

# Malachi 1:6-14 – I Am a Great King

Huntingdon Missionary Baptist Church – Sunday, January 14, 2024 AM

**Last Time:** 1st of Six Discourses [Charge (God), Question (Israel), Response (God), Foundation];

- **Sunday AM** – “I Have Loved You” **Despite their blindness, there was evidence of His love in front of them.**  
**Foundation:** “The Lord will be magnified beyond the borders of Israel.”
- **Sunday PM** – Overview of Malachi: Background, Relevance, Threads and Theme. **He wants a people who will make His name great across geography & generations.**

**Malachi 1:6-14** – Second Discourse (the first portion)

## Charge: No Honor, No Fear

**Mal 1:6a** *A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: If then I be a father, where is mine honour? And if I be a master, where is my fear? Saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name...*

- Affection (Obedience) is due from a child to their parent.  
**Hosea 11:1** *When Israel was a child, then I loved him, And called my son out of Egypt.*
- Obligation is due from a servant to a master.  
**Isaiah 43:10** *Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, And my servant whom I have chosen: That ye may know and believe me, And understand that I am he: Before me there was no God formed, Neither shall there be after me.*
  - God chose Israel to reveal Himself to them.
  - They were to know Him, trust Him, grow to understand Him (how to live before Him).
  - They were to be witnesses to the world of the greatness of God.
  - The Aaronic priests were set aside to receive God’s law and lead the people in worship.

**There is no greater Father and no greater Lord. (a fortiori argument)**

**Neither Sonship nor Servanthood motivated the Israelites to properly honor or fear the Lord.**

- The corruption started at the top (priests – *set aside for worship*) and trickled down through the people.
- God’s NAME was being DESPISED.  
Name – embodies God’s revelation of Himself to them.  
Despised – to consider someone vile, worthless, despicable

**This is a MAJOR problem because this was their very reason for being.**

## Question: How have we Despised and Polluted You?

**Mal 1:6b-7** *...And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? <sup>7</sup>Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; And ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee?*

Polluted – corrupted, defiled

**The Lord is about to provide compelling evidence, but they are defensive of their practices and unaware.**

**It isn’t that they don’t know, just that they don’t think it is a big deal.**

## Response: Weak Worship

**Mal 1:7-10** *Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; And ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible. 8 And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? Offer it now unto thy governor; Will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts. 9 And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us: This hath been by your means: Will he regard your persons? saith the LORD of hosts. 10 Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? Neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the LORD of hosts, Neither will I accept an offering at your hand. **1:12-14a** But ye have profaned it, in that ye say, The table of the LORD is polluted; And the fruit thereof, even his meat, is contemptible. 13 Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it! And ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; And ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; Thus ye brought an offering: Should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD. 14 But cursed be the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, And voweth, and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing:*

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Worship – derived from “worthiness” – to ascribe worth or value

**1. Polluted Food (1:8, 13)**

**Leviticus 22:20** *You shall not offer anything that has a blemish, for it will not be acceptable for you. (ESV)*  
**They were offering blind, lame, sick, and mangled animals for sacrifice.**

**Why do this?** Except for burnt offerings, the priests and worshippers shared it eating the sacrificial meals.  
**It all tasted the same and it allowed them to thin their herds out of bad animals.**

**What about their governor?** They had to bring animals as tributes to their governors.

**They would NEVER bring bad animals to their governor as a tribute. It would be counterproductive.**

**Illus:** Giving a neighbor a housewarming present out of the things you can't get rid of in your garage sale.

**Why would this work for the Lord?**

**The Lord said it would be better for the doors to be shut and sacrifice cease than to continue weak worship. Spiritually, they were in a better position during the exile before the temple was rebuilt.**

**2. Drowsy Devotion (1:13)**

**There was no joy and gladness at the privilege of being able to worship. Just sighs and eye-rolling.**

**3. Broken vows. (1:14)**

**They could offer better, had committed more, but did not follow through.**

**Foundation: I Am A Great King**

**Mal 1:11** *For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same My name shall be great among the Gentiles; And in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: For my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts... 1:14b* *For I am a great King, saith the LORD of hosts, And my name is dreadful among the heathen.*

**The Jews were treating the Lord like a local deity with rules that could be bent at their will.**

Great King – a supreme king over lower-kings and lords

**Illus:** Persian emperor of their day; Caesar over Herod / Pontius Pilate; President over local governors

**Isaiah 43:10** *Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD, And my servant whom I have chosen: That ye may know and believe me, And understand that I am he: Before me there was no God formed, Neither shall there be after me.*

**They had lost sight of WHO this God is, HOW He had chosen them, the WAY He had blessed them.**

**APPLICATION**

**NT Truths for Translation:**

- **Baptist 101:** The Priesthood of All believers

**1 Peter 2:5,9** *Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, an holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. ... But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:  
**There is no need to ask a priest or pastor to go to God on your behalf. You have access.***

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- **Malachi 1:11 & John 4.**

**Mal 1:11** *For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same My name shall be great among the Gentiles; And in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: For my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts. **This was not possible or prescribed in OT. It was prevented.***

**Context:** The reason is that satellite worship of the OT was commonly corrupted by compromise.

- **John 4:21** *Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father.*

**Jesus said a time was soon coming when worship of the Father would not be anchored to Israel.**

- **John 4:23–24** *But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. **The prophesied worship will be a pure offering, as good as at the temple.***

**This is us!**

- This is Jesus Christ opening the doorway to the fulfillment of Malachi's prophecy.
- He revealed this in Samaria... the first "foreign" place where the gospel spread after Pentecost.  
**A little town in West Tennessee can be a place where the incense is just as good as the temple.**
- He revealed this to a Woman... a Samaritan... a 5-time divorcee and adulteress.  
**Anyone can bring pure worship to God through repentance and faith in Christ.**

## 1. Charge: No Honor, No Fear

We are both servants and children.

- We were bought out of the slavery of sin and death and placed under the Lordship of Christ by salvation.
- We were born again into the family of God by salvation.

## 2. Question: In What Ways?

**Is it possible to be unaware of weak worship?** To think we are doing fine and be considered "evil" by God?

**Rev 3:14-22** - Laodicea – They thought they were rich, but were poor, blind and naked.

## 3. Response: Weak Worship

### a) Polluted Foods

**Romans 12:1** *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

**What is your best?**

### b) Drowsy Devotion

**Context:** Maybe they looked at the temple, the size of Judah, the state of affairs, the imperfect priests and then made assumptions about God. **Nothing in this world could ever represent Him.**

**Galatians 6:9** *And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.*

### c) Broken Vows

**Are there vows and commitments you have made to God? Are you fulfilling them?**

**Luke 9:62** *And Jesus said unto him, No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.*

**It is better to never make a vow than to make one and break it!**

## 4. Foundation: I am a Great King

**Revelation 19:16** *And he hath on his vesture and on his thigh a name written, KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.*

**His dominion knows no end and He would gain His glory from East to West.**