

"Remembering, Restoring and Responding"
Malachi 4:4-6

The conclusion of Malachi ends by focusing on one event, two people and thousands of families.

EVENT: The DOL (4x at end, 3:17, 4:1,3, 5) refers to the biblical climax of our world (Zech. 14, Rom. 2:5, I Thess. 5:2, Rev. 6:17 also called the "Day of Wrath," etc.).

PEOPLE: To remember Moses is no surprise.
To be restored through Elijah is a total surprise!
We can recall 3:1, Isa. 40:3 (but no mention of Elijah).
Claim of John: *I am not Elijah*, Jn. 1:21
Claim of angel: *John is Elijah in spirit /power*, Lk. 1:17
Claim of Jesus: *John is Elijah* (Mtt. 11:14) but an Elijah
is still to come, Mtt. 17:10-12--perhaps Rev. 11:3,5,6?

FAMILIES: The "future Elijah" will be fiery for the purpose of reconciling families to themselves, which will require a spiritual change. . . opposite the present violent family scene in 2:16, where disobedience to God brings family disunity.

Big Idea Of Malachi: