



# ***MALACHI***

[Personal notes from the wide margin of my ASV Bible. Taken in my FHU class under E. Claude Hall.

Recommended Commentaries: Pulpit, Coffman, & Barnes]

Malachi = “My Messenger”, angel of Yahweh. Malachi was a reformer.

GME = “Prophet of the Universal Worship of God.”

Date: c. 430 - 430 B.C.

1:1 ***Burden*** = message.

1:1 Is “Malachi” a name, or simply “my messenger”? Believe this is his name, the author of this book is not anonymous. Literally = “by the hand of Malachi.”

1:2 **Lesson on Ingratitude**. Man often fails to appreciate God’s love and questions it.

1:2 **Lesson**: “Look what God has done for you.”

1:2 Note the question-answer method of Malachi’s teaching. A dialectic feature (a contrast of contradictions.) Assertion-objection-rebuttal (7 times: 1:2-3; 1:6-7; 2:10-16' 2:17; 3:7; 3:8; 3:13). There are 23 questions in 55 verses (wg).

1:3 God’s special care for Israel. cf. Rom. 9:13.

1:3 Jacob = worshiper of God; Esau = robber (Edom).

1:4 **Lesson**: Wickedness is cursed by God.

1:4 ***Border of wickedness*** = “the land of iniquity”

1:5 (And v.11) All men should worship the God revealed in the Scriptures.

1:6 The Lord will be magnified from **beyond** the borders of Israel. By the execution of his judgments upon the wicked; (cf. The oracles against the nations in Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Amos. These were fulfilled prophecies.)

### 1:6-14 Defective Worship

- 1:6 Fifth commandment. Israel dishonored the ancient covenant.
- 1:6 **O priests** = To whom is this message chiefly directed. Religious leaders. They had become corrupt, thought they were innocent but unconscious of their sins.
- 1:6-7 **Lesson:** Sin has an opiate power.
- 1:7 **Bread** = flesh.  
**Table of the Lord** = altar where sacrifices were made.  
Sounds like the table of shewbread, where the priests were to put fresh bread each week.
- 1:7 **Contemptible** = “despised”
- 1:8 **Blind for sacrifice** = Deut. 15:21; Lev. 22:19-20. Suppose to offer that without blemish– the best of their flock.
- 1:9 **Insincere Repentance (Irony)**
- 1:9 **Your** = refers to the priests.
- 1:9 **i.e.** the evil of offering blemished animals.
- 1:9 **Regard your persons** = i.e. will God show favor to any one because you interceded for him?
- 1:10 **Sarcasms**
- 1:10 **ASV** “Oh that there were one among you that would shut the doors, that ye might not kindle fire on mine altar in vain!”
- 1:10 Worship right or Not at all!
- 1:11 **Universal Worship of God** in the Messianic Age pictured

### Malachi - Chapter 4 - marginal notes from ASV wide margin Bible

- 4:1 AD 70
- 4:1 **root nor branch** = leaders
- 4:2 **sun of righteousness** = Christ
- 4:2 **gambol** = leaping and jumping
- 4:3 Christians have an advantage over the wicked.
- 4:4 ¶
- 4:4 **Horeb** = Mt. Range, Sinai a peak; Mt of God.
- 4:5 **Elijah** = John the baptist
- 4:5 **great and terrible day** = awesome day of Pentecost, or judgment day on Jewish nation in AD 70?
- 4:6 **turn hearts** = **Luke 1:17**
- 4:6 **curse** = Israel as a nation rejected Christ and suffered the consequence in AD 70. The gospel went out to the world - Col. 1:18.

### SPECIAL LESSONS

1. Defective Worship - 1:6-14
  - 1) brought sick and lame - 1:18
  - 2) weary with worship - 1:13
  - 3) priests not preaching as they should - 2:6-10
2. Un-brotherliness - 2:10-14
3. Divorcing wives of youth - 2:11=13
4. Not paying their tithes - 3:7-12

- 3:6 **change not** = in morals or principles (he changes law).
- 3:7 **ordinances** = written laws, or statues – (ordinances)
- 3:7 **shall we return?** = they don't acknowledge their offences
- 3:8 **rob God?** =
- 3:8 **in tithes** = income
- 3:8 **offerings** = additional lambs
- 3:10 **storehouse** = storage chambers in the temple
- 3:10 **prove** = test
- 3:10 **pour out a blessing ...** my cup runneth over. The store rooms could not hold the blessings!
- 3:11 **devourer** = devouring crops
- 3:11 **cast fruit before time** = fruit falling off before ripe
- 3:13 E. Claude Hall on “ye” and “you” and “you” and “thee.”  
**You** = secular language, carries idea of equality;  
**Thee** = in a more religious connotation, God on a higher plane than us.  
 Example: some words are pronounced differently when sung than when spoken.  
 Amen = [‘c ’min ] in music  
 [‘e ‘men ] speaking
- 3:14 **walked mournfully** = or in mourning apparel
- 3:15 Think, or say, that the wicked seem to be the ones blessed
- 3:16 **they spake often... RSV**
- 3:16 **heard** = strained to hear... wanting to hear every word.
- 3:17 **spare them** = not punish
- 3:18 Under the old law? True any day!

