

Malachi 1:6-14

GOD ASKS, WHERE IS MY HONOR?

- I. The sin.
 - A. Judah's apathy and indifference toward God and His worship consists of their not giving God the due "honor."
 - 1. "Honor" is the abundant and loving reverence for God, the zeal for Him, the living service of a life dedicated to Him.
 - 2. Instead they had a grievously poor attitude toward God: but cold, pathetic indifference (7, 8, 13).
 - B. The ugliness and seriousness of their attitude is seen in the example of children to fathers and of slaves to masters (6).
 - 1. Children are to honor their parents (Ex. 20:12) and servants are to fear their masters (I Peter 2:18).
 - 2. God is a Father and a Master — honor and godly gratitude is rightly owed to Him.
- II. The seriousness of this sin.
 - A. The seriousness is found in the names God gives to Himself: Father and Jehovah of hosts (6).
 - 1. Our text implies that God is our Father and He is "Jehovah of hosts."
 - 2. As Father and as Jehovah of hosts, God is to be honored.
 - B. Instead Judah "profaned," i.e., violated the honor by polluting it, treating God's name as if it were common.
 - 1. They did the activity of worship but without their hearts being involved (7,12-14).
 - 2. Their indifference to the proper way of sacrifices indicated indifference to God's promised salvation in His Lamb.
 - C. Public worship and living a life as God's friend was a weariness to them, so they cynically asked how they despised God's name (6b) and snuffed at it (13).
- III. The application.
 - A. Have you ever thought worship to be wearying?
 - B. Do you find it a burden to do what God commands you to do and may not do what you want to do?
 - 1. The living, true God reigns with majesty and He is worthy of all honor and glory.
 - 2. Is the truth of God's grace in Christ so earth-shaking that it demands your all? Do you give Him honor?