

The Uncommon Gaze of Yahweh

Definitions

Divine-

theíos (thi'-os) Adjective. What is **uniquely** God's and that which **proceeds** from him.
An attribute of God such as his power. Not His essence.

*“Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think that the **divine** nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of man.”*

Acts 17:29

Glory-

In the New Testament: *doxa* noun. From the root word, *dokéō*, meaning to think, imagine, or consider. Therefore, *doxa*, Glory, is **opinions** or **thoughts**. The glory (opinion and thoughts) of a man are shifty and uncertain.

- When speaking about God's Glory is His **unchanging** essence. It is His fixed **thoughts**, opinions, plans, and desires.

*“for all have sinned and fall short of the **glory** of God”*

Romans 3:23

- This is stating that at one point, we all had the wrong form and were not as Abba created us to be. We lacked a proper perspective of his **image** and **character**. We are growing into his *Doxa*, his opinions, thoughts, and plans for us.

Mirror translation states- *Mankind's... distorted behavior is proof of a lost blueprint.*

In the Old Testament, Glory (*kabowd*), refers to the revelation of God's **person**, **nature**, and **presence** to mankind.

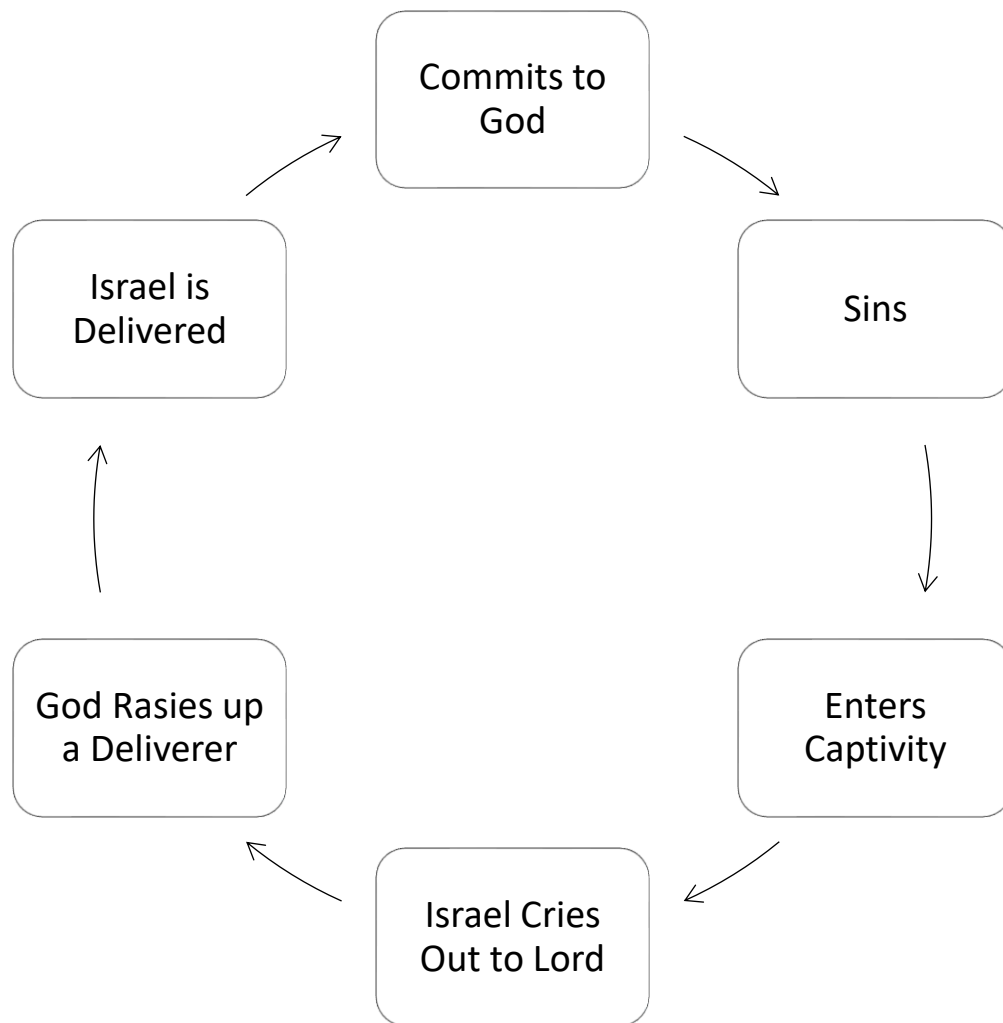
Holy-

Qodesh noun. Consecrated. Set aside for sacred use.

- Holy originates from God, as He is **other**, unique. None like Him.
- When God made something holy by consecrating it, **WAS NOT TO BE USED FOR COMMON USE.**

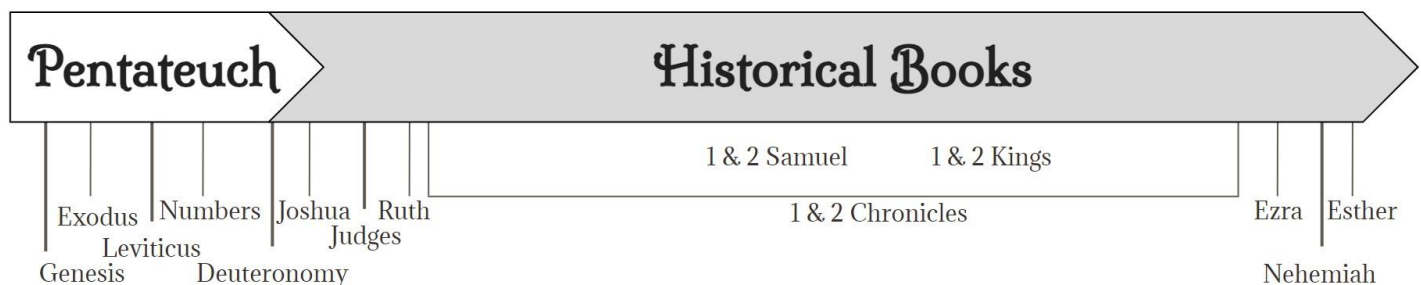
(If used in a common way, it would be considered **profane**.)

