

1 ☐ Malachi Study

Men of Grace

July 1, 2008

Malachi 3:13 – 4:6

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5 ☐ Malachi Message

Message of the Book of Malachi:

I (the Lord) am serious about My covenant relationship with you (nation of Israel)

6 ☐ Book of Malachi Outline

OUTLINE OF MALACHI:

Verse 1:1

- Introduction
 - The word of the Lord to Israel

Verses 1:2 - 5

- I have loved you, Israel
 - Grace
 - Election

Verses 1:6 – 2:9

- You priests have violated the Covenant
 - In your worship (1:6-14)
 - In your teaching (2:1-9)

7 ☐ Book of Malachi Outline

Verses 2:10 – 16

- You people have profaned the Covenant
 - By marrying non-believers
 - By divorcing your believing wives

Verses 2:17 – 3:6

- You accuse Me of not enforcing the Covenant
 - "Where is the God of justice?"
- But...
 - I will send My Messenger of the Covenant to judge covenant breakers.

8 ☐ Book of Malachi Outline

Verses 3:7 - 12

- You people have disobeyed the Covenant
 - By not giving your tithes and offerings
- But...
 - Trust me and give; then I will bless you abundantly

Verses 3:13 – 4:3

- You accuse Me of not honoring the Covenant
 - By not blessing those who serve Me
 - By allowing evildoers to prosper
- But...
 - A day is coming when the righteous will be vindicated and the wicked judged

9 ☐ Book of Malachi Outline

Verse 4:4

- Conclusion:
 - Remember (obey) the Mosaic Covenant

Verses 4:5 – 6

- Final Promise:
 - The "day of the Lord" is coming!

- 10 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6

Message:

- *The great Day of the Lord is coming when He will fulfill His Covenant by judging the wicked and vindicating the faithful.*

- 11 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Verses 3:13 – 15: The Words of the Arrogant

☐ **Verse 3:13**

- *Insolent Words:*

☐ **Verse 3:14**

- *"It is futile to serve God"*

☐ **Verse 3:15**

- *The arrogant are blessed and evildoers prosper!*

- 12 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Verse 3:16: The Words of the Faithful

☐ **Verse 3:16a**

- *The Lord hears the words of the faithful*

☐ **Verse 3:16b**

- *The Lord "remembers" those who fear and honor Him*

- 13 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Verses 3:17-18: The Coming Day of Distinction

☐ **Verse 3:17a**

- *"They will be mine"*

☐ **Verse 3:17b**

- *"I will spare them"*

☐ **Verse 3:18**

- *"You will see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked"*

- 14 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Note:

These verses describe the final fulfillment of the New Covenant (Jer. 31:33-34)

See also 2 Cor 4:17 & Romans 8:18-19, 23-25

- 15 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Verses 4:1-3: The Coming Day of Judgment and Vindication

☐ **Verse 4:1**

- *The arrogant and evildoers will be judged*

☐ **Verses 4:2-3**

- *The faithful will be vindicated*

- 16 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

☐ **For the faithful:**

- *"the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings"*

- *"you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall"*

☐ **See Joel 2-3 for a fuller description of the Day of the Lord**

- 17 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Verse 4:4 Summary Main Point: Remember (Obey) God's Word

□ **Note:**

■ **The balancing "bookends" of the Book of Malachi:**

- Verses 1:2-5 – Sovereign election and grace
- Verse 4:4 – Obedience and faith

18 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

Verses 4:5-6: The Promise of "Elijah" before the Day of the Lord

- **"that great and dreadful Day of the Lord" refers to the whole theme of the Day of the Lord in Joel (especially 2:31) which combines judgment against God's enemies and salvation and blessing for those who truly belong to Him.**

19 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

- **John the Baptist partially fulfilled these verses (also 3:1 and Isa. 40:3), but because of Israel's rejection of the Messiah another "Elijah-like" messenger will precede the final Day of the Lord.**

20 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Outline

- **After initial enthusiasm, Israel rejected and killed John the Baptist; therefore, they are under God's "curse" (vs. 4:6) until they turn back to God prior to Christ's return which will inaugurate the Day of the Lord.**
- **See Zech. 12:10, 13:1, 14:6-9, and Romans 11:25-29.**

21 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6

New Testament Parallel: 2 Peter 3:3-15

3 First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires.

4 They will say, "Where is this 'coming' he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation."

5 But they deliberately forget that long ago by God's word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water.

6 By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed.

7 By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

22 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6

8 But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day.

9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare

23 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6

11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives

12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

14 So then, dear friends, since you are looking forward to this, make every effort to be found spotless, blameless and at peace with him.

15 Bear in mind that our Lord's patience means salvation, just as our dear brother Paul also wrote you with the wisdom that God gave him.

24 ☐ Malachi 3:13 – 4:6 Discussion Questions

Malachi 3:13 – 4:6

Worksheet

13 "You have said harsh things against me," says the LORD. "Yet you ask, 'What have we said against you?'"

14 "You have said, 'It is futile to serve God. What did we gain by carrying out his requirements and going about like mourners before the LORD Almighty?'"

15 But now we call the arrogant blessed. Certainly the evildoers prosper, and even those who challenge God escape.' "

16 Then those who feared the LORD talked with each other, and the LORD listened and heard. A scroll of remembrance was written in his presence concerning those who feared the LORD and honored his name.

17 "They will be mine," says the LORD Almighty, "in the day when I make up my treasured possession. ^[a] I will spare them, just as in compassion a man spares his son who serves him.

18 And you will again see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.

Malachi 4

The Day of the LORD

1 "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them.

2 But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall.

3 Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things," says the LORD Almighty.

4 "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

5 "See, I will send you the prophet Elijah before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes.

6 He will turn the hearts of the fathers to their children, and the hearts of the children to their fathers; or else I will come and strike the land with a curse."