

37 – MALACHI - PART 2 (MALACHI 2:17-4:6)

I. God's Justice (Malachi 2:17-3:1-6)

A. God is Wearied (Malachi 2:17)

- The Lord expresses that the people have wearied him with their complaints.
- They complained that those who do evil are accepted by the Lord.
- They also complained about the apparent absence of the Lord's justice.

B. The Coming Judgment of the Lord (Malachi 3:1-6)

- The Lord states that he will send his messenger to prepare the way before him.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 11:7-10

- The Lord will come suddenly to his Temple.
- No one can endure the Lord's coming and no one can stand when he appears.
- The Lord will purify the priesthood of Levi and Israel's offerings will be brought to him.
- The Lord will come near to Israel and he will purge the nation of those who have sinned against him.
- The Lord expresses that he had not changed and Israel will not be consumed in judgment.

II. Robbing God (Malachi 3:7-12)

- The Lord points out that from the days of their forefathers, they have not obeyed his commandments.
- The Lord calls them to return to him and he will return to them.
- So, the people responded by asking how shall they return to the Lord.
- The Lord points out that they have been robbing him by withholding their tithes and offerings.
- The Lord expresses that they are cursed and calls them to bring their tithes to the Temple.
- He calls them to test him and see if he will not bless them until they have no needs.
- The Lord will rebuke the devourer for Israel.
- The devourer refers to that which destroys their crops such as locusts and hail.

The Voices of God to Israel: The Minor Prophets

- All the nations will acknowledge that Israel is blessed.

III. Vindication (Malachi 3:13-4:3)

A. Hard Things Spoken (Malachi 3:13-15)

- The Lord points out that the people have spoken hard things against him.
- The people have stated that it is vain to serve the Lord and there is no profit in doing what is right.
- Evil doers only seem to prosper as they test God and seem to get away with it.

B. The Book of Remembrance (Malachi 3:13-18)

- God's people spoke with one another and a record was kept of those who feared him.
- The Lord will treasure them as sons and they will see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked.

C. The Righteous are Vindicated (Malachi 4:1-3)

- The Lord proclaims that the day is coming when evil doers will become like stubble.
- The righteous will be restored to joy as they trample down the wicked.

IV. The Coming of Elijah (Malachi 4:4-6)

- The Lord calls them to remember the Law of Moses.
- The Lord will send them Elijah the prophet before the day of his coming.
- This prophet will turn people's hearts back toward each other, lest the Lord comes in judgment.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 17:12