

### **Malachi 3:16-18**

#### **Conviction or Acquittal: The Book of Remembrance**

##### **Introduction:**

1. The Bible is Realistic: Complete Truth
2. The Word looks at Life as it Truly is
3. We have a hard time seeing the reality of things
4. God's Word helps – but we still see through a glass dimly
5. God sees the Clear Picture – judges the heart, sees our motives
6. The Lord, through Malachi accuses the Arrogant of Sin – The Proud Scoff with Denials and Questions
7. The Speech of the Proud does not Confess Sin to God
8. The Proud do not See Reality: They Needed God!
9. Doing Everything “Correct” Means nothing... without knowing God (**Romans 9.6b-8, Matthew 7:21-23**)

##### **Main Idea of the Text:**

**Unlike the Wicked, the Righteous Fear God and Repent, and are Remembered and Spared by God.**

##### **The Righteous Repent and Fear God (Verses 16, 18)**

1. The Wicked do not Fear God, They Doubt Him (**Malachi 1:6, Romans 3:18**)
  - a. Fear God in Terror, Hide
  - b. Misplaced Confidence
  - c. Careless with their Words (**Malachi 3:13-14**)
2. The Righteous Fear God with Love
  - a. Desire to Be Holy, to do His Will
  - b. The Beginning of Wisdom
3. God Has a Remnant Who Fears Him – Always!
4. Characteristics of Those Who Fear the Lord
  - a. They Love Fellowship with the Righteous (**Acts 2:42-47, 4:32**)
  - b. Their Speech is About Heaven (**Malachi 4:2**)
  - c. They Esteem God's Name (**Romans 9:1-3**)
  - d. They Serve the Kingdom (**Malachi 3:18**)

### **God Remembers and Spares The Righteous (Verses 16-17)**

1. The Lord Hears and Heeds Our Conversations and Prayers
  - a. Example: The Road to Emaus
2. The Lord Marks Down Our Names and Our Deeds in His Book of Remembrance
  - a. The Lamb's Book of Life (**Rev 21:22-27, 20:15, 3:5**)
  - b. Every Act & Word of Kindness by God's Grace Will be Remembered to Your Joy and God's Glory Forever
  - c. You may Think: I have not done much... or... I have done much wickedness (**The Thief on the Cross!**)
3. The Lord Spares the Righteous From His Judgment
  - a. God is Just, Gracious & Merciful to the Humble
  - b. Those Who Fear God and Esteem His Name Escape God's Just and Holy Wrath
  - c. The Righteous are God's Jewels, Treasured Possession, His Trophies for Display in the Kingdom of God
  - d. We are Spared/Saved by God's Grace to Inherit the Riches of Heaven/Christ
  - e. WHY?

### **God Spares the Righteous: The Irony of Verse 17**

1. Jesus – Perfect, Holy, Sinless
2. Serves God Perfectly & Obediently
3. The Father does NOT Spare Him
4. To Adopt You into God's Family, The Son of God would Not be Spared
5. God is Gracious to Those of Us Who Fear the Lord!
6. **SEE Romans 8:31-39**