

CHAPTER 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.

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.

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.

9 And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us: this hath been by your means: will he regard your persons? saith the LORD of hosts.

10 Who *is there* even among you that would shut the doors *for nought*? neither do ye kindle *fire* on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the LORD of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand.

11 For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name *shall be* great

among the Gentiles; and in every place incense *shall be* offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name *shall be* great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

12 ¶ But ye have profaned it, in that ye say, The table of the LORD *is* polluted; and the fruit thereof, *even* his meat, *is* contemptible.

13 Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness *is it!* and ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; and ye brought *that which was* torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD.

14 But cursed *be* the deceiver, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing: for I *am* a great King, saith the LORD of hosts, and my name *is* dreadful among the heathen.

CHAPTER 2

AND now, O ye priests, this commandment *is* for you.

2 If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay *it* to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay *it* to heart.

3 Behold, I will corrupt your

seed, and spread dung upon your faces, *even* the dung of your solemn feasts; and *one* shall take you away with it.

4 And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

5 My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him *for* the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name.

6 The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.

7 For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he *is* the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

8 But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

9 Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.

10. Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why

do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

11 ¶ Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.

12 The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.

13 And this have ye done again, covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth *it* with good will at your hand.

14 ¶ Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because the LORD hath been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously: yet *is* she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

15 And did not he make one? Yet had he the residue of the spirit. And wherefore one? That he might seek a godly seed. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none

deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

16 For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that he hateth putting away: for *one* covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

17 ¶ Ye have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied *him*? When ye say, Every one that doeth evil *is* good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where *is* the God of judgment?

CHAPTER 3

BEHOLD, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.

2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

3 And he shall sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in *his* wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger *from his right*, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

6 For I *am* the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

7 ¶ Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept *them*. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

8 ¶ Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

9 Ye *are* cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, *even* this whole nation.

10 Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me

now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be room enough to receive it*.

11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

12 And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightful land, saith the LORD of hosts.

13 ¶ Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken *so much* against thee?

14 Ye have said, It *is* vain to serve God: and what profit *is it* that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

15 And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, *they that* tempt God are even delivered.

16 ¶ Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard *it*, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name.

17 And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.

18 Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

CHAPTER 4

FOR, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.

2 ¶ But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his

wings; and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

3 And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I shall do *this*, saith the LORD of hosts.

4 ¶ Remember ye the law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, *with* the statutes and judgments.

5 ¶ Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:

6 And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Malachi means “my messenger.” The prophecy of Malachi emphasizes the Day of the Lord, with its judgment of the wicked and the deliverance of a righteous remnant from the sinful mass of people. His immediate message deals with the sins of the priests and the people of his day. These sins form the background for his prophecies of judgment, certain to fall in the future.

In chapter 1 he points out contempt for the Temple sacrifices; in chapter 2 the unholy marriages with heathen nations. The priests were to blame for this situation, for they had allowed the people to enter into these unholy unions and had performed the marriages for them. It was no small thing to be a priest, for this was a gracious gift of God.

Verses 5-7 of chapter 2 describe the ideal priest. He fears the Lord and obeys Him; he receives His Word and teaches it; he lives what he teaches; and he

seeks to refrain from sin. But the priests of Malachi’s day actually led the people astray and defiled the holy covenant. What did God say concerning their sin? “I will curse your blessings.” This ties in with Malachi 3:9 and the lack of giving tithes and offerings. Because of the people failing to give, and because of the priests’ sinful ways, God cursed their crops. The people were poor and did not bring their offerings to the priests; therefore, the priests went hungry.

God’s people never gain by doing wrong. God has a perfect plan for our lives, if we will only submit ourselves to Him. Too many Christians today are guilty of taking things into their own hands. They are not willing to wait patiently upon the Lord.