Israel's Cycle of Sin-

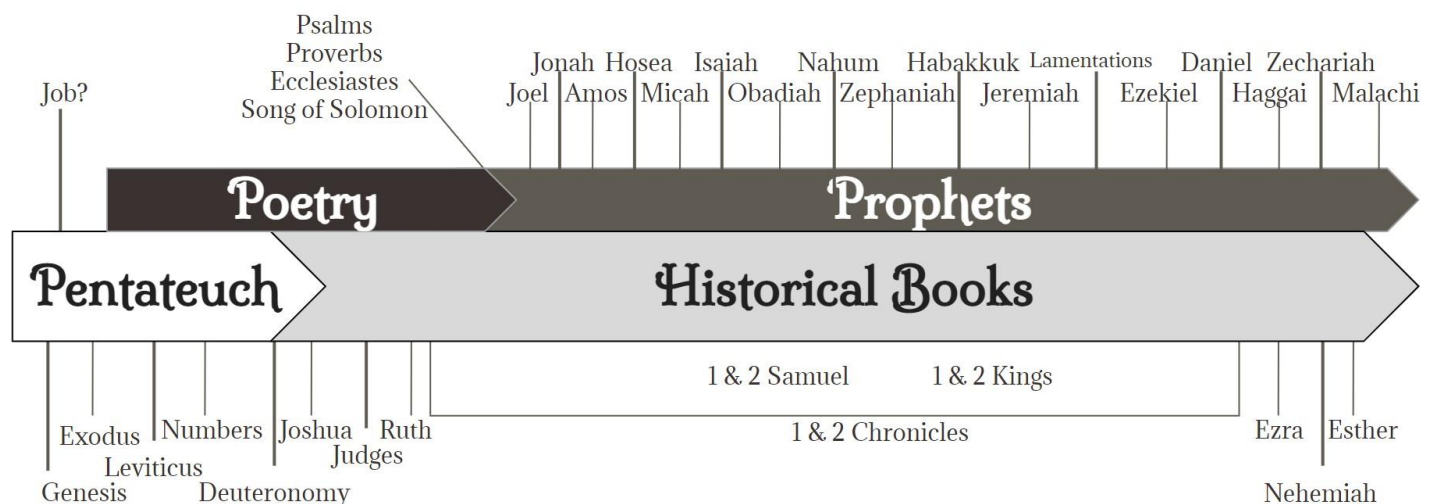


The Law (Pentateuch)	Historical	Poetry	Prophets	
Genesis Exodus Leviticus Numbers Deuteronomy	Joshua Judges Ruth 1 Samuel 2 Samuel 1 Kings 2 Kings 1 Chronicles 2 Chronicles Ezra Nehemiah Esther	Job Psalms Proverbs Ecclesiastes Song of Solomon	Major Isaiah Jeremiah Lamentations Ezekiel Daniel	Minor Hosea Joel Amos Obadiah Jonah Micah Nahum Habakkuk Zephaniah Haggai Zachariah Malachi

Old Testament Timeline



Poetry and Prophets added



The Patriarchs

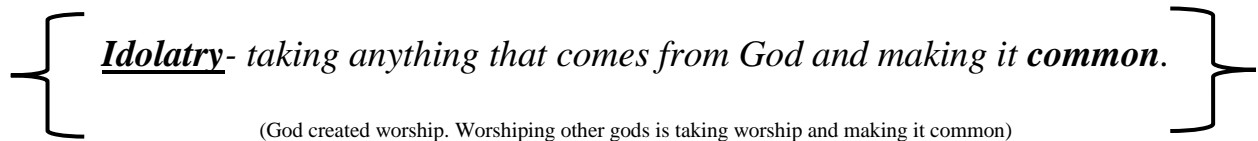
Beginning

Adam and Eve

Original Intent- God purpose was to have **face-to-face** communion with humanity.

- Adam and Eve, their call, and their commission was **Holy** and **Divine**.
- They walked fully in the Glory (the person, nature, and presence) of Yahweh

Original Sin- Adam and Eve treated the instruction of God as common. They brought the words of Abba **down** to the level of the words of the serpent.

**Idolatry**- *taking anything that comes from God and making it **common**.*
(God created worship. Worshiping other gods is taking worship and making it common)

The next generation after Adam and Eve continued into sin. (See Gen 4)

- Notice- What one generation treats as **common**, the following generations **disregard**.

This began the cycle of Sin (making God's divine invitation common)

Days of Noah

After 10 generations, there is only **one** family on the Earth that is righteous- Noah's.

The flood- Humanity gets a fresh start. Abba commits- *"And as for Me, behold, I establish My covenant with you and with your descendants after you..."*

However, the next generation fall back into the cycle of sin (making the holy, common; See Gen 9:18-29)

After 10 more generations there is **none** found righteous. Humanity has spiraled into complete depravity. So, Abba chooses one man to **establish** His Divine plan through one **family**.

The Patriarchs

Abraham-

Was given a **holy, divine**, uncommon call and promise. The promise of a **relationship** with Abba.

But, even Abraham treated Abba's call as common. Took the promise of a son and gave it to a servant.

Perhaps, Abraham should have been **content** to never see the promise fulfilled, before giving something so precious to someone **other** than his wife.

