

# The Lord is Great and Greatly to be Praised (Malachi)

## Introduction

A. W. Tozer: "The church has surrendered her once lofty concept of God, and has substituted for it one so low, so ignoble, as to be utterly unworthy of thinking, worshipping people. ... *The low view of God entertained almost universally among Christians is the cause of a hundred lesser evils everywhere among us.* ... [And] the rediscovery of the majesty of God will go a long way toward curing our troubles."

## Exposition

"You say, 'In what way have You loved us?'" (1:2)

### 1. The Lord has loved Jacob but utterly judged wicked Edom (1:2-5)

"You say, 'In what way have we despised Your name?' You offer defiled offerings" (1:6)

### 2. Stop despising the Lord by not bringing proper offerings (1:6-10)

### 3. The priests, the Lord's messengers, have corrupted the covenant of Levi (2:1-9)

"Why do we deal treacherously ... profaning the covenant?" (2:10)

### 4. Repent of unfaithfulness to your covenants with God and your wife! (2:10-16)

"You say, 'Where is the God of justice?' The Lord you seek comes...to purge and purify"

### 5. The Lord will send his own Messenger of the Covenant & purify Levi (2:17-3:6)

- **BLESSING:** And then the Lord will return your justice.

"You say, 'In what way have we robbed you?' In tithes and offerings." (3:8)

### 6. Stop robbing the Lord by not bringing tithes and offerings (3:7-12)

- **BLESSING:** And then the Lord will return your fortunes.

"You say, 'What have we spoken against you?' You say, 'It's useless to serve God'" (3:13)

### 7. The Lord will spare his own but utterly judge the wicked (3:13-4:3)

- **BLESSING:** And then the wicked will be burned up, but for you, the Sun of Righteous will arise with healing in its wings.

Epilogue: Remember my law, heed my prophet, for the Day of the Lord comes! (4:4-6)

**Application:** What are we offering to God?

You've been made "a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1Pe 2:5). What kind of sacrifice did you bring today?

**Conclusion:** An invitation to Christ.

## Literary Outline of Malachi

1. The Lord has loved Jacob but utterly judged wicked Edom (1:2-5)
2. Stop despising the Lord by not bringing proper offerings (1:6-10) [*double question*]
3. The priests, the Lord's messengers, have corrupted the covenant of Levi (2:1-9)
4. Repent of your unfaithfulness to your covenants with God and your wife! (2:10-16)
5. The Lord will send his own Messenger of the Covenant and purify Levi (2:17-3:6)
6. Stop robbing the Lord by not bringing tithes and offerings (3:7-12) [*double question*]
7. The Lord will spare his own but utterly judge the wicked (3:13-4:3)

*Application:* Remember my law, heed my prophet for the Day of the Lord comes! (4:4-6)

Blessing

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