

Malachi

Chapter Three

Malachi 3:1-6,

[1] **Behold**, I will send **my messenger**, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to this temple, even **the messenger** of the covenant, whom ye delight in: **behold**, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

[2] **But who may abide the day of his coming?** and who shall stand when he appeareth? **for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:**

[3] And he shall sit as a refiner and **purifer** of silver: and **he shall purify** the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

[4] **Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD**, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

[5] And **I will come near to you to judgment**; and **I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers**, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

[6] For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Context:

1. **Malachi - God's Messenger**

2. **Malachi's Message**

a. **Love**

- i. They were guilty of questioning God's love
- ii. God's love *declared...* God's love *debated*

b. **Leadership**

- i. **Priests - Malachi 2:1**, "*O ye priests, this commandment is for you.*"
- ii. **Priests - corrupted...condemnation**

c. **Lord**

- i. **Ch. 2:17 - Ch.3:6**, - The word "**Lord**" occurs **49x** in only four chapters.

The Condition of The Remnant - (Condition - State of Health)

1. Where is the **prosperity**?
 - a. *“Wherefore doth the way of the wicked prosper?”* (Jeremiah 12:1).
 - b. *“No justice from God???”* (Jeremiah 23:5).
2. Where are the **promises**?
 - a. *“The God of Heaven He will prosper us.”* (Nehemiah 2:20).
3. Where are the **prophets**?
 - a. **Malachi???** - *He has no pedigree? ...of what tribe is Malachi?*

Malachi 2:17,

“Ye have wearied the LORD with your words.”

Words

- a. **Women**....speak 20,000 words a day.
- b. **Men**.....7,000 words a day.
- c. **Total**..... speak 27,000 words a day.
- d. **How many of our words have to do with **Spiritual things**?**

The Condition of The Remnant - (Condition - State of our Spiritual Health)

Malachi 1:2, *“Wherein hast Thou loved us?”*

Malachi 1:6, *“Wherein have we despised Thy name?”*

Malachi 1:7, *“Wherein have we polluted Thee?”*

Malachi 2:17, *“Wherein have we wearied Him?”*

Malachi 3:7, *“Wherein shall we return?”*

Malachi 3:8, *“Wherein have we robbed Thee?”*

Malachi 3:13, *“What have we spoken so much against Thee?”*

Malachi 3:14, *“What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance?”*

**Determined
By Our
Words**

Matthew 12:37,
“By they words...”

“Behold”

Malachi 3:1,

“**Behold**, I will send **my messenger**, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to this temple, even **the messenger** of the covenant, whom ye delight in: **behold**, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.”

- a. **“Behold”**...1326x in the Bible.
- b. **Pay Attention**
- c. **Last Message** for 400 years.

“Behold I Will”

- a. **“I Will”**...Seven Times...V.1...V.5 (2x)... V.7... V.10... V.11... V.17

Malachi 3:1,

“I will send my messenger...”

Malachi 3:5,

“I will come near to **you** (the remnant) to **judgment**...”

“I will be a swift...” (Unexpected)

Two Messengers - “My Messenger” - “The Messenger”

Malachi 3:1,

“**Behold**, I will send **my messenger**, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to this temple, even **the messenger** of the covenant, whom ye delight in: **Behold**, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.”

“My Messenger”

I will send **my messenger**

Is He Coming Next Week?

NO...Not for 400 years...John The Baptist

Matthew 11:10,11,

“For this is he, of whom it is written, **Behold, I send my messenger** before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee. Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than **John the Baptist**: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

“The Messenger” Christ

Malachi 3:1,

“Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way **before me**: and **the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to this temple**, even **the messenger** of the covenant, whom ye delight in: Behold, **he** shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.”

The messenger

Is He Coming Next Week?

NO...Not for 400 years...Jesus...less than 1/2 a day for the Lord!

Second Peter 3:8,

“But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that **one day** is with the Lord as a **thousand years**, and **a thousand years as one day.**”

Therefore: 500 years = He has only been gone for 1/2 a day! (Less than twelve hours!)

*** Maybe coming sometime today!**

“But Who May Abide The Day of His Coming?”

“To accept and act in accordance with something.”

i.e. “Will you abide by the rules”

Malachi 3:1,

“But who may **abide** the day of his coming? and **who shall stand** when he appeareth? for he is like **a refiner's fire**, and like **fullers' soap**.”

