

The background image is a cinematic landscape. In the foreground, a large, flat, rectangular stone tablet with faint, illegible markings lies on a pile of dark, jagged rocks. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of a low sun, which is positioned behind a range of mountains in the distance. The sun's rays create a strong lens flare and illuminate the clouds and the landscape. The overall mood is one of anticipation and divine revelation.

The prophecy of Malachi

The messenger of the covenant is coming

Study 4

Structure of Malachi

- 1:1-1:5 God's love for Israel
- 1:6-2:9 The **covenant** corrupted by the priests
- 2:10-2:16 The **covenant** corrupted by the people
- 2:17-3:6 The coming of the Messenger of the **Covenant**
- 3:7-3:12 A call to return to God
- 3:13-4:6 The return of the Messenger of the **Covenant**



The return of the messenger of the covenant

3:13 – 3:15 God accused of
indifference

3:16 – 4:3 The reward of the righteous
and punishment of the proud

4:4 – 4:6 Final appeal

The thoughts of the wicked

21:7 Wherefore do the wicked live, become old, yea, are mighty in power?

21:14 **Therefore they say unto God,** Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways.

21:15 **What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him?**

Job 21:7,14-15

The cost of discipleship

If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he **cannot be my disciple**.

And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, **cannot be my disciple**.....

So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he **cannot be my disciple**. **Luke 14:27-33**



The book of remembrance

THE book of life* contains the names of those that think upon Yahweh's name:

- Ex 32:32
- Psa. 69:28
- Dan 12:1
- Mal 3:16
- Phil 4:3
- Rev. 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12,15; 21:27; 22:19.

**Yahweh will remember those
that remember Him.**

* Refer Eureka Vol 1. p360-362

Yahweh's special treasure

The Hebrew word rendered 'jewels' in Malachi 3:17 means 'to shut up' as one would shut up something of personal value. The eight occurrences of the word provide an insight into the value God attributes to those who are part of His special treasure.

Five times the word is used in relation to Israel whom God chose above all nations to be a peculiar people, a special treasure . Their 'peculiarity' was not intrinsic but was according to their holiness. Ex. 19:5; Deut. 7:6; 14:2; 26:8; Psa. 135:4

Fittingly, the word is twice used to describe the riches appropriated by kings. Such riches are of personal value (1 Chron. 29:3) and highly esteemed (Ecc. 2:8).

The last occurrence is in Malachi 3:17 where sadly the word is no longer applied to all Israel, but only those who fear God's name.

The fire of God's judgments

For, behold, the LORD will come with fire, and with his chariots like a whirlwind, to render his anger with fury, and his rebuke with flames of fire. For by fire and by his sword will the LORD plead with all flesh: and the slain of the LORD shall be many. **Isaiah 66:15-16**



The fire of God's judgments

I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment was white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne was like the fiery flame, and his wheels as burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him the judgment was set and the books were opened.

Daniel 7:9-10



The fire of God's judgments

The Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. **2 Thes. 1:7-8**

For our God is a consuming fire **Heb. 12:29**



The fire of God's judgments

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire: Whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire. **Matt. 3:11-12**



The final stage in the destruction of the kingdom of men

'Then was the iron, the clay, the brass, the silver, and the gold, broken to pieces together, and became like the **chaff** of the summer threshingfloors; and the wind carried them away, that no place was found for them: and the stone that smote the image became a great mountain, and filled the whole earth' **Daniel 2:35**



The sun of righteousness

'...He that ruleth over men must be just , ruling in the fear of God. And he shall be as the light of the morning, when the sun riseth, even a morning without clouds ...'