Isaac-

Became the first father to **bless** the next generation. (Genesis 27)

Jacob and Esau-

Esau	Jacob
Was in line for the Holy, divine, uncommon promise God gave to Abraham. By birthright, Christ was supposed to come through Esau's line. Yet, he sold the historic promise for a bowl of red stew. This changed his identity . (Gen 25:29-34)	was a conniver and struggled everyone he encountered. Yet, when he had a holy encounter with God, he refused to treat the moment as common (Gen 28; 32).
Identity was changed to Edom, meaning red , for he sold his birth right for a bowl of red stew. He, and his descendants, were identified by his decision to make the uncommon, common.	Identity was changed to Israel , which means- "Strives with God," or "May God preserve." Jacob, and his descendants, were identified by his decision to honor the holy call and encounters from God.

*What one generation treats as **common**, the following generations **disregard**.*

*What one generation treats as **holy**, brings **honor** to following generations.*

Kingdom Period

After 400 years of enslavement, and the Exodus, Israel is in the at Mount Sinai (Horeb). Here Abba wants to meet with the covenant people that He loves.

Exodus 19

*Vs 4-6 'Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall **be a special treasure to Me above all people**; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me **a kingdom of priests and a holy nation**...*

*Vs 8, 10-11 all the people answered together and said, "**All that the LORD has spoken we will do.**" Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go to the people and **consecrate** them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their clothes... For on the third day **the LORD will come down** upon Mount Sinai **in the sight** of all the people.*

*Vs 16 Then it came to pass on the third day, in the morning, that there were thunderings and lightnings, and a thick cloud on the mountain; and the sound of the trumpet was very loud, so **that all the people who were in the camp trembled.***

*Vs 17-19 And Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet with God, and **they stood at the foot of the mountain.** ¹⁸ Now Mount Sinai was completely in smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire.... Moses spoke, and God answered him by voice.*

Exodus 20

*Vs 18-21 Now all the people witnessed the thunderings, the lightning flashes... when the people saw it, **they trembled and stood afar off**... they said to Moses, "**You speak with us, and we will hear; but let not God speak with us, lest we die.**" ... So the people **stood afar off**, but Moses **drew near** the thick darkness where God was."*

Exodus 21-31 Moses spends time with God. The people stay far away from the Mountain.

Exodus 32 Aaron and the people use the spoils of Egypt to create a golden calf.

Exodus 33

*vs 15-18 "If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here. For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight.... So we shall be **separate**, Your people and I, from all the people... of the earth." LORD ... "I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and **I know you by name.**" And he said, "Please, **show me Your glory.**"*

Kingdom Period

God desired relationship with his covenant people. To have a kingdom of priests. But, the people stood far away out of fear. Moses ran **towards** the smoke and fire. The people ran **away**. Moses saw the **Glory** of God. The people created their own **God**. Moses became a **benchmark** for all future prophets and priests. The people set a **foundation** of idolatry for their descendants.

*What one generation fears and treats as **common**, the following generations never have the chance to **experience**.*

Joshua

Joshua leads the people into the promise land. At the end of his life, after 25 years of conquest, he commissions the people.

Joshua 25: 15, 24, 28- *If it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for **me and my house, we will serve the LORD.**” ...the people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and His voice we will obey!” So Joshua let the people depart, each to **his own inheritance**.*

Two points to notice from Joshua’s charge-

1. Household responsibility. Each household was **commissioned** to behold the Glory of God. This was the charge of Joshua and it is what Israel **committed** to.
2. King or No King? God gives instructions in Numbers for how a king should act. But, at the end of Joshua’s life, no king is established. God wanted to be the **King** of Israel. With each tribe and **household** seeking His presence and call. This is what is attempted in Judges.

Judges

The Lord leads Israel through different Judges. However, the **downward** cycle of sin is too much for the people to handle. With each cycle of sin, the bar for righteousness continued to **lower**. Othniel’s Israel was far more righteous than Sampson’s Israel.

Judges 21:25- *In those days there was no king in Israel; **everyone did what was right in his own eyes**.*

Kingdom Period

Through presence and divine wisdom, God ushers in a golden Kingdom Age.

