

2025_8_17 Malachi

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4. Malachi is arranged by recording six disputes between God and his people.
5. Dispute 1: God's love is questioned
6. The word of the LORD to Israel through Malachi. "I have loved you," says the LORD. Yet you ask, "How have you loved us?"
Malachi 1v1-2 (CSB)
7. Dispute 2: Israel's corrupt worship is brought to light.
8. "A son honors his father, and a servant his master. But if I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is your fear of me? says the LORD OF ARMIES TO YOU PRIESTS, WHO DESPISE MY NAME."
9. Yet you ask, "How have we despised your name?" "By presenting defiled food on my altar." "How have we defiled you?" you ask. When you say, "The LORD's table is contemptible."
Malachi 1v6-7 (CSB)
10. Dispute 3: Betrayal in the covenant of marriage.
11. This is another thing you do. You are covering the LORD's altar with tears, with weeping and groaning, because he no longer respects your offerings or receives them gladly from your hands.
12. And you ask, "Why?" Because even though the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, you have acted treacherously against her. She was your marriage partner and your wife by covenant.
13. Didn't God make them one and give them a portion of spirit? What is the one seeking? Godly offspring. So watch yourselves carefully, so that no one acts treacherously against the wife of his youth.

14. "If he hates and divorces his wife," says the LORD God of Israel, "he covers his garment with injustice," says the LORD of Armies. Therefore, watch yourselves carefully, and do not act treacherously.

Malachi 2v13-16 (CSB)

15. Dispute 4: Where is the God of justice?

16. You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you ask, "How have we wearied him?" When you say, "Everyone who does what is evil is good in the LORD's sight, and he is delighted with them, or else where is the God of justice?"

Malachi 2v17 (CSB)

17. Dispute 5: You have robbed God.

18. "Since the days of your ancestors, you have turned from my statutes; you have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the LORD OF ARMIES.

19. Yet you ask, "How can we return?" "Will a man rob God? Yet you are robbing me!" "How do we rob you?" you ask. "By not making the payments of the tenth and the contributions."

Malachi 3v7-8 (CSB)

20. Dispute 6: It is useless to serve God.

21. "Your words against me are harsh," says the LORD. Yet you ask, "What have we spoken against you?" You have said, "It is useless to serve God.

22. What have we gained by keeping his requirements and walking mournfully before the LORD of Armies? So now we consider the arrogant to be fortunate. Not only do those who commit wickedness prosper, they even test God and escape."

Malachi 3v13-15 (CSB)

23. Look, I am going to send you the prophet Elijah before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers.

Malachi 4v5-6 (CSB)

24. Our trust issues can't stop God's promises.

25. Where are you silencing the convicting voice of God to save you?

26. Where are you giving God your leftovers?

27. Where are you doubting God's justice?

28. Where is Jesus asking you to further surrender to his will?

29. Our trust issues can't stop God's promises.