

Listening to the Prophets

Old Testament Minor Prophets

Malachi

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Introduction (Ryrie)

- Malachi means “_____” and is not mentioned anywhere else in the Old Testament.
- About 100 years had passed since the Jews returned to Palestine from Babylon.
- Both the temple and Jerusalem had been built and the revival under Nehemiah had begun to_____.
- The people had backslidden and had become mechanical in their observance toward the law.
- In spite of this, the people could not understand why God was dissatisfied with them.
- Malachi _____the people and was calling them to repentance.
- Malachi used a question-and-answer method in his writing (1:2)

Chapter 1:1-5-God’s Compassion for Israel

- God declared his _____for Israel in verses 1-5.
- Israel had turned from God yet God still chose to love Israel as opposed to the Edomites (descendants of Esau).
- Edom was invaded by King Nebuchadnezzar in 586 B.C. and the Nabataeans drove the Edomites from their territory in 550-400 B.C.

Chapter 1:6-3:15-God’s Complaint against Israel

Cheating

- God listed _____ as His first complaint against Israel since they were sacrificing sick, blind, and lame animals to the Lord.
- God reminded Israel of His greatness and that He was worthy to receive sacrifices and praise above and beyond any earthly king (1:11).
- The people were becoming _____ of offering sacrifices to the Lord and did not value His majesty and power (1:13).

Unfaithfulness

- God rebuked the priests for their unfaithfulness (2:1-3).
- The priests were to preserve knowledge and give instruction.
 - The priests were causing the people to _____ because of their false instructions and favoritism.

Spiritually Mixed Marriages

- The Jews were profaning their relationship with God by marrying foreign women and accepting their _____ (2:11).

Divorce

- God stated His disapproval of divorce among His people (2:13-16).

Impiety

- The Jews were saying those who did evil were good since God was not delivering immediate judgment upon them (2:17).
- God was being gracious and _____ to anger.
- God gives everyone a chance to repent.
 - However, this should not be taken as a license to do evil.

Chapter 3:1-6-The Coming of John the Baptist

- This section _____ from the list of complaints.
- Malachi prophesied about the coming of John the Baptist (3:1; Matthew 11:10).
- Malachi stated the messenger, Christ, would come into His _____ (3:1). This is why Jesus was exempt from paying the temple tax (Matthew 17:24-27).

- The New Covenant in 3:1 referred to Christ's second coming.
- Malachi 3:6 promised Israel would not be consumed when Christ comes.

Robbery

- Israel was robbing God by not bringing their tithes and offerings.
- Malachi 3:10 is a favorite verse telling of God's blessings to those who are faithful in giving their _____ and _____.

Arrogance

- The people felt if they could not see _____ blessings and rewards for their righteousness, then their actions were in vain (3:13-14).

Chapter 3:16-18-God's Condemnation of the Ungodly People

- There were Jews who did not fear the Lord.
- These Jews were _____ by God and their names were put into a book and they will be remembered when the Day of the Lord arrives.

Chapter 4: 1-6-The Nature of God's Judgment

- Malachi spoke about the judgment against unbelievers when Christ returns (4:1).
- During the Millennial reign, righteousness will _____ throughout the earth (4:2-3).
- God gave the Jews a last reminder to follow His statutes (4:4).
- Malachi prophesied of John the Baptist (4:5-6; see Matthew 17:11-12).

Summary

- The Old Testament is one complete message of God's plan for mankind.
- Because of sin, God prepared a people, the Jews, to bring salvation to the world.
- The Jews rejected their Messiah which caused them to lose their position of bringing redemption to the world.
- The Church was born to carry out the failed mission of the Jews.
- Christ will rapture the Church and will restore Israel again in the Millennium.
- During the Great Tribulation, many Jews will turn to Christ and will preach the Gospel throughout the earth.

- After the 1000 years (Millennium), God will create a new heaven and a new earth and all believers will dwell with Him for eternity.
- The Old Testament demonstrated God's love for all people; He is slow to anger and is full of grace and mercy.
- God's actions should not be construed as a license to do evil but as a chance for all to repent.

Not in Notes-Haggai

A Call to Cleanness of Life (2:10-19)

- Haggai poses two important questions in chapter 2:
 - The first question (vs. 10-13) is: If a man were to carry _____ meant for a sacrifice (Leviticus 6:27), can he transfer that sanctification to things he touches? The answer is, "No" (Ryrie).
 - The Second question is: If a man were to touch a corpse that is defiled, does he transfer that defilement to other things he touches (Numbers 19:11-13)? The answer is, " _____" (Ryrie).
 - The main point of these two questions is: Sanctification or cleanness cannot be transferred, however, _____ can be transferred. Just as health is not contagious, disease is contagious. The disobedience of the people was like a dead thing in their midst, contaminating all of them (v. 14-Ryrie).
 - God told the people their poor economic conditions were due to the failure to finish the temple (2:15-17).
 - Because the people responded to _____ building the temple, the Lord promised to bless them (2:18-19).

A Call to Confidence in the Future: (2:20-23).

- This prophecy looks toward the time of Christ's millennial reign (2:20-22).
- God promised to make Zerubbabel a _____ of the Davidic line.
- Zerubbabel is listed in Christ's genealogy (Matthew 1:12-13).

Summary

- God always gave Israel an ultimate promise of blessing after chastising them for their disobedience.
- The promise of eternal security should give every believer faith and hope of their position in Christ.

- God encourages us to be courageous during difficult times.
- Though we may face what could appear to be insurmountable odds, God always has an answer. Do not look at circumstances or at your inadequacies; God can work miracles with what you have.