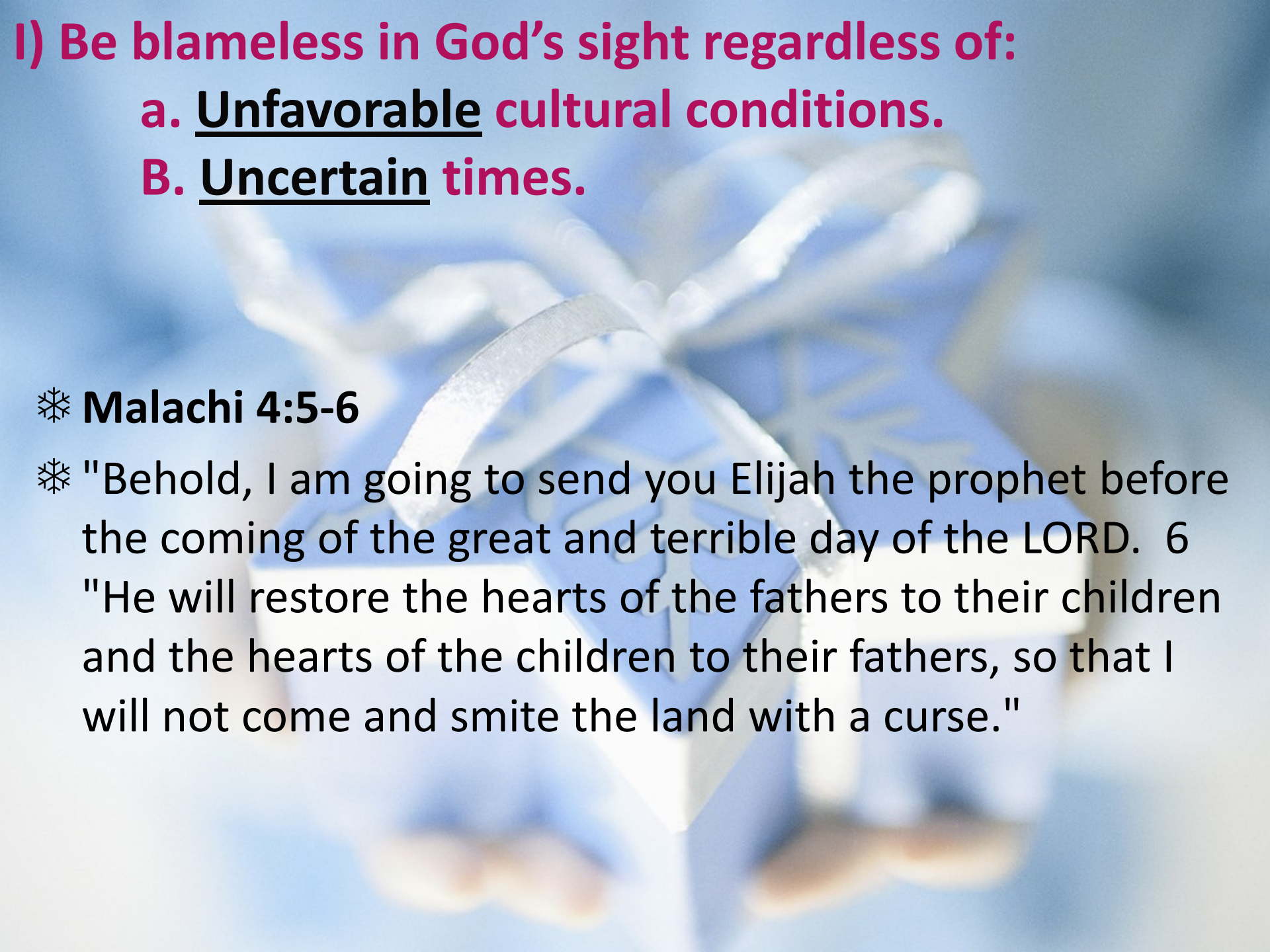
I) Be blameless in God's sight regardless of:

a. Unfavorable cultural conditions.

