

#MALACHISERIES



The Book Of
MALACHI

REKINDLING THE FIRE

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IS MY SACRIFICE ACCEPTABLE?

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The Intro to Malachi

Malachi 1:1 (ESV)

1. The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

1. This is the oracle (load, bearing, tribute, or burden) of the Lord to Israel by Malachi (messenger)

Malachi 1:6-14 (ESV)

6 “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?’ **7** 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. **8** 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? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the LORD of hosts.

9 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. 10 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. 11 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.

1. Is my “fear of the Lord” acceptable?

Malachi 1:6a (ESV)

“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.

Is my “fear of the Lord” acceptable?

A careless familiarity with Holy matters can easily lead us to treating them with indifference or just becoming a routine for us.

Is my “fear of the Lord” acceptable?

Romans 11:19-22

19 Then you will say, “Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.” 20 That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear. 21 For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. 22 Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God’s kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off.

2. Is my handling of my covenant with God acceptable?

Malachi 1:6b -7

But you say, 'How have we despised your name?' 7 By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, 'How have we polluted you?' By saying / showing that the LORD's table (alter) may be despised.

Is my handling of my covenant with God acceptable?

We can fall into some really dangerous territory with God when we operate from the perspective that everything about God is unconditional

Do you want your prayers answered?

Chronicles 7:14 - if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land.

John 15:7 - If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you.

Do you want your prayers answered?

1 Peter 3:7 - Likewise, husbands, live with your wives in an understanding way, showing honor to the woman as the weaker vessel, since they are heirs with you of the grace of life, so that your prayers may not be hindered.

The quality of our service has some conditions

2 Timothy 2:21- Therefore, if anyone cleanses himself from what is dishonorable, he will be a vessel for honorable use, set apart as holy, useful to the master of the house, ready for every good work.

Even our salvation has some conditions

Colossians 1:21-23 - And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, 22 he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, 23 if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

3. Is what I offer God out of my life acceptable?

Malachi 1:8-9

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? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the LORD of hosts. 9 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.

Is what I offer God out of my life acceptable?

As Christians, if we are constantly operating out the ditch of over emphasized grace and unconditional love all the time...probably not

Is what I offer God out of my life acceptable?

Genesis 4:3–5

3 In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, 4 and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard.

4. Is our personal and corporate worship to God acceptable?

Malachi 1:10

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.

Is our personal and corporate worship to God acceptable?

Mark 7:5-9 (Passion)

So the Pharisees and religious scholars asked Jesus, “Why don’t your disciples live according to the age-old traditions passed down by our elders? They should first ceremonially wash their hands before eating.”

6 Jesus replied, “You are frauds and hypocrites! How accurately did Isaiah prophesy about you phonies when he said: ‘These people honor me with their words while their hearts run far away from me!’

Is our personal and corporate worship to God acceptable?

7 Their worship is nothing more than a charade!

For they continue to insist that their man-made traditions are equal to the instructions of God.'

8 “You abandon God’s commandments just to keep men’s rituals, such as ceremonially washing utensils, cups, and other things.”

9 Then he added, “How skillful you’ve become in rejecting God’s law in order to maintain your man-made set of rules.

5. Is my anticipation of Christ's return acceptable?

Malachi 1:11

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.

Is my anticipation of Christ's return acceptable?

Do we live with any anticipation that this could be the day that Jesus comes for His church... His Bride?

Does His return affect what we focus on or work at each day at all ?

Are you ready for it?

Is my anticipation of Christ's return acceptable?

1 John 2:28

28 And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from Him in shame at his coming.

Parting Thoughts

Since the Beginning, God has always expected and honored His initiated concept of bringing our first and our best.

Parting Thoughts

Genesis 4:4b-7

And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, 5 but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. 6 The LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? 7 If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.”

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