2 Sam. 23:3-4

'Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.... And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising' **Isa. 60:1-3**

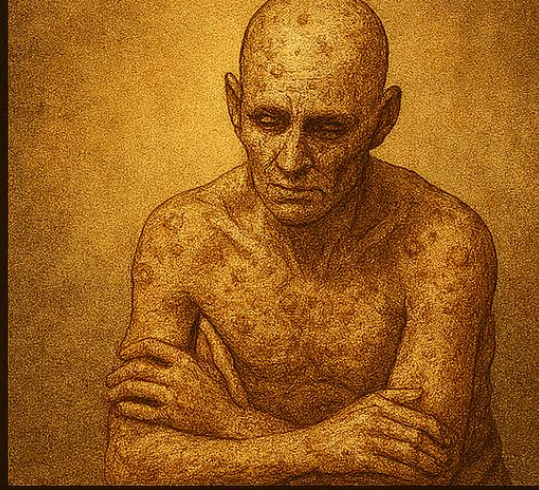


The sun of righteousness

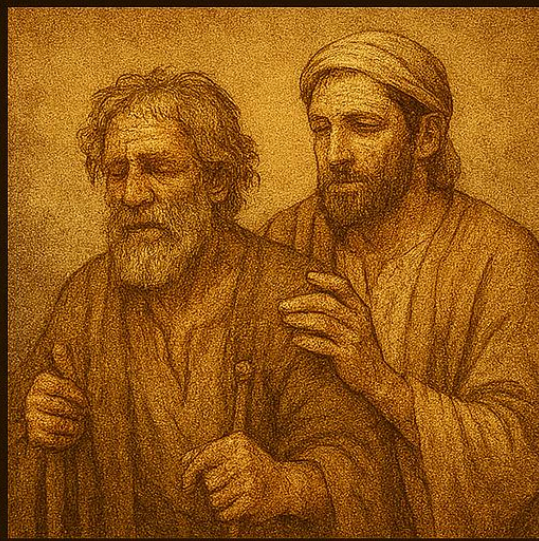
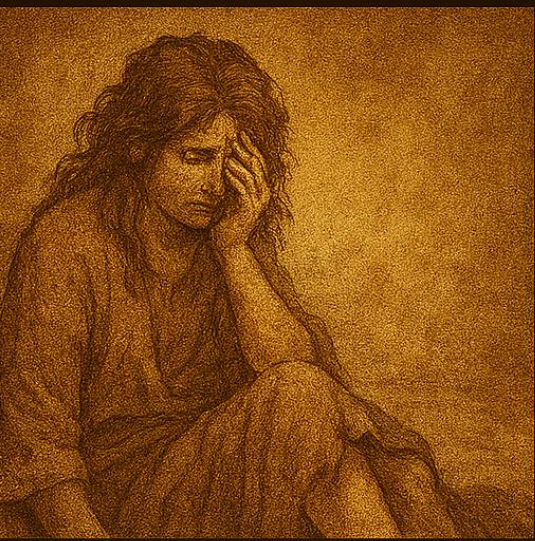
`.....the dayspring from on
high hath visited us, to give
light to them that sit in
darkness and in the shadow
of death, to guide our feet
into the way of peace' **Luke**
1:78-79

`I am the light of the world'
John 8:12





The healer of sin and mortality



Who forgiveth all thine **iniquities**
He removed our **transgressions** from us

Who healeth all thy **diseases**
Who redeemeth thy life from **destruction**



Psalm 103

They shall be ashes under the soles of your feet

- 'and his feet like unto fine brass as if they burned in a furnace' **Rev. 1:15**
- 'his face was as it were the sun, and his feet as pillars of fire' **Rev. 10:1**



Remember my servant Moses

The mission of the prophets was to keep Israel faithful to the law delivered by Moses. Their primary work was not to write books, but to deliver oral expostulations from God to Israel, to bring the nation back to harmony with itself.

R. Roberts/C.C. Walker, *The Ministry of the Prophets*, p4



Elijah - The messenger at Christ's second coming

"For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come" **Matt 11:13-14**

"And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things" **Matt 17:10-11**

