

MALACHI 1; July 17; Wherein Had Israel Become Carnal?

ANALYSIS:

1. How does the LORD answer Israel when they said, "Wherein hast thou loved us?" _____
2. What is the LORD'S answer to the priests who said, "Wherein have we despised thy name?" _____
3. What quality of sacrifices were the priests offering to the LORD of hosts that would never be accepted by their earthly governor?

4. What simple tasks in the worship of God were the priests unwilling to do for naught? _____
5. What judgment does the LORD pronounce upon the person who attempts to deceive Him with a corrupt sacrifice? _____

THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

The prophet Malachi is sent to Israel about 100 years after their return from Babylonian captivity. The nation questions God's love toward them. The priests had become lax, they treated their duties as burdens rather than honored privileges and inferior sacrifices were being offered. What had brought about this state of carnal religion? Was it the result of being surrounded by enemy people, or the delay in the appearing of the promised Messiah, or unspiritual priests, or a lack of plain Bible teaching or the lack of individuals walking with the LORD?

Rejoice and thank our God for giving us an enthusiastic pastor. Express appreciation for every challenge to holy living, to dedicated service toward others, to consistent giving, to love of the brethren and to love for the word of God and its exposition.

HELP:

1. Was not Esau Jacob's brother, saith the LORD, yet I loved Jacob (v 2).
2. Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar (v 7).
3. Blind, lame, sick and torn animal sacrifices (vs 8, 13).
4. Shut the doors and kindle the fire on the altar (v 10).
5. Cursed be the deceiver (v 14).