

Rekindling Your Desire For The Lord: A Study In Spiritual Renewal

3 – SPIRITUAL COMPLAINTS

I. Are We Part of the Solution?

- Recognizing the problem is only the first step.
- Each of us has to decide if we are part of the solution.
- Thankfully, the Bible presents how God's people have faced the situation we are facing.

II. The Complaints

Group Questions

1. Read Malachi 2:13-17. What are the complaints? How does God respond?
2. Read Isaiah 43:22-26. What is the complaint? What does God call them to do?
3. Read Revelation 3:15-20. What is the Lord's complaint? What does Jesus call them to do?

A. God is not Responding

1. The First Complaint (Malachi 2:13-14)

- Israel complained that God was not paying attention to their prayers and offerings.

2. The Issue (Malachi 2:14-15)

- The Lord stated that his silence was due to their unfaithfulness in their marriages.

SCRIPTURE 1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, likewise, dwell with them with understanding, giving honor to the wife, as to the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life, that your prayers may not be hindered.

SCRIPTURE Psalm 66:18

If I regard iniquity in my heart,
The Lord will not hear.

3. The Second Complaint (Malachi 2:17)

- Israel complained that they were doing nothing to weary the Lord.

4. The Issue (Malachi 2:17)

- Israel had wearied God with their empty spirituality that justified their sinful lifestyles.

Personal Question

Is the Lord responding to you? Is this connected to sin that you are justifying in your life?

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B. God is Forgotten

1. The Complaint (Isaiah 43:22-24)

- Israel had forgotten God and no longer sought the Lord and worshiped him.
- Yet, the Lord was still burdened with their sins.

2. The Call to Action (Isaiah 43:25-26)

- The Lord reminds them that he is the one who forgives and forgets their sin.
- The Lord calls them to remember him and interact with him.

Personal Question

Does your life reflect an intimacy with the Lord or do you exist without him?

C. God is not Needed

1. The Complaint (Revelation 3:15-17)

- The Laodicean church had become useless to the Lord.
- The church had become self-sufficient and spiritually blind to their true condition.

2. The Call to Action (Revelation 3:18-20)

- The Lord told them to seek true spiritual riches from him.
- They were to seek healing for their spiritual blindness.
- The Lord is calling them to intimacy with him.

Personal Question

What is affecting your impact for the Lord? Are you responding to his invitation to intimacy with you?