







# "It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge ..." -Malachi 3:14

"What a weariness this is,' and you snort at it, says the Lord of hosts." -Malachi 1:13



- God speaks about Himself
- The people challenge what God says
- God incisively cuts to the heart of the issue



"I have loved you,' says the Lord. But you say, 'How have you loved us?' 'Is not Esau Jacob's brother?' declares the Lord. 'Yet I have loved Jacob but Esau I have hated."

-Malachi 1:2-3

"A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, 'How have we despised your name?' By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, 'How have we polluted you?' By saying that the Lord's table may be despised." -Malachi 1:6-7

"Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me.
But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes
and contributions."

-Malachi 3:8

"Your words have been hard against me,' says the Lord. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?"
-Malachi 3:13

- God speaks about Himself
- The people challenge what God says
- God incisively cuts to the heart of the issue





# God is calling for a faithful honoring of Him with our lives

"For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts."

-Malachi 1:11

"For I am a great King, says the Lord of hosts, and my name will be feared among the nations."

-Malachi 1:14

"If you will not listen, if you will not take it to heart to give honor to my name, says the Lord of hosts, then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings. Indeed, I have already cursed them, because you do not lay it to heart."

-Malachi 2:2

"My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me. He stood in awe of my name." -Malachi 2:5 "Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name."

-Malachi 3:16

"But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings." -Malachi 4:2



### THEIR WORSHIP MALACHI 1:6-10

"A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the Lord of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, 'How have we despised your name?' By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, 'How have we polluted you?' By saying that the Lord's table may be despised. When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? ...

### THEIR WORSHIP MALACHI 1:6-10

... Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the Lord of hosts. And now entreat the favor of God, that he may be gracious to us. With such a gift from your hand, will he show favor to any of you? says the Lord of hosts. Oh that there were one among you who would shut the doors, that you might not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the Lord of hosts, and I will not accept an offering from your hand.

## THEIR MARRIAGES MALACHI 2:13-16

And this second thing you do. You cover the Lord's altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. But you say, "Why does he not?" Because the Lord was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant ...

## THEIR MARRIAGES MALACHI 2:13-16

... Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. "For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the Lord, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the Lord of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.

# THEIR STEWARDSHIP MALACHI 3:7-10

From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.



#1) The first thing that God wants from us in order that we would faithfully honor God with our lives is ... a humble receiving of correction from God.

# Are you ... Am I ... humbly receiving correction from God?



#2) The first thing that God wants from us in order that we would faithfully honor God with our lives is ... a purposeful obedience to God's instruction.

### MALACHI 3:7

From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the Lord of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?'



#2) The first thing that God wants from us in order that we would faithfully honor God with our lives is ... a whole-heartedness in our honoring of God.





#### MALACHI 4:1-6

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts ... "

#### MALACHI 4:1-6

"... Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."



#### LUKE 1:16-17

"And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

# "But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?" -Malachi 3:2

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall." -Malachi 4:1

