

**QUESTIONS
FROM THE HEART
OF GOD**

MALACHI 1:1-8

Malachi 1:1-8

1 The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

2 I have loved you, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the LORD: yet I loved Jacob,

3 And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the dragons of the wilderness.

Malachi 1:1-8 - continued

4 Whereas Edom saith, We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and, The people against whom the LORD hath indignation for ever.

5 And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, The LORD will be magnified from the border of Israel.

Malachi 1:1-8 - continued

6 A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my fear? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name?

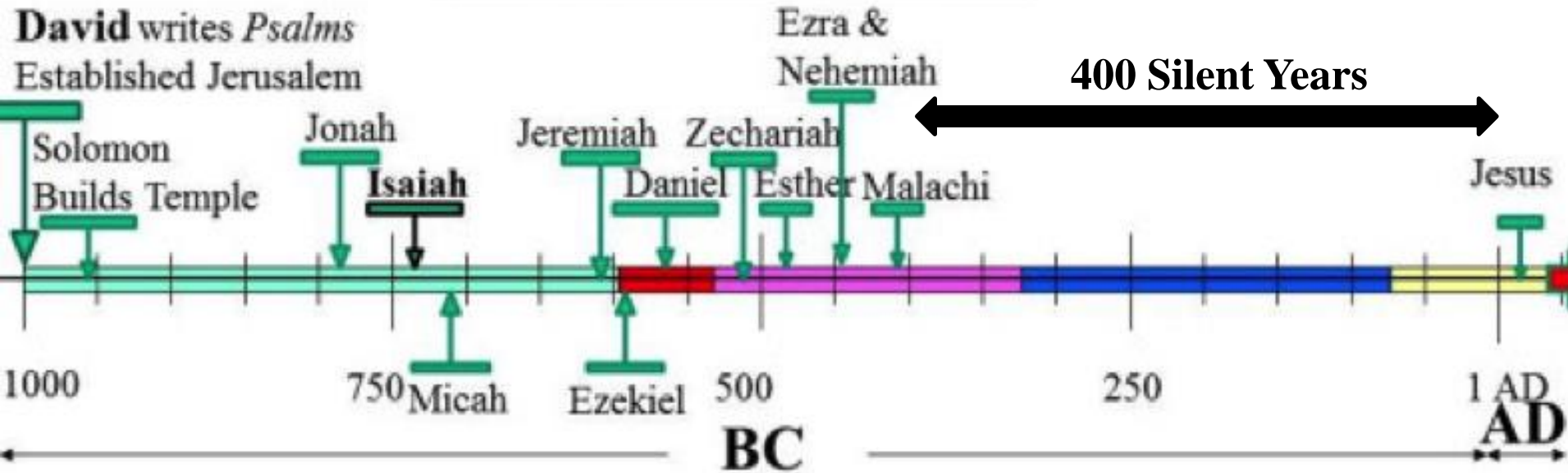
7 Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible.

8 And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts.

Introduction

A. Malachi And His Mission

Historical Timeline with Isaiah and other Old Testament prophets



- Independent Kingdom with Kings ruling from Jerusalem
- Conquered by Babylonians; lived in exile in Babylon
- Returned to Israel to live as a province within Persian Empire
- Living in Israel as a Province under Post-Alexander the Great Empires
- Living in Israel as a Province within Roman Empire
- Jerusalem destroyed by Romans in 70 AD; Jews sent into worldwide exile

Introduction

B. Malachi's First Message Is One Of God's Love (v 2)

1. This love is expressed to the lost

Romans 5:8

But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Introduction

B. Malachi's First Message Is One Of God's Love (v 2) - continued

2. This love is expressed to those straying

Jeremiah 31:3

The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee.

Isaiah 65:2

I have spread out my hands all the day unto a rebellious people, which walketh in a way that was not good, after their own thoughts;

Introduction

C. This message of love is met with disbelief (v 2)

1. At the time of Malachi

2. At the time of Christ

John 5:47

But if ye believe not his writings, how shall ye believe my words?

3. At this present time

2 Corinthians 4:4

In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

Introduction

Malachi Poses Three Questions From God

I. If I Am A Father, Where Is My Honor? (1:6)

A. “Father” = An intimate connection

Psalm 36:7

How excellent is thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

I. If I Am A Father, Where Is My Honor? (1:6)

B. How is God our father?

1. We are His offspring through Creation

Acts 17:28

For in him we live, and move, and have our being; as certain also of your own poets have said, For we are also his offspring.

2. Not all are God's spiritual children

John 8:44

Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.

I. If I Am A Father, Where Is My Honor? (1:6)

B. How is God our father? - continued

**3. We become God's spiritual children by receiving
Christ**

John 1:12

**But as many as received him, to them gave he power to
become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his
name:**

I. If I Am A Father, Where Is My Honor? (1:6)

C. We honor our heavenly Father by honoring His Son

John 5:23

That all men should honour the Son, even as they honour the Father. He that honoureth not the Son honoureth not the Father which hath sent him.

I. If I Am A Father, Where Is My Honor? (1:6)

D. We must honor our Father with our lives, not just with our lips

Mark 7:6

He answered and said unto them, Well hath Esaias prophesied of you hypocrites, as it is written, This people honoureth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.

I. If I Am A Father, Where Is My Honor? (1:6)

E. We can honor our Father with our substance

Proverbs 3:9

Honour the LORD with thy substance, and with the firstfruits of all thine increase:

Matthew 6:21

For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

II. If I Am A Master, Where Is My Fear? (1:6)

A. “Master” = a disciple’s word

Psalm 123:2

Behold, as the eyes of servants look unto the hand of their masters, and as the eyes of a maiden unto the hand of her mistress; so our eyes wait upon the LORD our God, until that he have mercy upon us.

II. If I Am A Master, Where Is My Fear? (1:6)

B. “Fear” = reverence due

Psalm 135:20

**Bless the LORD, O house of Levi: ye that fear the LORD,
bless the LORD.**

C. The disciples followed Jesus and called Him “Master”

Luke 5:5

**And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have
toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless
at thy word I will let down the net.**

II. If I Am A Master, Where Is My Fear? (1:6)

D. Paul called himself a servant

Romans 1:1

**Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle,
separated unto the gospel of God,**

E. Who is your Master?

Luke 6:46

**And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things
which I say?**

III. If You Offer Sick And Blind Animals To Sacrifice, Is It Not Evil? (1:8)

A. The priests were polluting the altar with inferior sacrifices

Psalm 51:17

The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.

III. If You Offer Sick And Blind Animals To Sacrifice, Is It Not Evil? (1:8)

**B. They did not picture the coming perfect Lamb of God
Isaiah 53:3-6**

3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief: and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

III. If You Offer Sick And Blind Animals To Sacrifice, Is It Not Evil? (1:8)

**B. They did not picture the coming perfect Lamb of God
Isaiah 53:3-6 - continued**

5 But he was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed.

6 All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all.

III. If You Offer Sick And Blind Animals To Sacrifice, Is It Not Evil? (1:8)

C. Christ was to be the perfect sacrifice

1 Peter 1:18-20

18 Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers;

19 But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:

20 Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you,

**God Has Given His Best For Us
We Ought To Give Our Best To Him**