

"Introductions of Malachi"

Malachi 1:1

"The burden of the word"

The author of the word

The hearer of the word

The penman of the word

Malachi

The last book of the Old Testament

A prophecy against Israel, and a reminder to any, and all of God's people.

This short book is only 4 chapters. It has a grand total of 55 verses.

The format is simple and repetitive:

God makes a statement,
Israel responds with a question,
God gives a brief explanation.

The topics of discussion:

God's love for His people.

God's anger against corrupt worship.

God's high view for marriage.

God's intent for His people to know right from wrong.

God's jealousy for His people's devotion.

God's anger against deliberately teaching false doctrine about serving Him.

1:1 – Introduction of originator, receptor, and giver of this prophecy.

1:2-5 – God proclaims His love for Israel by His own sovereign election.

Statement – I have loved you.

Question – How have you loved us?

Explanation – I have judged Esau, and blessed you, descendants of Jacob.

1:6-14 – God rebukes Israel for corrupt worship.

Statement – You priests despise my name.

Question – How have we despised your name?

Explanation – You offer polluted bread, and bring maimed animals...

2:1-16 – God rebukes Israel for belittling the sovereignty of the marriage.

Statement – You have not kept my ways but have been partial in your teaching.

Question – How are we profaning the covenant of our fathers?

Explanation – You left your first wives for heathens.

2:17-3:6 – God rebukes Israel for confusing sin and righteousness.

Statement – You have frustrated God with your teaching.

Question – How have we frustrated God?

Explanation – You say that the evil doer is good, and God is pleased with him.

3:7-12 – God rebukes Israel for selfishly withholding from Him.

Statement – You have left me and my ways.

Question – How have we gone away?

Explanation – You have robbed from me by withholding your offerings.

3:13-4:3 – God rebukes Israel for false teaching in being His people.

Statement – You have spoken boldly against me.

Question – How have we spoken so boldly?

Explanation – You have taught that serving God is vanity, and the worldly are the true success stories.

4:4-6 – Conclusion with a command, and a revelation.