
MALACHI- LESSON # 3

FIRST QUESTION: IN WHAT WAY HAVE YOU LOVED US? *MALACHI 1:2*

- God loves them; and they do not see it.
- All of their problems will stem from this.

SECOND QUESTION:

Malachi 1:6 " 'A son honors his father, and a servant his master. Then if I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My respect?' says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests who despise My name. But you say, '**How have we despised Your name?**'

- There are two problems in verse 6:
 - o 1- The Lord is not being treated with honor and respect
 - o 2- They think they are

HONOR AND RESPECT:

- There is a disconnect between what they say and what they do
- Christians must be consistent in word AND deed
 - o *Titus 1:16, John 14:15, 1 John 2:3-6*

O PRIESTS, WHO DESPISE MY NAME

- Malachi does not just accuse them of "not loving God" - he says they have come to despise him!
- *Matthew 6:24*

Is there a place in the middle?



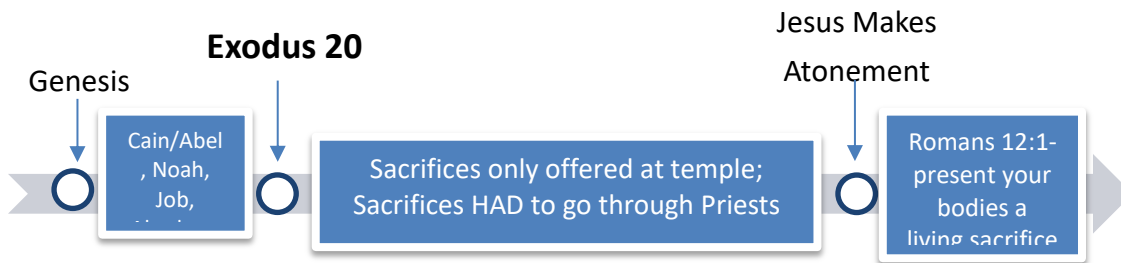
ADDRESSING THE PRIESTHOOD

- People follow leadership: good or bad
- *Joshua 24:15-25, Judges 2:10-13*
- *Matthew 15:14*
- *Ezekiel 9:4-6*

QUESTION #3

Malachi 1:7 "You are presenting defiled food upon My altar. But you say, '**How have we defiled You?**' In that you say, 'The table of the LORD is to be despised.'

DUTIES OF PRIESTHOOD



HOW HAVE WE DEFILED YOU?

- Who is at fault? The People bringing sacrifices or the Priests who offer them?
- How does defiled food get from the people to the table of the Lord?
 - o **Leviticus 22:17-20**

Mal 1:8 "But when you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And when you present the lame and sick, is it not evil? Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly?" says the LORD of hosts. 9 "But now will you not entreat God's favor, that He may be gracious to us? With such an offering on your part, will He receive any of you kindly?" says the LORD of hosts.

Sin manifests itself first in attitude: then in action

- It is because the Lord has not been honored/respected that the people are now offering the lame, sick, and blind.
- **Leviticus 22:21-25**

Are we capable of knowing what God wants and offering Him something less?

- God calls this 'evil' in verse 8
- The Church needs to stop accepting what God has said is unacceptable

WHY NOT OFFER IT TO YOUR GOVERNOR?

What if we treated those who hold earthly positions over us; same way we treat God?

- What if you obeyed laws of country with the same leniency you obey Gods commands?
- If Christianity were your job, would you still be employed?