B. Uncertain times.

❄️ **Amos 8:11-12**

❄️ "Behold, days are coming," declares the Lord GOD,
"When I will send a famine on the land, Not a famine for bread or a thirst for water, But rather for hearing the words of the LORD. 12 "People will stagger from sea to sea And from the north even to the east; They will go to and fro to seek the word of the LORD, But they will not find it.

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- I) Be blameless in God's sight regardless of:**
- a. Unfavorable cultural conditions.**
 - B. Uncertain times.**

❄ **Malachi 4:5-6**

❄ "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD. 6
"He will restore the hearts of the fathers to their children and the hearts of the children to their fathers, so that I will not come and smite the land with a curse."

I) Be blameless in God's sight regardless of:

- a. Unfavorable cultural conditions.
- b. Uncertain times.
- c. Unmet personal wants and needs.

❄ Luke 1:5-7

❄ In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zacharias, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. 6 They were both righteous in the sight of God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and requirements of the Lord. 7 But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and they were both advanced in years.

II) God's blessings in due time remind us that God:

a. Knows your _____.

b. Hears your _____.

❄ Luke 1:8-10

❄ Now it happened that while he was performing his priestly service before God in the appointed order of his division, 9 according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. 10 And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering.

II) God's blessings in due time remind us that God:

a. Knows your needs.

b. Hears your prayers.

❄ Luke 1:8-13

❄ Now it happened that while he was performing his priestly service before God in the appointed order of his division, 9 according to the custom of the priestly office, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. 10 And the whole multitude of the people were in prayer outside at the hour of the incense offering. 11 And an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing to the right of the altar of incense. 12 Zacharias was troubled when he saw the angel, and fear gripped him. 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.

II) God's blessings in due time remind us that God:

b. Hears your prayers.

c. Accomplishes His purposes that we may be

i. Turned back to Him.

❄ Luke 1:13-16

❄ 13 But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zacharias, for your petition has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will give him the name John.

❄ 14 "You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth. 15 "For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother's womb. 16 "And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God.

- II) God's blessings in due time remind us that God:
- c. Accomplishes His purposes that we may be
 - i. Turned back to Him.
 - ii. Turned back toward home.

❄ Luke 1:16-17

❄ 16 "And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God.

❄ 17 "It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, . . .

- II) God's blessings in due time remind us that God:
- c. Accomplishes His purposes that we may be
 - i. Turned back to Him.
 - ii. Turned back toward home.
 - iii. Prepared for His coming.

❄️ **Luke 1:16-17**

❄️ 16 "And he will turn many of the sons of Israel back to the Lord their God.

