

Malachi

(my messenger)



“A son honors his father, and
a servant his master. If then I am the
Father, Where is My honor?
And if I am a Master,
Where is My reverence?
Says the Lord of hosts
To you priests who despise My name.
Yet you say, ‘In what way have we
despised Your name?’”

Malachi 1:6

Do we rob God?

Besides our souls, the most precious thing we have is time. Do we give God our “left over” time and funds? Do we rush to get the latest technical toy or the latest in fashions, or lavish trips and then just leave a “tip” for God or nothing at all??



Will a man rob God?

Israel and Judah repeatedly turned to idols throughout their history as the people of God. After their 70 year captivity in Babylon they never turned to idols again. However, a more subtle problem developed in their relationship to God—indifference. As God tells the church in Laodice, “So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.” Revelation 3:16

Sacrifices

Sacrifices to God were supposed to be the best. Instead the people were bringing animals that were cripple, stolen and/or blind—and the priests accepted them!! They wouldn’t give such deplorable offerings to even one of their politicians. Yet they think nothing of offering such to God, their creator. Considering how God is going to give His very best, His Son, makes these pitiful sacrifices (can they even be called that?) even more shameful, completely unacceptable! God says that in time the Gentiles will give Him more honor than they are offering.

Tithing & Speaking Harshly Against God

They asked how they had robbed God? They did not ask so they could repent of their sins, changing their wicked ways. They further robbed God with their tithes and offerings. Tithing under the old law required people to give a tenth of what they had to the Lord to keep up the priesthood, help with religious festivals and the poor. Instead, many were saying it was useless to serve the Lord and that there was no profit in it.

Following the prophet Malachi there will be 400 years of silence from God. The next prophet will be John the Baptist. Malachi prophesies of his coming.



Prepare the way!

“Behold, I will send you
Elijah the prophet
Before the coming of the great
and dreadful day of the Lord.

And he will turn
The hearts of the fathers to the
children, and the hearts of
the children to their fathers.

Lest I come and strike the
earth with a curse.” Malachi 4:5-6

Malachi prepares the way ► for John the Baptist

John the Baptist prepares the way ► for Christ

★ Was God actually sending Elijah, the prophet? Describe John & Elijah.
Matthew 3:4; 17:10 -13; 11:14; 1 Kings 17:1-6