

MALACHI: Overall Context

Chapter 1:

**The LORD loves His people
They doubt His love
Consider Edom ...
The failings of the priesthood
They offer blemished sacrifices
What a weariness ...
Someone shut the temple doors!**

Chapter 2:

**Be forewarned: I will curse you if ...
Consider the covenant with Levi
He walked with me ... but you ...
Marriage with foreign women
Divorce
You weary the LORD: You say, “Evil is good”; or,
“Where is the LORD’s justice?”**

Chapter 3:

**The messenger is coming
He will cleanse and refine
Then the LORD will judge
I the LORD do not change
Bring tithes and offerings ... and I will
But you say, “What benefit?”

Some heard and revered ...**

Chapter 4:

**The Great and Terrible Day of the LORD
Some will burn like stubble
Some will leap like calves
Remember Moses; Elijah is coming**



Malachi 3:1-5

Vs. 1-2

The LORD's messenger is coming to His Temple

- LORD of Hosts
- But who can endure?

Vs. 3-4

Images:

He will refine and cleanse ...

- fire and lye
- ... until the descendants of Levi

V. 5

I will judge, says the LORD ...

- sorcerers
- adulterers
- liars
- those who oppress
 - hired workers
 - widows
 - orphans
 - aliens (foreigners)
- those who do not respect/fear

... LORD of Hosts

Key words/ thoughts: my servant (ἄγγελος/ אֱלֵלָהּ); clear (ἐμβλέπω/ הִבֵּן); lord (κύριος/ הָיָה); Yahweh (יהוה); hosts (παντοκράτωρ/ אֲבִצָה); sorcerer (φάρμακος/ מְכַשֵּׁף); righteousness (δικαιοσύνη/ צְדָקָה)

Questions:

When you encounter the word “judgment,” what do you think/feel? Why?

Can judgments be good or beneficial? If so, how?

When you consider v.5, which of those sins do you find most disturbing and why?

