

MALACHI: RETURN TO ME | CORRUPTED WORSHIP
MALACHI 1:6-2:9

God wants us to return to Him when we wander off. He loves His people deeply. We run off, but He doesn't. The only reason His people are not consumed is because He doesn't change and is faithful. The book of Malachi is about God calling back His people Israel. It is about God's love for Israel and how they are to live in light of His love. He confronts them and rebukes them. They question Him. He in His tremendous grace continues to show them mercy. Malachi is the prophet God chooses to deliver His message. Malachi means "My Messenger." He writes in 5th century B.C., likely around 425 B.C. He is the third post-exilic prophet and his is the last book in the Old Testament. Although, God is speaking to Israel whom He keeps His covenant with even today, there is much for us to learn in this book that is filled with conviction. In our passage today God confronts the priests of Malachi's time. In doing so, we answer the question: What are the outcomes of corrupt worship?

1. We _____ God when we cheat Him of our _____.
2. When we withhold our best worship, we _____ God and receive _____.
3. When we _____ from true worship, our examples and instruction lead people _____ from Him instead of _____ Him.