

MALACHI

MESSAGE: JASON MOOG | MUSIC: DAN GILLETTE, JESSICA CERMENELLI-HALBARDIER | DATE: MAY 18TH, 2025

Halfhearted, Dishonoring Worship: Giving Your Lord Your Leftovers. Malachi 1:6-14

GOD _____ CARELESS & DISHONORING WORSHIP (VV. 6–7, 11)

Malachi 1:6-7 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

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.

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.

- Proper Honor & Reverence...
- LORD of hosts (vv6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14) _____

Half-Hearted Offerings Reveal a Low View & Value of God (vv. 8–9)

Malachi 1:8-9 ESV 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.

- Careless worship = **actions that do not reflect & express God's worth.**
- What we bring to God in worship **reveals what we truly think** of Him.
- We bring leftovers because we **treasure the world's promises**, not God's.

Remember: When we **fail to see God's greatness**,
we lose reverence in worship.

GOD _____ EMPTY & THOUGHTLESS WORSHIP (V10)

Malachi 1:10 ESV 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.

- Hebrew word "**hinam**" _____

2 Samuel 24:24

... I will not offer to the LORD my God sacrifices that have cost me nothing."

John 4:23-24

*"True worshipers will worship the Father in **spirit and truth**..."*

REVIEW

The Oracle of Malachi is arranged as a series of **disputes** between God and Israel in which:

- 1. God makes a statement or indictment .**
- 2. The people question or challenge it.**
- 3. God gives loving warning & the final word.**

The topics expose fundamental flaws all humans deal with.

God exhorts us to do **all** for the glory of God (1 Cor. 10:31) and to work at whatever we do with **all** our heart (Col. 3:23). And, we are to "do it **all** in the name of the Lord Jesus" (Col. 3:17).

2 Timothy 2:15 says, "**Do your best** to present yourself to God as one approved ..." We read of our need to test our own actions (Gal. 6:4) and to "run in such a way as to get the prize ... **not** like someone running **aimlessly**" (1 Cor. 9:24-27). Certainly, verses like these suggest that we give God our best.

Commit to
sincere & authentic
worship.

- **True Worship**

1. Is accurate concerning God's nature, character and word.
2. Expresses God's worthiness and greatness.
3. Nurtures and bolsters Jesus-centered passion in others.

Sometimes the most spiritual thing we can do is to stop pretending.

Remember: Worship that God loves & accepts must be from a heart

that trusts and honors him, not from mere routines and rituals.

God would rather stop the worship services than receive our insincere praise.

GOD _____ OF THE CONSEQUENCES OF CONTEMPTUOUS WORSHIP (VV. 12–14)

Malachi 1:12-14 ESV But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is polluted, and its fruit, that is, its food may be despised. 13 But you say, 'What a weariness this is,' and you snort at it, says the LORD of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the LORD.

14 Cursed be the cheat who has a male in his flock, and vows it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished. For I am a great King, says the LORD of hosts, and my name will be feared among the nations.

- We can begin to treat **worship as a burden rather than a blessing**. God's Response: **My favor will not rest upon** the cheater who vows but
- doesn't follow through.
- God is not in need of or desperate for our offerings—He is **worthy** of them.

Remember: We have a God who **desires worship that comes,**

not from duty, but from delight. This is a good thing! As a means of love and protection, God has designed serious consequences when we do not follow through with our vows.

CONCLUDING REALITY:

The corrupted offerings and failed sacrifices of Malachi's time point toward our need of the only perfect and sufficient sacrifice—Christ, the Lamb without blemish (John 1:29,36; 1 Peter 1:19). The Cross and the Gospel frees us to worship, not to gain God's favor, but because **in Christ, we already have it** (Romans 5:1–2; Ephesians 1:6).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS
AND A WORKSHEET ON:
**WHAT DOES GOD CONSIDER
"YOUR BEST"?**
ARE AVAILABLE AT THE BACK OF
ROOM AS YOU WALK IN. (See also:
Psalm 51:17; Matthew 22:37; Mark
12:41–44; Luke 18:9–14)

SONGS

*NOTHING BUT THE BLOOD
YOU DESERVE IT ALL
BUILD MY LIFE
GOODNESS OF GOD*

BUDGET

Giving Last Week: \$34,644.02
2025 Year to Date Giving: \$617,708.49
2025 Giving vs Need: \$132,411.51 Below Need
Altamont Expansion Fund (5/8): \$226,024.04

*Correction:

Giving 5/8: \$53,253.09
2025 Year to Date Giving as of 5/8: \$583,064.47
2025 Giving vs Need as of 5/8: \$127,575.53 Below Need

COMMUNICATION & GIVING

Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please drop envelopes off in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!

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NEXT WEEK'S PASSAGE

Malachi 2:1-9