

NEXT STEPS

Even when it doesn't feel like it, serving God is never wasted. Our faithfulness matters, and eternity will reveal what truly counted.

Take a moment to reflect on these questions:

Where in your life are you tempted to believe that serving God isn't worth it?

What is currently motivating your obedience—love for God or personal benefit?

What is one step you can take this week to serve God with a more faithful and surrendered heart?

PRAYER REQUESTS

Who or what can you be praying for this week?

→

→

→

→

→

→

the book of malachi

FINAL WORDS FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT



Talk It Over Questions

For the week of April 19, 2026

Is It Worth It To Serve God?

Malachi 3:13-18

QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

MY STORY

In Malachi's day, the people had drifted so far from God that they began to believe serving Him wasn't worth it. Instead of trusting God, they complained, compared, and questioned His goodness based on what they saw around them.

What are some ways we can begin to evaluate our faith based on what we “get out of it” rather than out of love and devotion to God?

The people looked around and saw the wicked prospering while they felt overlooked. This led them to believe that obedience didn't matter.

Have you ever struggled with the thought, “Is it really worth it to follow God?” What circumstances led you to feel that way?

DIGGING DEEPER

Read Malachi 3:13–15

God confronts His people for speaking harshly against Him. They claimed they had done nothing wrong, yet their words revealed hearts that were distant, prideful, and unbelieving. The people believed that serving God was pointless—that there was no benefit or reward. Their mindset had become centered on themselves rather than on God.

Why is it often hard for us to recognize when our attitudes or words toward God have become negative or cynical?

What are some subtle ways a “what's in it for me?” mentality can show up in our walk with God?

Read Malachi 3:16

In contrast, there was a group who feared the Lord. Instead of complaining, they honored God and encouraged one another. Their focus was not on circumstances, but on God's character.

What does it practically look like to “fear the Lord” in your daily life?

Read Malachi 3:16–17

God responds to the faithful in powerful ways—He listens, remembers, claims, treasures, and spares them. This reveals how deeply God values those who honor Him.

Which of these truths about God stands out most to you right now—and why?

Read Malachi 3:18

God makes it clear that there is a distinction between those who serve Him and those who do not. There is no middle ground.

What are some signs that someone is truly serving God from the heart rather than just going through the motions?