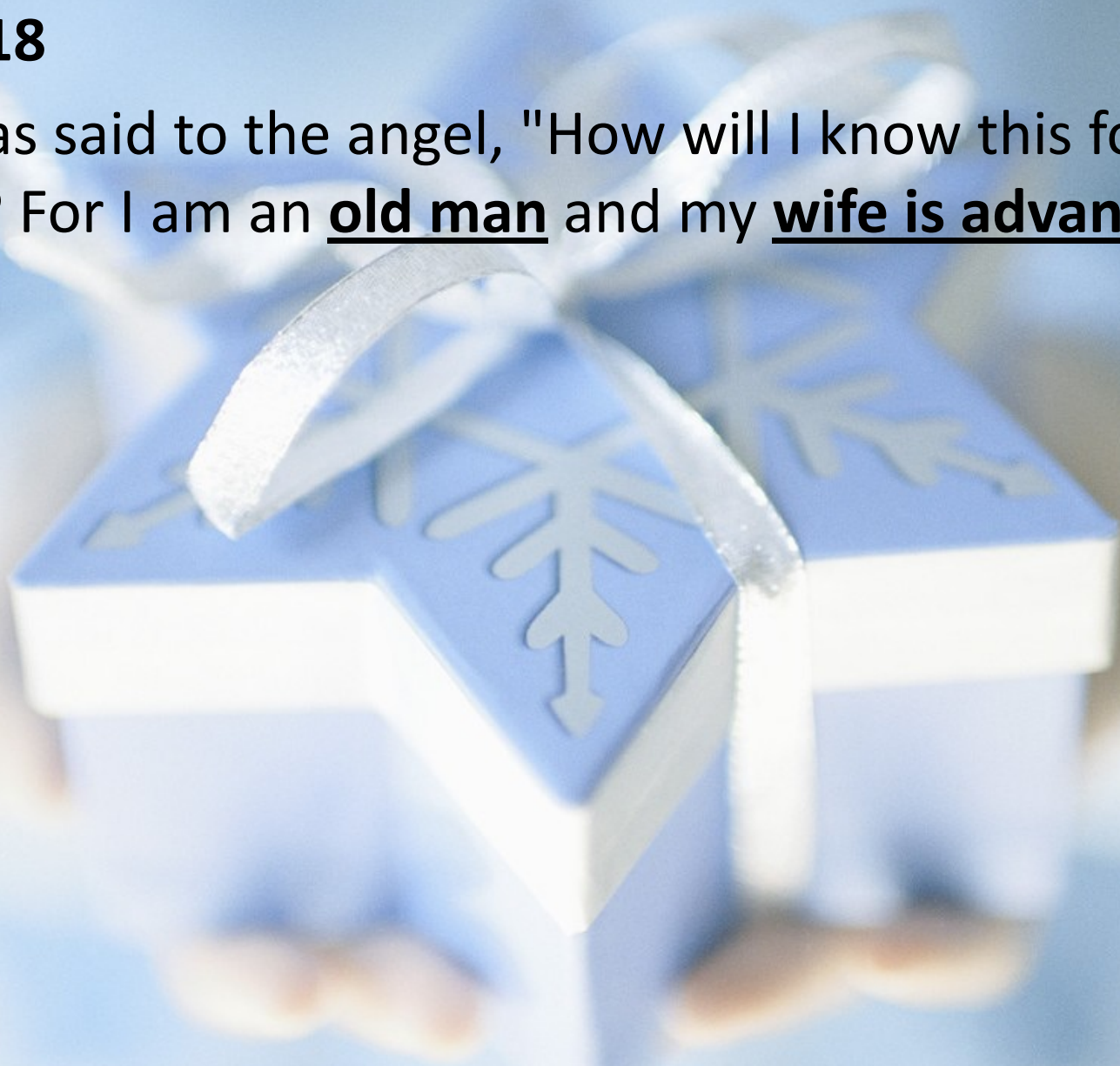
❄️ 17 "It is he who will go as a forerunner before Him in the spirit and power of Elijah, TO TURN THE HEARTS OF THE FATHERS BACK TO THE CHILDREN, and the disobedient to the attitude of the righteous, . . .

❄️ so as to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

III) Don't be _____, but believe God's word.

❄️ **Luke 1:18**

❄️ Zacharias said to the angel, "How will I know this for certain? For I am an old man and my wife is advanced in years."



III) Don't be dumb, but believe God's word.

❄ Luke 1:19-20

- ❄ The angel answered and said to him, "I am Gabriel, who stands in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. 20 "And behold, you shall be silent and unable to speak until the day when these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be
- ❄ fulfilled in their proper time."

III) Don't be dumb, but believe God's word.

❄ Luke 1:21-25

❄ The people were waiting for Zacharias, and were wondering at his delay in the temple. 22 But when he came out, he was unable to speak to them; and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he kept making signs to them, and remained mute. 23 When the days of his priestly service were ended, he went back home. 24 ¶ After these days Elizabeth his wife became pregnant, and she kept herself in seclusion for five months, saying, 25 "This is the way the Lord has dealt with me in the days when He looked with favor upon me, to take away my disgrace among men."

Applying God's Word to Life

- ❄️ You can walk blamelessly before the Lord and enjoy His many blessing in spite of:
 - ❄️ a. Unfavorable cultural conditions.
 - ❄️ b. Uncertain times.
 - ❄️ c. Unmet personal wants and needs.

- ❄️ Plan your Christmas according to God's purpose – that we may people who are:
 - ❄️ a. Turning back to Him.
 - ❄️ b. Turning back toward Home.
 - ❄️ c. Prepared for His Coming.