

A MESSAGE SERIES FROM THE MINOR PROPHETS "Malachi: 3 Invitations for Advent" by Pastor Steve Durand

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¹ A prophecy: The word of the Lord to Israel through Malachi. ² "I have loved you," says the Lord. "But you ask, 'How have you loved us?' "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the Lord.

"Yet I have loved Jacob, ³ but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals."

⁴ Edom may say, "Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins." But this is what the Lord Almighty says: "They may build, but I will demolish.

They will be called the Wicked Land, a people always under the wrath of the Lord. ⁵ You will see it with your own eyes and say, 'Great is the Lord even beyond the borders of Israel!'

⁶ "A son honors his father, and a slave his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me?
If I am a master, where is the respect due me?" says the Lord Almighty.

"It is you priests who show contempt for my name. "But you ask, 'How have we shown contempt for your name?'



⁷ "By offering defiled food on my altar.
"But you ask, 'How have we defiled you?'
"By saying that the Lord's table is contemptible."

⁸ When you offer blind animals for sacrifice, is that not wrong? When you sacrifice lame or diseased animals, is that not wrong?



Try offering them to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you?" says the Lord Almighty.



⁹ "Now plead with God to be gracious to us. With such offerings from your hands, will he accept you?"—says the Lord Almighty.

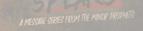


¹⁰ "Oh, that one of you would shut the temple doors, so that you would not light useless fires on my altar!



I am not pleased with you," says the Lord Almighty, "and I will accept no offering from your hands. ¹¹ My name will be great among the nations, from where the sun rises to where it sets.

In every place incense and pure offerings will be brought to me, because my name will be great among the nations," says the Lord Almighty.



¹⁷ You have wearied the Lord with your words. "How have we wearied him?" you ask.



By saying, "All who do evil are good in the eyes of the Lord, and he is pleased with them" or "Where is the God of justice?"



^{3:1} "I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple;

the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty.



¹ "Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire," says the Lord Almighty.

"Not a root or a branch will be left to them.² But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.

³ Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act," says the Lord Almighty.





1. Invitation to look back (1:2-5)

Invitation to look back (1:2-5) Invitation to look within (1:6-11)

1. Invitation to look back (1:2-5) 2. Invitation to look within (1:6-11) 3. Invitation to look ahead (2:17-3:1; 4:1-3)





Malachi 3:1

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come," says the Lord Almighty.



Malachi 4:2

But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.



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