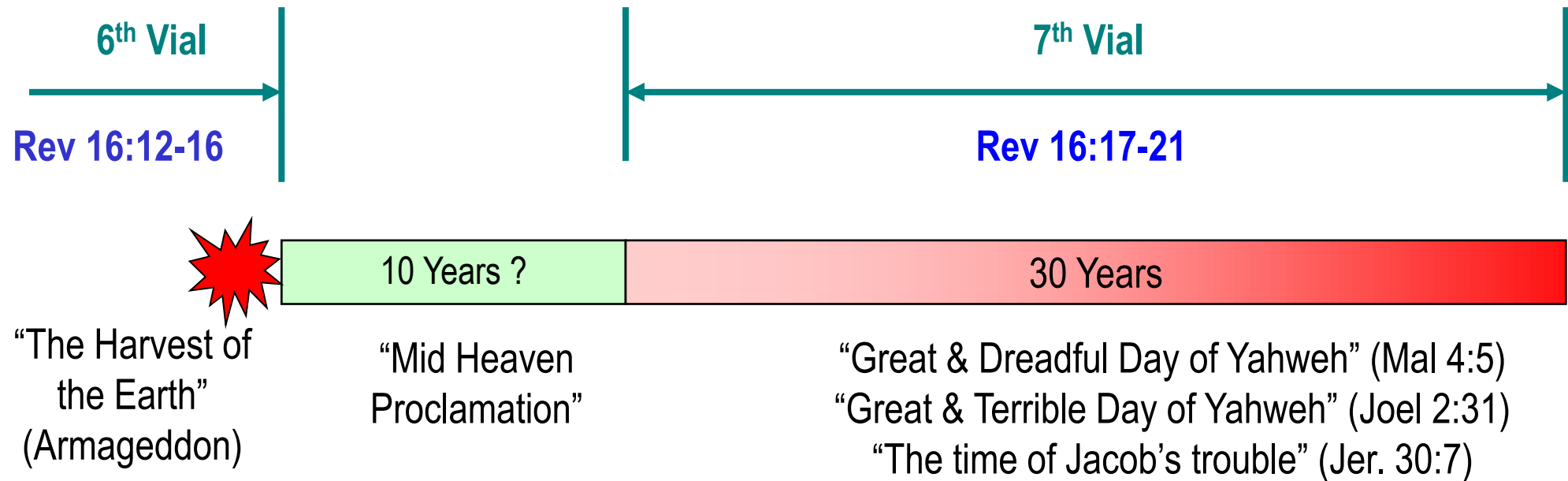
"And he shall go before him in the spirit and power of Elias, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just; to make ready a people prepared for the Lord" **Luke 1:17**

To whom will Elijah be sent?

- Elijah shall “first come and restore all things” What things? - the spiritual and political restoration of all Israel, that is the 12 tribes. John the Baptist did not achieve this. Whereas John’s mission was personally enlightening and converting; Elijah’s will be nationally enlightening, converting and political.
- Like Moses, Elijah will be sent to **gather his people from spiritual Egypt** and in the process of time to present them before their King in his glory

