

50+ Sunday School Class

All Saints Presbyterian Church
Austin, TX

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Christ in the Minor Prophets

All Saints Presbyterian Church, Austin, TX

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Winter-Spring 2020

Taught by Rev. Craig Chapman

Class Schedule – Winter/Spring 2020

New Series – Christ in the Minor Prophets

- Jan 12 – 1: *Hosea* (14)
- Jan 19 – 2: *Joel* (3)
- Jan 26* – Guest speaker: Rev. John Trapp. (9:15: Baptism Class)
- Feb 2 – 3: *Amos* (9)
- Feb 9* – Guest speaker: Rev. Jordan Griesbeck
- Feb 16* – Guest speaker: Daniel Wang
- Feb 23 – 4: *Obadiah* (1)
- Mar 1 – 5: *Jonah* (4)
- Mar 8 – 6: *Micah* (7). (9:15: Eucharist Class)
- Mar 15 – No Class (Coronavirus Crisis begins)
- Mar 22 – No Class (Spring Break)

Class Schedule – Winter/Spring 2020

New Series – Christ in the Minor Prophets

- Mar 29 – 7: *Nahum* (3)
- Apr 5 – 8: *Habakkuk* (3)
- Apr 12 – No Class (Easter)
- Apr 19 – 9: *Zephaniah* (3)
- Apr 26 – 10: *Haggai* (2)
- May 3 – 11: *Zechariah* (14)
- May 10 – No Class (Mother's Day)
- **May 17 – 12: *Malachi* (4)**
- May 24 – No Class (Memorial Day Weekend)
... stay tuned for what's next!

* - Craig away/preaching

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Introduction

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- World of Malachi
 - 12 Minor Prophets divide into
 - Pre-Exile to Babylon (9)
 - Hosea ... Joel ... Amos ... Obadiah ... Jonah ... Micah ... Nahum ... Habakkuk ... Zephaniah
 - Post-Return from Babylon (3)
 - Haggai
 - Zechariah
 - ***Malachi***

Remember from last weeks with Haggai & Zechariah

- 605/597/586 BC – Babylonian Exile began (~70 years)
- 538 BC – Persian King Cyrus decreed Jews could return ... to rebuild Jerusalem, The Temple, and to Worship God

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- World of Malachi
 - 536-520 BC – Rebuilding The Temple ceased
 - 520 BC (later part of 6th C. BC)
 - God sent Haggai ... and Zechariah
 - 516 BC – Second Temple rebuilt
 - Early 400's BC (early 5th C. BC) – Malachi
 - Exile was becoming a distant memory
 - Haggai/Zechariah's glorious vision of the future?!
 - Began to lose faith in God, His love and trustworthiness
 - Showed itself in Israel's Behavior
 - Infidelity by the people & clergy

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Worship
 - Clergy
 - Marriage
 - Tithes & Offerings

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Worship

Leviticus 22:18-20, 22

When any one of the house of Israel or of the sojourners in Israel presents a burnt offering as his offering, for any of their vows or freewill offerings that they offer to the Lord, ¹⁹ if it is to be accepted for you it shall be a male without blemish, of the bulls or the sheep or the goats. ²⁰ You shall not offer anything that has a blemish, for it will not be acceptable for you. ... ²² Animals blind or disabled or mutilated or having a discharge or an itch or scabs you shall not offer to the LORD

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Worship

Malachi 1:13

But you say, ‘What a weariness this is,’ and you snort at it, says the LORD of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the LORD. ¹⁴ Cursed be the cheat who has a male in his flock, and vows it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Clergy

Malachi 2:5-7

⁵ My covenant with [Levi] was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me. He stood in awe of my name. ⁶ True instruction [law] was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. ⁷ For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Clergy

Malachi 2:2-4, 8-9

“² If you [priests] will not listen, if you will not...give honor to my name...then...I will curse your blessings. Indeed, I have already...because you do not lay it to heart. ³ Behold, I will rebuke your offspring.... ⁴ So shall you know that I have sent this command to you, that my covenant with Levi may stand. ... ⁸ But you have turned aside from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi...⁹ and so I make you despised and abased before all the people, inasmuch as you do not keep my ways but show partiality in your instruction.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Marriage

Malachi 2:10-12

Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our fathers? ¹¹ Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. ¹² May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob any descendant of the man who does this, who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts!

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Marriage

Malachi 2:14-16

... Because the LORD was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. ¹⁵ Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. ¹⁶ “For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Message of Malachi
 - 4 Major Areas of Unfaithfulness
 - Tithes & Offerings

Malachi 3:8-9

From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’⁸ Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions.⁹ You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Israel's Response to Malachi...to God!
 - Regarding their Unfaithful Worship

Malachi 1:7

By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, ***'How have we polluted you?'***

- Regarding the Unfaithful Clergy

Malachi 1:6

...says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, ***'How have we despised your name?'***

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Israel's Response to Malachi...to God!
 - Regarding Unfaithful Tithes & Offerings

Malachi 3:8

Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ***'How have we robbed you?'***

- When God Expressed His Love for Israel

Malachi 1:2

“I have loved you,” says the LORD. But you say, ***“How have you loved us?”***

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- God Answers Back
 - Promise of Other Messengers

Malachi 3:1a

Behold, I send my messenger, and he will *prepare the way before me. ...*

Malachi 4:5-6

Behold, I will send you *Elijah* the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And *he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers...*

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- God Answers Back
 - Promise of Other Messengers

Luke 1:13, 16-17

[T]he angel said... “Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John... ¹⁶ And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the ***Lord their God***, ¹⁷ and he will ***go before him*** in the spirit and power of ***Elijah***, to ***turn the hearts of the fathers to the children***, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a ***people prepared***.”

Matthew 3:1

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, ² “***Repent***, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Jesus is the Great Messenger

- Malachi 3:1-4

Behold, I send my messenger, and he will *prepare the way before me*. And the **Lord** whom you seek will suddenly come to *his* temple; and the *messenger of the covenant* in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the **LORD**. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be **pleasing to the LORD** as in the days of old and as in former years.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 - Malachi

- Jesus is the Great Mediator & Message

- Malachi 3:1-4

Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the **Lord** whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a *refiner's fire* and like *fullers' soap*. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will *purify* the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the **LORD**. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be **pleasing to the LORD** as in the days of old and as in former years.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Jesus is the Great Mediator & Message
 - 1 John 1:7
If we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son *cleanses* us from all sin.
 - Ephesians 5:25-27
Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, ²⁶ that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, ²⁷ so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish [blameless].

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Jesus is the Great Mediator & Message
 - Malachi 4:1-2, 5

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch.

² But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ...

⁵ “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

Christ in the Minor Prophets – May 17 – Malachi

- Question:
What difference should this make on Monday?

Prayer Requests

Next Week

- May 24 – No Class (Memorial Day Weekend)