

Malachi 1:6-14

Corruption: Polluted Offerings Are A Disgrace

Introduction: I Love You, But These Things I Have Against You

1. Revelation 2-3 – How Christ Speaks to the Church
2. Our Goal: I Love You, Well Done Good and Faithful Servant

Main Idea of the Text:

The worth of the Lord of hosts is higher than our religious sacrifices and worldly treasures. Only by grace through faith in Christ can we worship in spirit and truth, and thereby esteem God as our highest treasure.

The Solemn Indictment: You Have Despised My Name (v. 6a)

1. God is Our Father & Master: Relationship & Respect
2. God's Name: **(vv. 6, 11-12 (4x), 14; 2:5; 3:16; 4:2)**
3. God's Title: Lord of Hosts (Almighty) – Sovereign King over Myriads of Angels and the Nations
 - a. King of all Glory and the Lord of all Creation

The Shameful Ignorance: How? (v. 6b)

1. Possible to do religious activity and be far from God?
2. Possible to insult the Lord God in our worship?
 - a. Fail to See the Greatness of Our God
 - b. Fail to Sense the Greatness of Our God
 - c. Exchange God for the World
 - d. And still do Church Activity thinking we are pleasing God and sincerely consider ourselves true before Him
3. The people dare God to Spell out their sins: He Does!

The Sobering Illumination: Complacent, Cavalier & Contemptuous Worship (vv. 7-14)

1. The Word of the Lord told the Israelites how to approach God: **Leviticus 22**

2. The people had forgotten their privileged position: They were by grace, set apart from the world to be God's servants and children **(vv. 2, 6)**
3. The people Disregarded the Word of the Lord
 - a. Offered and the priests accepted substandard and polluted sacrifices **(vv. 7-8, 12-14)** (Inferior and Shoddy, Shabby Sacrifices)
4. The People Exchanged God's Excellence for Worldly Enjoyment **(v. 14)**
 - a. Earthly Treasure over the Treasure of Heaven (Love of Money over God)
5. The people loved praise of Men more than Pleasure of God **(vv. 8, 10)**
 - a. The sacrifices (worship) was self-pleasing
 - b. The people were bored in their worship **(vv. 12-13; 2 Timothy 4:3-4)**
 - c. Worship is consuming ourselves with the worth of God and pleasing Him
6. The priests set the tone for worship – Custodians of the Truth
 - a. Familiarity with the Truth led them to treat it as ordinary
 - b. Spiritual Insensitivity to the Truth = Disregard for and a Low View of God

The Spiritual Implication: God Will Close Shop & Move On (vv. 10-11; Acts 17:24-25, Psalm 50)

1. God does not need man's worship **(v 10)**
2. God's Name will be worshipped by others, if not them (The Gentiles) **(v 11)**

The Salvific Invocation: God Will Be Gracious (v. 9)

1. Repent of the Sin of Complacent, Cavalier, & Contemptuous Worship– God is Forgiving
2. Place Faith in the One Sacrifice that atones for sin and Satisfies and Pleases the Lord of Hosts
3. Christ Jesus: Perfect and Sinless, without Blemish
4. Jesus is the Spotless Lamb Who Provided Grace and Mercy for We Who Believe