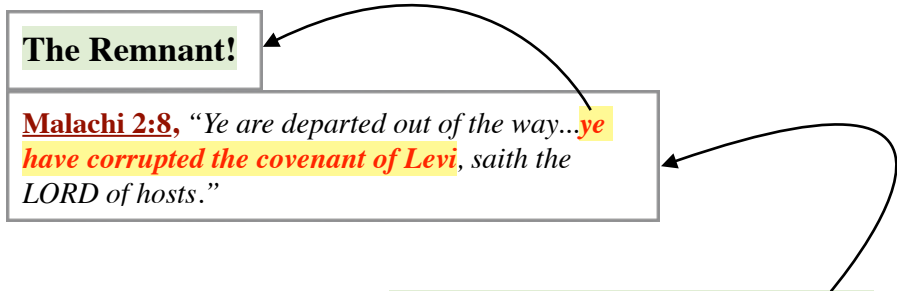
Matthew 3:1-10 - John Baptist - V.10... “the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which bringeth not forth good fruit is **hewn down, and cast into the fire.”**

He is going to clean house!

First Thing Jesus Did - A Whip In The Temple!

“Looking For A Materialistic Messiah” - King...My life will be better!

Refining The Remnant



Malachi 3:3-4,

“And he shall sit as a **refiner** and **purifer** of silver: and **he shall purify the sons of Levi**, and **purge them as gold and silver**, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. **Then** shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.”

“But Who May Abide The Day of His Coming?”

Malachi 3:5-6,

And I will come near to **you** to **judgment**; (**act of deciding a case**) and I will be a swift **witness against** the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts. [6] For **I am the LORD, I change not**; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

“Your Sorcerers” influencing the course of events by using supernatural forces:

Jeremiah 27:9,

“Therefore hearken not ye to **your** prophets, nor to **your** diviners, nor to **your** dreamers, nor to **your** enchanters, nor to **your** sorcerers, which speak unto you, saying, Ye shall not serve the king of Babylon:” (i.e. Don't worry about any judgment from God).

Jeremiah 29:9,

“For they prophesy falsely unto you in my name: I have not sent them, saith the LORD.”

Malachi 3:7-12,

[7] Even from the days of your fathers **ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you**, saith the LORD of hosts.

But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

[8] **Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.**

[9] Ye are **cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me**, even this whole nation.

[10] **Bring ye all the tithes** into the storehouse, **that there may be meat in mine house**, and **prove me now** herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if **I will** not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

[11] And **I will** rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

[12] **And all nations shall call you blessed:** for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

Context:

1. Dealing With The Nation of Israel

a. **V.12**, “...all **nations** shall call you blessed.”

b. **V.12**, “...ye shall be a delightsome **land**.”

Old Testament Tithing:

1. The Levite's tithe....10%
2. The Lord's tithe...10%
3. The festival tithe...not weekly...10%
4. The poor tithe...not weekly.....10%
5. **Considered together...33%**

Purpose:

1. Trust the Lord!
2. God's blessings will follow...
3. Israel an example to the nations...

“Don’t Confuse Me With Scripture My Mind Is Made Up”

Malachi 3:7-8,

[7] Even from the days of your fathers **ye are gone away from mine ordinances**, and **have not kept them**. **Return unto me, and I will return unto you**, saith the LORD of hosts. **But ye said, Wherein shall we return?**

[8] **Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.**

“Prove Me Now”

Malachi 3:9-10,

[9] Ye are **cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me**, even **this whole nation**.

[10] **Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house**, and **prove me now** herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if **I will** not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

“Blessings Promised To Israel”

Malachi 3:11-12,

[11] And **I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes**, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

[12] **And all nations shall call you blessed**: for ye shall be a delightsome **land**, saith the LORD of hosts.

Tithing Vs. New Testament Giving

1. Tithing was part of the Old Testament Law...We are not under the law.
2. It was for Israel...We are not Israel.
3. No instructions in the New Testament concerning tithing.
4. Tithing is not mentioned in the “Pastoral Epistles”
5. Tithing does not put the right emphasis on giving.
6. Giving in the Local Church age is not random or irresponsible.
7. Giving in the Local Church age is systematic.
8. Giving in the Local Church age is a gauge of **love** not **law**.
9. **Matthew 6:21**, “*Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.*”
10. One verse in six refers to money in the New Testament.

God's Plan For Giving:

God does not need our money.

1. Promise from Christ.

Luke 6:38,

“Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over, shall men give into your bosom. For with the same measure that ye mete withal it shall be measured to you again.”

Second Corinthians 9:6,

“But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.”

2. An Indicator of The Heart

Second Corinthians 9:7,

*“Every man according as he purposeth in **his heart**, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.”*

Matthew 6:19-21,

*“Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: [20] But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal: [21] **For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.**”*

John 3:16,

*“For **God** so **loved** the world, that he **gave**...”*

Galatians 2:20,

*“The **Son of God**, who **loved** me, and **gave** himself for me.”*

Ephesians 5:25,

*“**Christ** also **loved** the church, and **gave** himself for it;”*

3. Systematic Giving

First Corinthians 16:1-2,

*“Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. [2] **Upon the first day of the week** let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him...”*

Matthew 6:2,

“Therefore **when** (not if) thou doest thine alms, do not sound a trumpet before thee, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory of men. Verily I say unto you, They have their reward.”

