

MALACHI: Live Fully Devoted

Lesson One • Malachi 1:1

Ancient Book, Modern Message

An Ancient Book with a Modern Message

The book of Malachi is a call to live fully DEVOTED to the Lord.

Ancient Book, Modern Message

1. Malachi the Prophet Is a MESSENGER of God!

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

Malachi the Prophet:

- Malachi's name means "MY messenger".

- Malachi's audience is ISRAEL, the people of God who had returned from exile in Babylon and were now living in Jerusalem.

- Malachi's occasion is the people were living HALF-HEARTED in their relationship with the Lord.

2. Malachi the Book Is a MESSAGE from God!

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

Malachi the Book

Malachi's message from God was a BURDEN.

Two Reasons the Message Is a Burden:

- Malachi confronts the people with their spiritual DECLINE.

God's Announcements and the People's Answers:

- 1) God announces: "I have loved you." People answer: "In what way have You loved us?" *Malachi 1:2*
- 2) God announces: "A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am the Father, where is My honor? And if I am a Master, where is My reverence?" People answer: "In what way have we despised Your name?" *Malachi 1:6*
- 3) God announces: "You offered defiled food on My altar." People answer: "In what way have we defiled You?" *Malachi 1:7*
- 4) God announces: "You have wearied the Lord with your words." People answer: "In what way have we wearied You?" *Malachi 2:17*
- 5) God announces: "Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you." People answer: "In what way shall we return?" *Malachi 3:7*
- 6) God announces: "Will a man rob God?" People answer: "In what way have we robbed You?" *Malachi 3:8*
- 7) God announces: "Your words have been harsh against Me." People answer: "What have we spoken against You?" *Malachi 3:13*

- Malachi calls the people to a sincere DEVOTION.

Malachi's Call to Live Fully Devoted:

- 1) Live fully devoted because of the CHARACTER of the Lord. *Malachi 1:2; 3:6*
- 2) Live fully devoted because of the COMING of the Lord. *Malachi 3:1-5; 4:1-3*

Our Response to Malachi

LISTEN to Malachi's message from God and EXAMINE your life whether you are living half-hearted or fully-devoted to the Lord.