- in Jewish terminology (all day long.)
- 1:11 **Incense** = Worship in the messianic age pictured in Jewish terminology (see end of Amos also).
- 1:11 **Pure offering** = The only pure offering for the sin of the world in all history = the blood of Christ.
- [See notes and Coffman regarding the “th” suffix = present tense here.
- 1:12 **But ye** = contrast - priests with gentiles of v. 11.
- 1:12 **Profaned** = corrupted it, not sacred., not by words but by actions.
- 1:12 **Table** = altar
- 1:13 **What weariness** = “an intolerable burden.” The priests performed their duties without heart or faith.
- 1:13 **Snuffed** = snorted, (pictured as a horse or cow blows through its nose at something it didn't like.)
- 1:13 **Which was torn** = ASV “which was taken by violence,” i.e. stolen, or unjustly.
- 1:13 God says, “Should I accept that kind of worship?”
- 1:14 Reason given for the curse.
- 1:14 **Deceiver** = 1) Offers a female on pretense he doesn't have a male. 2) Vows and pays in blemished sacrifice..
- 1:14 **Dreadful** = ASV “terrible” - held in awe and reverence.
- 1:14 **Lesson:** He whom the Gentiles honor will not permit his own people to profane his name.

## Malachi - Chapter 2 Margin Notes

### 2:1-9 A Message for Messengers

- 2:1 **commandment** = a threat or announcement?

- 2:2 **lay it to heart** = give attention to it
- 2:2 **curse your blessing** = the blessing the priests gave to the people would be turned into a curse. Like that of Baalam in Numbers 6:22-27.
- 2:3 Nehemiah 13:1-2
- 2:3 **spread dung** = maws - Deut 18:3. Imagine the shame when the sacrifice the priest was killing and splitting open burst its intestine open and spewed upon him.
- 2:3 **taken away with it** = This made the priest ceremonially unclean and he could not perform his job until he was cleansed.
- 2:3b Treated as filth.
- 2:5 God's Gift, and Man's Part
- 2:6 The way things ought to be. His teaching and his life were to be good.
- 2:7 **for he is the messenger of the Lord**
- 2:8 **But ye ...**
- 2:9 **respect of person in the law** - perversion of judgment
- 2:10 The brotherhood of man
- 2:10 Sound ethics must be based upon sound theology.
- 2:11 **daughter of a foreign god** - a woman who is an idolatress
- 2:12 **him that waketh and him that answereth ...** master and scholar. Priest and people, as teacher and pupil.
- 2:13 **again...** or a second time.
- 2:13 **with tears and weeping** – 1) weeping wives (?); or 2) worshipers because their sacrifices are not accepted.

- 2:13 Worship is spoiled by the tears of those injured.
- 2:14-16 Marriage is a divine institution**
- 2:14 Marriage is made before God.
- 2:14 **covenant** – Prov. 5:18; vows
- 2:16 God is served by meeting our family obligations.
- 2:17 Words of skepticism.
- 1) God hears our words
- 2) Skeptical words are offensive to God
- 2:17 Cf. Complains of 3;13-15
- 2:17 Thinking that evil men were blessed, or today we say, Why do the wicked seem to prosper? Psa. 37 and Psa 73.
- 2:17 **where is the God of justice?** = the theme of the next chapter

### Malachi - Chapter 3

- 3:1 **my messenger** = Matt. 11:10; Mark 1:2; Luke 7:27; Luke 2:22.
- 3:1 second **messenger of the covenant** = or angel ? Cf. Heb 9:15, mediator of the new covenant.
- 3:2 **refiner's fire** = separates precious metal from the refuse
- 3:2 **fullers' soap** = washing herb- lye, wash away all filth
- 3:3 **sit** = as a judge,
- 3:3 **sons of Levi** = esp priests, cf. Acts 6:7 xxx
- 3:4 **pleasant** = Righteous worship is pleasant in sight of God.
- 3:4 **days of old... ancient years** = answers the question of 2:17
- 3:5 **sorcerers** =