- God establishes a kingdom under David, a man after **His Own Heart**. Not perfect, but desired **ONE THING**.
- Solomon starts off better than any before him. Yet, at the end of his life he makes the Holy, Divine things **common**.

Due to Solomon's idolatry, God splits the kingdom into two. Judah followed David's line. Israel who never had a consistent lineage.

THE KINGS OF JUDAH & ISRAEL

FROM 1 & 2 KINGS

KINGS OF JUDAH

REHOBOAM	930-913 BC	17 YRS
ABIJAH	913-910 BC	3 YRS
ASA	910-869 BC	41 YRS
JEHOSHAPHAT	872-848 BC	25 YRS
JEHORAM	848-841 BC	7 YRS
AHAZIAH	841 BC	1 YR
ATHALIAH	841-835 BC	7 YRS
JOASH	835-796 BC	40 YRS
AMAZIAH	796-767 BC	29 YRS
AZARIAH	792-740 BC	52 YRS
JOTHAM	750-735 BC	16 YRS
AHAZ	735-715 BC	16 YRS
HEZEKIAH	715-686 BC	29 YRS
MANASSAH	697-642 BC	55 YRS
AMON	642-640 BC	2 YRS
JOSIAH	640-609 BC	31 YRS
JEHOAHAZ	609 BC	3 MTHS
JEHOIAKIM	609-598 BC	11 YRS
JEHOIACHIN	598-597 BC	3 MTHS
ZEDEKIAH	597-586 BC	11 YRS

JUDAH EXILED BY BABYLON (586 BC)

KINGDOM DIVIDES (922 BC)

KINGS OF ISRAEL

JEROBOAM I	930-909 BC	22 YRS
NADAB	909-908 BC	2 YRS
BAASHA	908-886 BC	24 YRS
ELAH	886-885 BC	2 YRS
ZIMRI	885 BC	7 DAYS
TIBNI	885-880 BC	5 YRS
OMRI	885-874 BC	11 YRS
AHAB	874-853 BC	21 YRS
AHAZIAH	853-852 BC	1 YR
JORAM	852-841 BC	11 YRS
JEHU	841-814 BC	28 YRS
JEHOAHAZ	814-798 BC	17 YRS
JEHOASH	798-782 BC	16 YRS
JEROBOAM II	793-753 BC	41 YRS
ZECHARIAH	753 BC	6 MTHS
SHALLUM	752 BC	1 MTH
MENAHEM	752-742 BC	10 YRS
PEKAHIAH	742-740 BC	2 YRS
PEKAH*	752-732 BC	20 YRS
HOSHEA	732-722 BC	9 YRS

ISRAEL ASSIMILATED BY ASSYRIA (722 BC)

KEY

- "Did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, as his father David had done."
- "Did what was right in the eyes of the Lord, but not as his father David had done." (i.e. completely rid the land of idolatry)
- "Did what was evil in the eyes of the Lord."

* Pekah's 20-year reign presumably includes a period of rule as rival to Menahem.

Kingdom Period

Elijah and Elisha

Elijah lived in the darkest, most profane time of the Kingdom of Israel. Elijah prepared the they in two significant areas.

1. He patterned what it meant to be a **spiritual** father. When he was taken up to heaven, Elisha cried, “My Father, My Father!”
2. He prepared the way so that the next generation could fulfill their **destiny**. Elisha and Jehu took up his cause and eradicated the idolatry in the land.

{ Elijah became a symbol of one who treated the divine call as **uncommon** and **glorious**. So, the next generation could do the same and more. }

Captivity

Israel and Judah continue in the cycle of idolatry. In 722 BC, Israel falls to Assyria. They are spread through the world. In 586 BC, Judah falls the Babylonian empire. They are taken into captivity. In 536 BC the Persians conquer the Babylonians.

