



GIVING GOD YOUR BEST

Malachi 1:6-14

The LORD of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. If I am your father and master, where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for my name!

"But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for your name?'

⁷ "You have shown contempt by offering defiled

Malachi 1:6-14

sacrifices on my altar.

“Then you ask, ‘How have we defiled the sacrifices?’

“You defile them by saying the altar of the LORD deserves no respect. ⁸ When you give blind animals as sacrifices, isn’t that wrong? And isn’t it wrong to offer animals that are crippled and diseased? Try giving gifts like that to your governor, and see how pleased he is!” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.

Malachi 1:6-14

⁹ “Go ahead, beg God to be merciful to you! But when you bring that kind of offering, why should he show you any favor at all?” asks the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.

¹⁰ “How I wish one of you would shut the Temple doors so that these worthless sacrifices could not be offered! I am not pleased with you,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “and I will not accept your offerings.

¹¹ But my name is honored by people of other nations

Malachi 1:6-14

from morning till night. All around the world they offer sweet incense and pure offerings in honor of my name. For my name is great among the nations,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.

¹² “But you dishonor my name with your actions. By bringing contemptible food, you are saying it’s all right to defile the Lord’s table. ¹³ You say, ‘It’s too hard to serve the LORD,’ and you turn up your noses at my commands,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies. “Think

Malachi 1:6-14

of it! Animals that are stolen and crippled and sick are being presented as offerings! Should I accept from you such offerings as these?" asks the LORD.

¹⁴ "Cursed is the cheat who promises to give a fine ram from his flock but then sacrifices a defective one to the Lord. For I am a great king," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies, "and my name is feared among the nations!"

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

Malachi 1:6-7

The LORD of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. If I am your father and master, where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for my name!

"But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for your name?'

7 "You have shown contempt by offering defiled sacrifices on my altar.

"Then you ask, 'How have we defiled the sacrifices?'

"You defile them by saying the altar of the LORD deserves no respect.

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

*One side is tender and
the other a bit tougher.*

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

Malachi 1:6

The LORD of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. If I am your father and master, where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for my name!

"But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for your name?'"

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

Exodus 4:22:

This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son.

Exodus 20:12

Honor your father and your mother...

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

God is Who He Is.

He's the one who causes everything else.

He is unchanging.

He is the One who inhabits eternity.

He is the One who always was and who always will be!

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

Malachi 1:6

The LORD of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. If I am your father and master, where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for my name!

"But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for your name?'"

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

They no longer thought of Him as weighty.

They didn't take God seriously.

They despised their duties.

Their worship was wearisome.

They were taking God for granted.

They had the nerve to lash out at the Lord Almighty!

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

Malachi 1:6

“But you ask, ‘How have we ever shown contempt for your name?’

Malachi 1:7

“You have shown contempt by offering defiled sacrifices on my altar.

Malachi 1:7

“You defile them by saying the altar of the LORD deserves no respect.

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

*“When man is bored with
God even heaven does not
have a better alternative.”*

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

1 John 3:12

We must not be like Cain, who belonged to the evil one and killed his brother. And why did he kill him? Because Cain had been doing what was evil, and his brother had been doing what was righteous

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

**God looks at the sacrificer
and then at the sacrifice.**

**He looks at the offerer and
then the offering.**

EMBRACE AN AUTHENTIC FAITH

“Some of us would love to buy three dollars worth of God. Not enough to explode my soul or disturb my sleep, but just enough to equal a cup of warm milk or a snooze in the sunshine...I want ecstasy, not transformation. I want the warmth of the womb, not new birth. I want a pound of the eternal in a paper sack. I want three dollars worth of God, please.”

GIVE GOD PRIORITY OVER POSSESSIONS

Malachi 1:8

When you give blind animals as sacrifices, isn't that wrong? And isn't it wrong to offer animals that are crippled and diseased? Try giving gifts like that to your governor, and see how pleased he is!" says the LORD of Heaven's Armies.

GIVE GOD PRIORITY OVER POSSESSIONS

Leviticus 22:2

“Tell Aaron and his sons to be very careful with the sacred gifts that the Israelites set apart for me, so they do not bring shame on my holy name. I am the LORD.

GIVE GOD PRIORITY OVER POSSESSIONS

Leviticus 22:18-20

**“If you present a gift as a burnt offering to the LORD, whether it is to fulfill a vow or is a voluntary offering,
¹⁹ you will be accepted only if your offering is a male animal with no defects. It may be a bull, a ram, or a male goat. ²⁰ Do not present an animal with defects, because the LORD will not accept it on your behalf.**

GIVE GOD PRIORITY OVER POSSESSIONS

*God deserves priority
over your possessions.*

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Malachi 1:10

“How I wish one of you would shut the Temple doors so that these worthless sacrifices could not be offered! I am not pleased with you,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “and I will not accept your offerings.

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

*No worship at all is
better than halfhearted
sacrifice.*

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Malachi 1:11

But my name is honored by people of other nations from morning till night. All around the world they offer sweet incense and pure offerings in honor of my name. For my name is great among the nations,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies.

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Malachi 1:14

“Cursed is the cheat who promises to give a fine ram from his flock but then sacrifices a defective one to the Lord. For I am a great king,” says the LORD of Heaven’s Armies, “and my name is feared among the nations!”

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

*Sacrifice is directly
linked to the greatness
of God.*

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Malachi 1:13

You say, 'It's too hard to serve the LORD,' and you turn up your noses at my commands," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "Think of it! Animals that are stolen and crippled and sick are being presented as offerings! Should I accept from you such offerings as these?" asks the LORD.

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Micah 6:3

“O my people, what have I done to you? What have I done to make you tired of me? Answer me!

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Isaiah 1:12-14

When you come to worship me, who asked you to parade through my courts with all your ceremony? ¹³ Stop bringing me your meaningless gifts; the incense of your offerings disgusts me! As for your celebrations of the new moon and the Sabbath

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Isaiah 1:12-14

and your special days for fasting— they are all sinful and false. I want no more of your pious meetings. ¹⁴ I hate your new moon celebrations and your annual festivals.

They are a burden to me. I cannot stand them!

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Ecclesiastes 5:4-7

⁴ When you make a promise to God, don't delay in following through, for God takes no pleasure in fools. Keep all the promises you make to him. ⁵ It is better to say nothing than to make a promise and not keep it. ⁶ Don't let your mouth make you sin. And don't defend yourself by

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Ecclesiastes 5:4-7

telling the Temple messenger that the promise you made was a mistake. That would make God angry, and he might wipe out everything you have achieved. ⁷ Talk is cheap, like daydreams and other useless activities. Fear God instead.

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

Inadequate Preparation

Half-hearted Participation

Improper Motivation

GRASP THE GREATNESS OF GOD

“In the middle of all the explosions and hoopla and hype, all I could think was, Is this it? Is this all it is? Why, this doesn’t even compare to worshiping my God!”

#GIVINGGODYOURBEST

@JERRYGODSEY

