

# The prophecy of Malachi



The day cometh



## Subjects covered in last class

- The importance of God's name
- The need to know our heritage
- Our responsibilities as a “royal priesthood”
- Preserving a Godly seed

The day cometh

A vertical image on the left side of the slide shows the silhouette of a person standing on a dark, grassy hill, looking out towards a bright sun on the horizon. The sun is low, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the sky with a warm, orange glow. The person's silhouette is dark against the bright background.

## Subjects covered in this class

- Why there must be a judgment.
- How God's judgment will be consistent with his character.
- How can we be ready for Christ's return
- How can we ensure that we don't drift from the Truth.
- What does tithing mean for us today?

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# Structure of Malachi

- 1:1-1:5 God's love to Israel
- 1:6-2:9 The priests rebuked
  - 1:6-14 for allowing corrupt offerings
  - 2:1-9 for corrupting their covenant
- 2:10-16 The people rebuked for divorce and intermarriage
- 2:17-3:6 The coming judgments of the Messenger of the Covenant
- 3:7-15 The people rebuked
  - 3:7-12 for robbing God
  - 3:13-15 for accusing God of not rewarding righteousness
- 3:16-4:3 The coming blessings of the Sun of Righteousness
- 4:4-4:6 Final appeal

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# A “just God and a saviour” (Isa 45:21)

“Where is the God of judgment?”



2:17-3:6 The coming **JUDGMENTS** of the Messenger of the Covenant



I am a **JUST** God

“What profit is it that we have kept his ordinance?”



3:13-4:3 The coming **BLESSINGS** of the Sun of Righteousness



And a Saviour

# For I am Yahweh

Each of these particular sins of Malachi 3:5 are recorded in Lev.19

the sorcerers	Lev.19:31
the adulterers	Lev.19:20
the false swearers	Lev.19:12
those that oppress the hireling	Lev.19:13
those that oppress the widow	Lev.19:3, 18
those that turn aside the stranger	Lev.19:33
those who do not fear God	Lev.19:32

# The sacrificial death of the messenger of the covenant

- The **covenant** made with Abraham and Christ involved an **everlasting inheritance**.
- However in order for the inheritors to receive an everlasting inheritance, they had to first receive **forgiveness** and redemption.
- That forgiveness required the **death** of the mediator of that covenant.

“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? And for this cause he is the mediator of the new **covenant**, that by **means of death**, for the **redemption of the transgressions** that were under the first testament, they which are called might receive the promise of **eternal inheritance**” **Heb 9:14-15**

# The Messengers of God

## Messengers

**Malachi**

**Malachi 1:1**

*prepared the  
returned exiles  
for*

**John the  
baptist**

**Mark 1:2; Luke 1:76;  
Matt 11:10**

*prepared  
"Judah"  
for*

## Messengers of the covenant

**Nehemiah**

**Neh 13:6-7**

**Christ**

**Heb 9:15**





## The certainty of Christ's return

But on the ground that “He cannot lie”, what does the nature of the case necessitate in order to fulfil the promise to Abraham and Christ? This is the answer, and let the reader mark it well:—**to meet the demands of the covenant, it is indispensable that Jesus return** to Canaan, and that he raise Abraham from the dead. Reason and scripture agree in this.

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For the time is come that judgment must begin at  
the house of God

When Nehemiah came to his temple he “cast forth” that  
which defiled it.

When Jesus came to his temple he “cast out” that which  
defiled it.

When the Lord Jesus Christ returns what will he do to those  
that have defiled his temple?

If any man defile the temple of  
God, him shall God destroy.



Will you abide the day of his coming?

# Refining of “Judah”



- The refiner's fire was used to heat metals in order to remove impurities.
- The Jews in the land (styled Judah) will be refined by the fiery judgments of Armageddon.
- Concerning this Zechariah says “And it shall come to pass, that in all the land, saith the LORD, two parts therein shall be cut off and die; but the third shall be left therein. And I will bring the third part through the fire, and will refine them as silver is refined, and will try them as gold is tried: they shall call on my name, and I will hear them: I will say, It is my people: and they shall say, The LORD is my God” Zech 13:8-9

# The refining of “Israel”



- Following Christ's return, the Jews outside the land (styled Israel) will be gathered to Zion through the work of Elijah. Jer 3:14-15
- In describing this “second exodus”, Ezekiel says “And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face. Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD. And I will cause you to **pass under the rod**, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant: And I will **purge out** from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me” **Ezek 20:35-38**

