



The Message of Malachi (3)

Chapter two ended with two complaints from the nation:

- (1) God is blessing the wicked
- (2) Where is justice

Chapter three opens with the answer to those charges:

1. God is sending his _____ (1)
 - In Hebrew: _____ (*My messenger*)
 - refers to John the baptizer (Isa 40:3-5; Mt 11:7-15)

As a forerunner, he would prepare the way for the coming King (Mal 4:5; Jn 1:29-31)

2. God is _____ (1)

He is coming as a _____, _____, and _____

He is coming to bring justice (refiner—1 Pet 1:7; launderer—Rev 1:5)

I will draw near to you for judgment (5)

The coming of Jesus was the satisfaction for justice (1 Jn 2:1-2)

- God always _____ what is broken
- God never _____ up

3. Purify the priests (3-4; 2:1)

When impurities are removed, what is left is genuine

They will offer righteous offerings (Rom 12:1; Heb 13:5)

4. I do not change (5-6)

This is called: The _____ of God: (Heb 13:8)

One changes either for the better or the worse

- Perfect God cannot get better

- Perfect God cannot become imperfect



5. Return and I will return to you (7)

6. You are robbing God by not offering the full tithe (8-9)

7. Return and I will bless you (10-12)

"Test Me now in this..."

The windows of Heaven will be opened

Pour out a blessing (Isa 32:15; Acts 2:17, 33; 10:45)

Two Charges Against the Nation

- You are robbing God
- Your words are arrogant against God

8. Arrogant words wrapped around misunderstandings (13-15)

Why serve God when He blesses the wicked

9. God will _____ His faithful (16-18)

Questions & Lessons to See:

1. What blessing is there in knowing that God doesn't change?
2. Because God doesn't change, what ought you to learn from that?
3. In robbing God, the nation was also robbing others. How? And, they were robbing themselves. How?
4. Spiritual repentance will always include your stewardship of material blessings
5. We can draw conclusions from what we see that are not true. How do we deal with that?