

MALACHI

A 5 Day Bible Study



Malachi, whose name means “messenger,” was the last of the Minor Prophets and lived in the post-exile period, delivering his message to the Jews who had returned from Babylon.

Read Malachi 1

1. Malachi voiced a series of statements from the Lord and the people’s protestations.

Follow the argument below:

God’s assertion (1:2):

People’s objection (1:2):

God’s evidence (1:2-5, Rom 9:10-16):

God’s assertion (1:6):

People’s objection (1:6):

God’s assertion (1:7):

People’s objection (1:7):

God’s evidence (1:7-8 & 12-14, Lev 1:1-3 & 10):

God’s message for Israel (1:9-10):

God’s place among the nations (1:11 & 14):

2. As you read the exchange between God and his people, what emotions and attitudes do you detect in the people? In the Lord?

What are some ways we question God’s love, show disrespect, or sacrifice in an unworthy manner?

Read Malachi 2:1-16

1. The Hebrew name Lord Sabaoth is the name used for the Lord throughout this book. Look at this name in various versions (2:2) and state what this name communicates.
2. From 2:4-7, explain what was required of the priests and for what purpose.
3. How did the priests fail to honor the name of the Lord, and what was their punishment? (2:1-3, 8-9)
4. Name ways the Jews had disdained the covenant of the Lord. (2:10-16)
5. From the following verses, record God's heart for marriage.

Mark 10:6-9 (quoting Gen 2:24)

Deuteronomy 7:1-4

Malachi 2:15

Ephesians 5:31-33

Consider how Malachi 2 applies to your life personally. How will you put it into practice?

Read Malachi 2:17-3:5

1. From 2:16-17, how was the perspective of the people skewed, and what was God's response?
2. From a careful reading of Romans 3:21-26, how did the coming of the Messiah answer the question in 2:17: "Where is the God of justice?"
3. Malachi spoke of another messenger to come (3:1a). Who was this messenger, and what was his role? (also see Isa 40:3-5, Mt 11:7-11)
4. Malachi switched timeframes in verse 2 to describe the second coming of the Lord. How will God's justice be demonstrated when this happens?
5. What is the purpose of the refining? How do you detect God's mercy?

Have you trusted in Christ to justify you (make you right) before God?
If so, what does it mean to you that your sins are forgiven through Christ's blood?

Read Malachi 3:6-15

1. What do you learn about God's character from 3:6-7? (also see Num 23:19, Dt 4:31)

What does this aspect of God's character mean to you personally?

2. Recount the people's behavior and mindset in 3:8-9 & 13-15 and the consequences of their actions.
3. What were God's expectations of his covenant people? (see Lev 27:30, Num 18:25-29, Dt 14:22, 28-29)
4. Describe the "dare" God presented to his people in Malachi 3:10-12.
5. Explain principles of giving for God's people today.

Proverbs 11:24-25

Luke 6:38

1 Corinthians 16:1-2

2 Corinthians 8:1-7

How would you like to grow in a spirit of generosity?

Read Malachi 3:16-4:6

1. A faithful remnant was contrasted with those who dishonored the Lord. What stands out to you from 3:16-18?

What characteristics do you imagine this group had in order to be different from the crowd?

2. Contrast the two groups depicted in 4:1-3, and tell when these things will take place.
3. In Luke 1:76-79, what did Zechariah, the father of John the Baptist, prophesy about the “sun” referenced in 4:2?
4. What command, promise, and warning are listed at the end of this book? (v. 4-6)
5. When you think about the history of the Jews being defeated and forced into captivity, then brought back to their land as was prophesied, does their attitude portrayed by Malachi surprise you? Why or why not?
6. As the Old Testament comes to a close, what human need is obvious? (see Mt 1:21)

What impact has studying the Minor Prophets made on you? What will you do with what you have learned?

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.