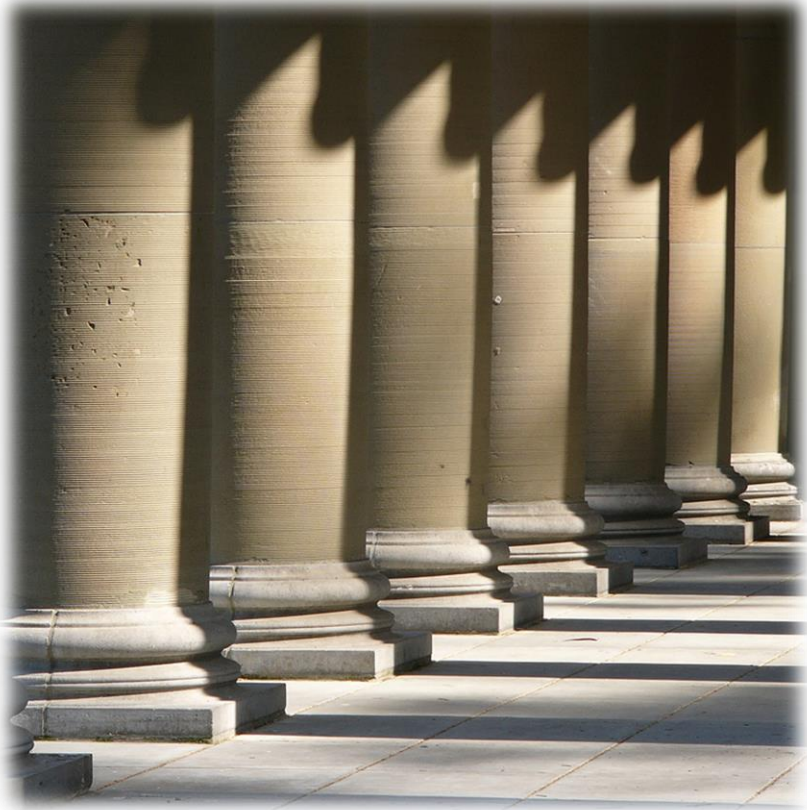


# Why were the sons of Jacob not consumed?



- When God called Moses to draw His people out of Egypt he gave assurance of their preservation in the form of a bush which was not consumed. For this reason the “sons of Jacob” were not consumed. By alluding to this in Mal 3:6, God was reminding them that the symbol of the burning bush does not apply to individual Jews but to the nation as a whole and to the faithful within it.
- The continuance of the nation for the sake of a faithful remnant within it is expressed Isaiah 65:8-9 “Thus saith Yahweh, As the new wine is found in the **cluster**, and one saith, Destroy it not; for a **blessing** is in it: so will I do for my servants' sakes, that I may not destroy them all. And I will bring forth a **seed** out of **Jacob**, and out of Judah an inheritor of my mountains: and mine elect shall inherit it, and my servants shall dwell there. ”
- See also Mystery of the Covenant of the Holy Land Explained

## The seven pillars of the house of Asaph



- Thoroughly imbued with the spirit of God manifestation.
- Deeply conscious of the majesty of Divine presence. They learnt the secret of ascending into God's presence wherever they were.
- Committed to the standard of excellence of endeavour.
- Involved in the idea and act of giving thanks and praise to the Father daily.
- Influenced by Godly music to the heights of spiritual exultation.
- They were diligent in inculcating the principles they believed in to the next generation.
- Faithful in maintaining their standards with unswerving devotion.

# Tithes



## ■ Num 18:24

- Tithes were a heave offering “terumah” which means ‘to be high’ or ‘lifted up’
- The heave offerings were lifted up out of the offerer’s other possessions to indicate that they belonged to Yahweh, and therefore described by God as “Mine”.
- The Levites drew their sustenance from the tithes.

## ■ Lev 27:30-33

- The Israelites were to give tithes of the seed of the land, fruit of the tree, and of the herd.





## Summary

- Our opportunity for refinement of character is now. “TODAY if ye will hear his voice ...” (Heb. 3:7)
- We will become living proof that there is a God of judgement (1 Pet 4:17).
- Just as God will be sanctified in His judgments on the nations (eg. Ezek 38:16), so too he will be sanctified in *our* personal judgment irrespective of whether we are accepted or rejected.
- Living at the centre of the Truth is the surest way of remaining in it.
- Tithing is the faithful act of giving all to God.

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