

Sunday October 20th 2013
Malachi – God’s Messenger
Part Two
Study Questions

1). What is the spiritual condition of Israel at the time of Malachi’s prophecy?

a). Why does God call Malachi to prophesy?

b). What is particularly significant about this Book? And which scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

c). Beyond the completion of Malachi what remained for Israel to do?

d). Did this happen in a general sense or not and how would we know?

e). What is uncomfortable for us in all this?

2). Read Revelation 3:15-19 – What kind of imagery and vocabulary does the Lord use in these verses and what does this usage show us?

a). In what ways is that which God says to His ‘Church’ the same as that which He had previously said to Israel?

b). What commentary do we find in Colossians and Ephesians with respect to this?

- c). What does all of this demonstrate to us about the relationship between the OT and the NT?
- d). What now remains for the 'Church' to do?
- e). Will the 'Church' in a general sense do this and how would we know?
- f). What is the starting point for Israel and the 'Church' that has/will ultimately lead to a catastrophic conclusion?

3). Read Revelation 2:5 – What are we told in this verse is the solution to having left our first love?

- a). Why would this be the same for Israel?
- b). What does the word 'remember' tell us?
- c). What connection does there appear to be between remembrance and drifting away?
- d). Read 2 Peter 3:5 – What does this verse teach us about remembrance?
- e). Why would this equally apply to Israel and the 'Church'?
- f). What must be at the root of willfully forgetting and which scripture did we look at?
- g). What is the process that follows on from this and where does it end?

h). How does the picture of Esau and Jacob give us further commentary on this?

i). Why do you think Esau appears at the very pinnacle of the warnings in the Book of Hebrews?

j). What does 1 Corinthians 6:9-10 have to say about this?

k). How is the seriousness of this further exemplified for us through God's dealings with Esau/Edom both in Malachi and Jeremiah?

l). What further commentary do we find on this in Galatians 4:22-23 + 30 and Romans 8:5 + 13?

4). What is the key word this week that can both rectify unfaithfulness and disobedience and prevent us from becoming such?

a). What does the Lord call on the 2nd generation of Israel to remember before entering the promised land?

b). Why would He want them to remember these things?

c). Did they and subsequent generations do that and which scripture did we look at?

d). What do the scriptures say to us with respect to remembering?

e). What is the Apostle Peter's take on this and why does He have this view?

f). What is one of the very last things that God says to Israel through Malachi and why would this be important?

5). Read Malachi 1:6 – How does God describe Himself in this verse and who is He particularly talking to?

a). Can you see any connection with the 'priests' and ourselves?

b). What contrast is presented in this verse in Malachi?

c). What is the commandment given in the scriptures with respect to this and how does it carry over into the NT?

d). Is the same true for masters?

e). According to Ephesians how is honor given to a father?

f). What did Jesus have to say about this in Luke?

g). What commentary do we find in Hebrews on this?

h). What must be the cause of Israel failing to honor or respect the Lord?

i). What is the sin that the priests have continued in?