John Thomas, *The Mystery of the Covenant of the Holy Land Explained*, p 178

Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of Yahweh



The time periods surrounding the great and dreadful day

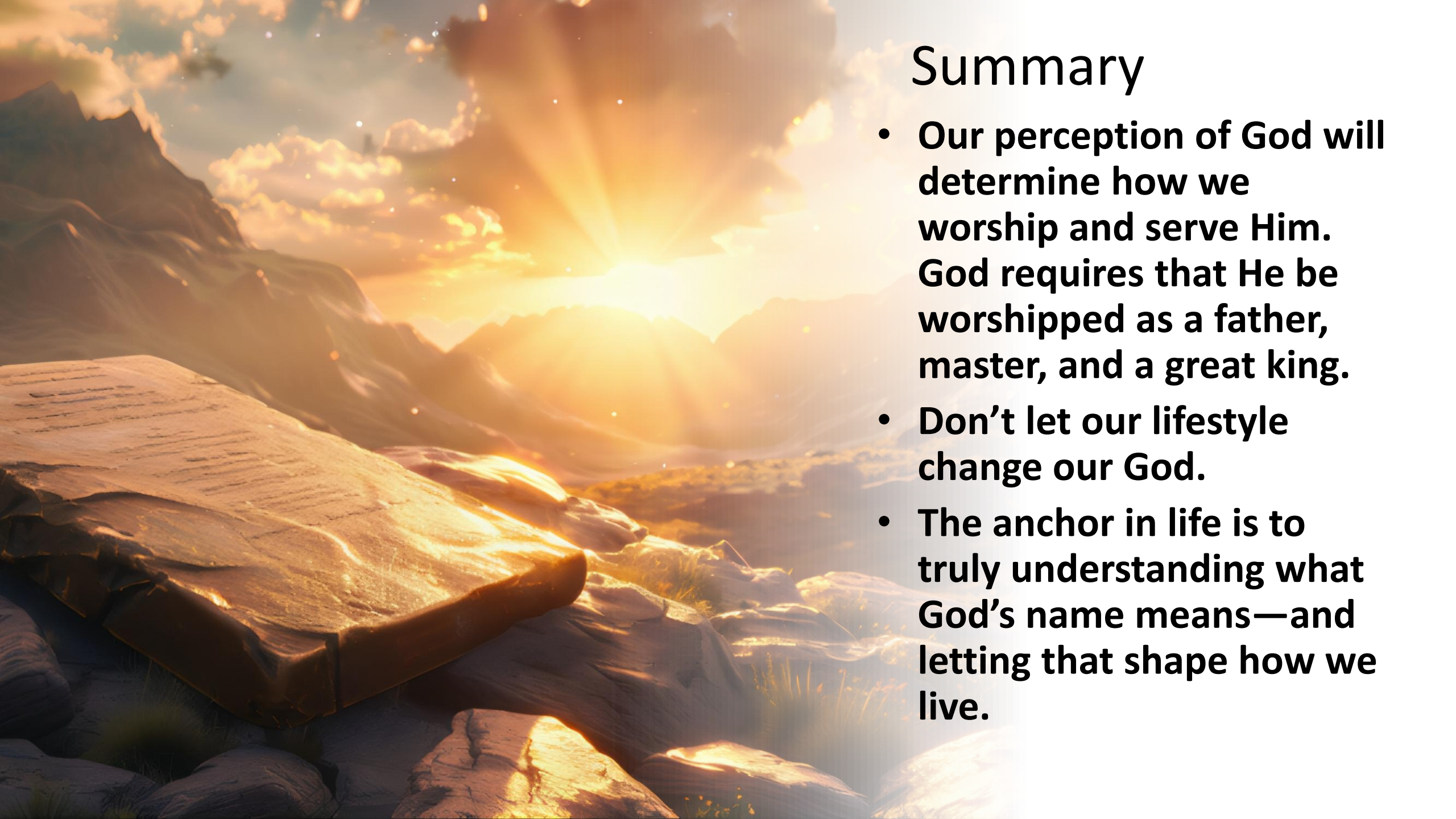
"We need not be surprised if **ten years** were consumed in the (mid-heaven) proclamation and the development of its results. Between the "memorial of blowing of trumpets" on the first day of the seventh month, and the Day of Atonement, there was an interval of ten days; after this pattern it may, therefore be, that between the beginning of the proclamation in mid-heaven and the commencement of the Second Angel judgment upon Babylon (Ch. 14:3), there will be an interval of ten years. This would leave an "Hour," or month of years, that is, **thirty years**, for the judgment to sit in slaying the fourth beast of Daniel, and destroying his body-politic in the burning flame (ch. 7: 1 1). These forty years after the manifestation of the Son of David and his mighty ones on Mount Zion, are the period of "the building again of the tabernacle of David, and of the setting up of its ruins, as it was in the days of old (Acts 15:16; Amos 9:11) the **exodal period of the gathering together under one king of all the tribes of the House of Jacob** (Mic. 7:15)".

John Thomas, *Eureka*, Vol. 5 p38-39



Summary

- To think upon God's name is to internalize His purpose with us, to embrace a God-centred life.
- Nehemiah sets the pattern to follow if we want to be part of God's special treasure.
- The purpose of God's judgments will be to demonstrate that He is righteous.
- The proud and wicked will become stubble. Don't envy them.
- Elijah's work will be to bring Abraham's children back to Abraham's faith, and in so doing to spare God's national son from the great and dreadful day of Yahweh.



Summary

- **Our perception of God will determine how we worship and serve Him. God requires that He be worshipped as a father, master, and a great king.**
- **Don't let our lifestyle change our God.**
- **The anchor in life is to truly understanding what God's name means—and letting that shape how we live.**

Malachi's message for all generations

Like as a father **pitieth** his children, so the LORD **pitieth** them that **fear** him.

For he knoweth our frame; he remembereth that we are dust... the mercy of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting upon them that **fear** him, and his righteousness unto children's children;

To such as **keep his covenant**, and to those that remember his commandments to do them. Psalm 103:13,17-18