During this time, Daniel, the three Hebrew boys, refuse to make the **commandments** of God common. They rise into a place of **influence** that secures the safety and future of the Israelites.

Return and restoration of Temple

With the permission of the Persian empire, Ezra and Nehemiah lead many Israelites back to Israel. The restore the walls, **temple**, and the worship/festivals of God. This is a pivotal point in Israel’s history. They had the chance to prove that they **learned** their lesson from the exile period. That they had turned their hearts back to God. This is the end of the Old Testament historical record. The people once again **commit** their ways to God.

Malachi

What was Israel's Sin?

- They treated Holy things as **common**.
- They disregarded the Holy, **Divine** call into Yahweh's Glory.
- They continued to put other **lovers** before their Holy relationship with Yahweh.
- Refused to make each **household** a place that carried Yahweh's Presence.
- They made the beautiful, Holy, Divine **invitation** into face-to-face lifestyle, a common thing.

Nothing can be brought up to Yahweh's **level**. However, when His divine call or instruction is brought down to **human** level, that idolatry. Israel failed to **recognize** the weight of Yahweh's invitation. This led to them placing other god's before him.

Malachi

Written anywhere from 30 to 100 years after the rededication of the temple. Yahweh confronts Israel. Their actions show- the exile did not work. They had stepped back into the cycle of idolatry. This is the final words of Yahweh before 400 years of silence. It is important recognize the weight of this work. As you read Yahweh's word, hear them from the perspective of a **Father, Lover, and Friend**.

Much of Malachi acts as a discourse between Yahweh and the people of Israel.

Yahweh's Love

Yahweh's First Words- *"I have loved you," v2*

Can you hear the **heartbreak** of a Father? ...a Lover...? A Friend?

Through all that Israel had been through, the betrayal, the sin, the idolatry. Through good and bad times- Yahweh's Love **never** wavered.

Malachi

Yahweh may have remembered the promise He made to his friend Abraham. How **painful** it must have been to watch His friends' children continually break His heart

Hear His voice as he holds back tears- My children, my bride, my friends... I have always loved you.

Israel's Response: *In what way have You **loved** us? v2*

How could this be the response? With a history that included- The Patriarchs, Exodus miracles, King David, Elijah, continual provision...?

God's presence had become so common that they became **entitled**. They thought they deserved more because of **birthright** alone. They forgot their relationship was due to a divine **invitation** into personal relationship.

Yahweh's answer: *I chose Jacob. 1:2-3 (read)*

God's promise was to Abraham. Esau was heir, but God chose Jacob. He speaks about the sin of the Edomites. His point is that there is no difference between the **actions** of the two families. Yet, God **chose** the Israelites. That is His love on **display**. He essentially says, "I come against the Edomites for their sins, But I continually come to your aid when you sin."

Israel makes Worship Common (Abba's Heart)

Yahweh asks- *Where is my reverence? Vs 6*

Israel's Response: *In what way have we despised Your name? vs 6*

Yahweh's answer: *[You people say]- The table of the LORD is to be despised.... you offer the blind, lame, and sick as a sacrifice, Is it not evil? [if not] Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?" You profane my name.*

Israel Sneers and Says: *'The table of the LORD is defiled; And its fruit, its food, is worthless.' 'Oh, what a weariness!'*

The Lord confronts Israel on their idolatry. They respond with no remorse. In fact, they mock the Lord. Beyond this, the priests, who should be leading the people into presence.

Malachi

Yahweh Says- *If you will not hear, and take it to heart, To give glory to My name, [then] I will send a curse upon you... I will rebuke your descendants. 2:1-3*

Remember- What one generation fears and treats as **common**, the following generations never have the chance to **experience**.

The dishonor and actions of the people reflects the **inactions** of the priests. Blessing and honor **flows** from the top, downwards.

Israel Breaks Marriage Covenant (Bridegroom's Heart)

Yahweh uses the **marriage** covenant as a picture of how Israel has **treated** Him. They have broken the covenant in two ways.