In chapter 3 God gives instructions concerning tithes and offerings. The people had disobeyed God in this matter and when they were not faithful in their giving they not only robbed God, but they also

robbed themselves. Why? Because God punished them by withholding rain for their crops. Of course, tithing is not making a bargain with God, because the first 10% already belongs to Him. But it is robbery when we do not give Him the first 10%, and we will be punished for it. Tithing is a blessed privilege, and God has promised to bless and take care of those who are faithful in their stewardship to Him. Certainly God is not bankrupt. He wants our tithes and offerings as expressions of our faith and love to Him. When a believer's love for Jesus Christ grows, it always shows forth in his stewardship. Malachi closes his message with some wonderful promises to the faithful (chapters 3:16—4:6).

PROVERB FOR TODAY

“Excellent speech becometh not a fool: much less do lying lips a prince” (Proverbs 17:7).

TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

ASSIGNMENT 30: For today's memory verses, follow instructions on page 7.

BIRTHDAY TODAY

MILDRED SMITH

ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY

ADAM AND EVE WERE BANISHED FROM THE GARDEN OF EDEN.

Tradition says that September 30 was the day that Adam and Eve were banished from the Garden of Eden. You recall the story that caused Adam and Eve to be separated from God.

Dear friend, sin is what separates you from God. I have some friends who just recently bought a little puppy dog for their three children—a Spaniel—and you can always tell when he has done something wrong. He doesn't want to be around the father. He tucks in his tail, pulls his ears back, and goes under a chair. He doesn't want to be around the boss because he's done something wrong.

That is also true with the child of God. The Bible says, “...men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil” (John 3:19). Sin separates from God. So, let us be careful to walk with God. Let us not allow sin to come into our lives or reign over our

mortal bodies so we can have close fellowship with God. Just as it was in the Garden of Eden, even so sin will separate you from God. The reason people do not pray is because of sin. The reason people do not read their Bible is because of sin. The reason people do not walk with God is because of sin.

1846

THE FIRST USE OF ANESTHETIC.

It was used for the extraction of a tooth by Dr. Crawford Long.

GEORGE WHITEFIELD DIED.

Truly George Whitefield, a famous English preacher, was one of the greats in history. He was called the outdoor preacher. Someone said his voice carried a mile. In Combusiang, near Glasgow, he preached to 100,000 people (without a public address system, of course) and 10,000 were converted. Can you feature a man preaching to 100,000 people without a loud speaker? Feature thousands of people being converted in that one service!

It is said that many times he would come back from preaching after having been stoned while he preached, with his face splattered with blood and his skin broken all over his face. God give us preachers like that today.

It was said that Whitefield could make men weep by just pronouncing the word, “Mesopotamia.”

ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

1962

LARGE FORCE OF FEDERAL MARSHALS ESCORTED JAMES H. MEREDITH to the campus of the University of Mississippi. President Kennedy federalized the Mississippi National Guard and urged Mississippians to accept the orders of the court in a radio-TV address.

1962

UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI STUDENTS and adults from Oxford, Miss., and other Southern communities rioted on the university campus. Two persons were killed and one hundred or more were wounded.

Treasure Path to Soul-Winning

MEMORY VERSE TOPIC FOR THIS WEEK:

**EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:
SCIENTIFIC ACCURACY OF SCRIPTURES**

(Assignment 30)

Please recite all three components of each of these five verses aloud, five times each morning, and five times each evening, for seven days. The three components of each verse are: Subject, Scripture Reference, and Scripture Text. (For more details, see “The Treasure Path to Soul Winning” link back on the DailyKJV page.)

The earth a round ball. (740 B.C.)

() Isaiah 40:22

It is he that sitteth upon the circle of the earth, and the inhabitants therefore are as grasshoppers; that stretcheth out the heavens as a curtain, and spreadeth them out as a tent to dwell in.

The earth hangs out in space on nothing. (1600 B.C.)

() Job 26:7

He stretcheth out the north over the empty place, and hangeth the earth upon nothing.

Night time on one part of the globe when Christ returns.

() Luke 17:34

I tell you, in that night there shall be two men in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left.

Day time on the other part of globe when Christ returns.

() Luke 17:36

Two men shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left.

Christ holds the earth in its orbit.

() Colossians 1:17

And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. (hold together)