

THE BOOK OF MALACHI: GOD'S FINAL OLD TESTAMENT MESSAGE TO ISRAEL

Nearly 100 years after the time of Haggai and Zechariah, during the time of Nehemiah, the prophet Malachi lived. His prophecy concluded the literature of the Restoration Period, and of the Old Testament. Read the following to see what was the condition of God's chosen people at the end of about 1600 years of training by God:

A. God's Message to Israel As a Whole: Read Malachi 1:1-5

1. What was God's opening message through Malachi? Malachi 1:2a

2. Did the people seem to believe this message? See Malachi 1:2b

3. With whose condition did He contrast theirs? Malachi 1:2c-4

4. What did He say of these people? Malachi 1:3a, 4b

B. God's Message to the Priests: Read Malachi 1:6 - 2:9

1. Of what sins did God accuse the priests?
 - a. Malachi 1:6b _____
 - b. Malachi 1:7a _____
 - c. Malachi 1:8, 13b, 14a _____
 - d. Malachi 2:1, 8b, 9b _____
2. Did the priests seem to realize they were sinning? See Malachi 1:6b, 7b

3. What did God challenge them to do with such animals as they sacrificed to Him?
Malachi 1:8b

4. What did God say to the Priests? Malachi 1:10b, 14a, 2:2, 9a

C. God's Message to the People: Read Malachi 2:10 - 3:15

1. What were some of the sins of which God accused the people?
 - a. Malachi 2:10b _____
 - b. Malachi 2:14-16a _____
 - c. Malachi 2:17, 3:13-14 _____
 - d. Malachi 3:8-9 _____
2. Were the people aware of these sins? See Malachi 2:17, 3:7b, 8b, 13__
3. What did God call on the people to do concerning each of these sins? Malachi 2:16b, 15b, 3:7b, 10a

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4. What did God say He would do to them if they did not do this? Malachi 3:5

5. What did God promise if they would do as He asked? Malachi 3:10b-12

D. The People's Reaction to God's Message: Read Malachi 3:16 - 4:6

1. What three things did some of the people do after they heard this message? Malachi 3:16

2. What two things did God do as a result? Malachi 3:16

3. What wonderful promise did God make to these people? Malachi 3:17

4. What would God do to others in that day? Malachi 4:1

5. Who would appear to those who feared God's name? Malachi 4:2

6. Who would come before that time, and what would he do? Malachi 4:5-6 (See also 3:1-3.)

QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:

1. After all my training from God during my Bible courses, what is the condition of my heart today as God sees it?

2. What would Christ's coming bring to me, if it should occur today - a blessing, or a curse?