“Your Words”

Malachi 3:13-15,

[13] **Your words** have been stout (“strong” 48x) **against me**, saith the LORD. Yet **ye say**, **What have we spoken so much against thee?**

[14] **Ye have said**, **It is vain to serve God**: and **what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance**, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

[15] And now **we call the proud happy**; yea, **they that work wickedness are set up**; yea, **they that tempt God are even delivered**.

Purpose to influence
Think they are right!
NO DISCERNMENT

GOD IS BLESSING
THE WICKED???

The Remnant of The Remnant

Malachi 3:16-18,

[16] Then **they that feared the LORD** spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for **them that feared the LORD**, and that **thought upon his name**.

[17] And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up **my jewels**; and I will spare (“Have compassion” 5x) them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

[18] Then shall ye **return, and discern** between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

Same Hebrew Word

Two Groups

Malachi 1:6,

“If then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, **where is my fear?**”

Malachi 3:16,

“They that feared the LORD.”

Exodus 19:5,

“Now therefore, if ye will obey **my voice** indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be **a peculiar treasure** unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:”

Four Things

1. The remnant spake often one to another.
2. The Lord harkened and heard it.
3. A book of remembrance was written before him for **them that feared the LORD**.
4. They **thought upon his name**.

“Your Words”

Malachi 2:7,

“Ye have wearied the LORD with **your words**.”

Malachi 3:13,

“**Your words** have been **stout** against me, saith the LORD.”

“Your Words”

Matthew 12:37,

“For **by thy words** thou shalt be justified, and **by thy words** thou shalt be **condemned**.”

Pronounced guilty



Psalms 39:4,

“For there is **not a word** in my tongue, but, lo, O LORD, thou knowest it altogether.”

“The People Murmured”

- Exodus 15:24, “The people **murmured** against Moses...”
- Exodus 16:2, “The whole congregation of the children of Israel **murmured** against Moses and Aaron...”
- Exodus 16:8, “The LORD heareth your **murmurings** which ye **murmur** against him: and what are we? your **murmurings** are not against us, but against the LORD.”
- Exodus 17:3, “...the people **murmured** against Moses...”
- Numbers 14:2, “All the children of Israel **murmured** against Moses and against Aaron...”
- Numbers 16:41, “The children of Israel **murmured** against Moses and against Aaron...”
- Numbers 14:29, “Your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness; and all that were numbered of you, according to your whole number, from twenty years old and upward, which have **murmured** against me.”
- Deuteronomy 1:27, “... **murmured** in your tents...”
- Psalms 106:35, “... **murmured** in their tents...”

- James 3:5-6, “Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.”
- Matthew 12:36, “But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.”

- Psalms 141:3, “Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.”

“The Faithful Remnant”

Malachi 3:16,

“**Spake often**...the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him...”

Four Things

1. **Spake often one to another.**
2. The Lord **harkened** and **heard** it.
3. A book of remembrance was written before him for **them that feared the LORD.**
4. That **thought upon his name.**

81x in the Bible
Thoughts - 57x

Psalm 139:23,
“Search me, O God, and know my **heart**: try me, and know my **thoughts**:”

“Where Is The God of Judgment?”

Malachi 2:7,

“Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied him? When **ye say, Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?**”

Psalm 73:2-28 (The wicked Prosper???)

2 My feet were almost gone; my steps had well nigh slipped.
3 For I was envious at the foolish, when I saw the prosperity of the wicked.
4 Their strength is firm.
5 They are not in trouble as other men; neither are they plagued like other men.
7 They have more than heart could wish.
12 Behold, these are the ungodly, who prosper in the world; they increase in riches.
13 Verily I have cleansed my heart in vain, and washed my hands in innocency.
17 **Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end.**
22 So foolish was I, and ignorant.”
28 But it is good for me **to draw near to God**: I have put **my trust in the Lord GOD...**”

Isaiah 58:2,

“Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways...**they take delight in approaching to God.**”

“One To Another”

“One to another” - 48 verses in the Bible

Numbers 14:4, (Rebellious)

*“And they said **one to another**, Let us make a captain, and let us return into Egypt.”*

Luke 2:15, (Remnant)

*“The shepherds said **one to another**, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.”*

Malachi 3:16-18,

[16] Then **they that feared the LORD** spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for **them that feared the LORD**, and that **thought upon his name**.

[17] And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up **my jewels**; and I will spare (“Have compassion” 5x) them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

[18] Then shall ye **return**, (“turn” 123x - turn one’s attention to) **and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.**