1. They **married** foreign women.

*Judah has dealt treacherously, And an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem, For Judah has profaned The LORD's **holy institution** which He loves: He has married the daughter of a foreign god. 2:11*

Practically, this was against the law. It was also a downfall of the past generations, beginning with Solomon. However, this also acts as a picture of the idolatry of Israel. They have married themselves to foreign gods.

2. They were not **faithful** to their wives. Vs 14-15

Yahweh condemns them for their **infidelity**. This is also a picture of His relationship with them. He tells them that in marriage- *two become one spirit because they seek godly offspring*. That was how he viewed Israel and Himself. As one spirit who were seeking Godly **offspring**.

The twist- God is the one who is being cheated on, as Israel consistently served other **gods**.. Yet, *God hates divorce (vs 16)*. So, he will not leave them, even though they have been **unfaithful**.

Malachi

Israel Robs God (Spirit's Heart)

Yahweh says: *Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me!*

Israel's Response: *'In what way have we robbed You?'*

Yahweh says: *You are cursed with a curse, For you have robbed Me, Even this whole nation. Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, That there may be food in My house, And try Me now in this,"*

Why does He want them to partner with Him, with the tithe?

Because He wants to... *open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing That there will not be room enough to receive it...rebuke the devourer for your sakes, So that he will not destroy the fruit of your ground, Nor shall the vine fail to bear fruit for you in the field,"*
He wants...all nations will call you blessed, For you will be a delightful land.

He desires to see is unfaithful people become **restored**.

Can you see the heartfelt cry of the Trinity in conversation? **Abba** cries out His children- come back to my presence. Restore intimate, proper worship. **Jesus** cries out to his bride- I won't divorce you. Come back home and leave the foreign idols. Restore our marriage covenant. **Holy Spirit** cries out to his friends- stop robbing me. If you will only partner with me, the nations will call you blessed.

Malachi is one final petition to the chosen people of Yahweh.

What was the response of the people?

- *They sneer at the Name of the Lord 1:13*
- *"Everyone who does evil Is good in the sight of the LORD, And He delights in them," and, "Where is the God of justice?" 2:17*
- *It is useless to serve God; What profit is it that we have kept His ordinance, And that we have walked as mourners Before the LORD of hosts? So now we call the proud blessed, For those who do wickedness are raised up; They even tempt God and go free.'" 3:14-15*

Malachi

The Children, Brides, and Friends of Yahweh mock His appeals.

So... He turns His attention to the future

- He keeps a Book of Remembrance of those who fear the Lord and meditate on His name.
- He promises a future when He will bring justice and purification to the land
- He promises that Elijah will come to prepare the way
- And, the hearts of Fathers and children will be turn towards each other.

The Prophetic Ending

3:4- **“Remember the Law of Moses, My servant, Which I commanded him in Horeb (Sinai) for all Israel, With the statutes and judgments.**

Yes, this spoke of keeping the Law. But, recall the **invitation** of that story- Yahweh wanted a Kingdom of priest. He wanted them **close** to Him, so he could **speak** to them.

3:5- **Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet Before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.**

What did Elijah do while on earth? He **fathered** the next generation. And, he **prepared** the way so that the next generation could fulfill their **destiny**.

3:6- **And he will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, And the hearts of the children to their fathers, Lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”**

The spirit of Elijah will not only make fathers love and care for their children, but fathers will bring the presence of the Yahweh back to the **homes**. Remember Joshua’s commission- each **household** must choose. If each **generation** does not properly steward the divine invitation to encounter Yahweh’s glory, and bring the next generation with them, then all of humanity will be in the place Israel was in Malachi. Then, the Lord will have to strike the earth.

Malachi tells us- The future is to be driven by a personal relationship with Yahweh.

Malachi

What does this mean for us?

We have been given a Divine called to a live Holy life that seeks the face of God.

⁷ But if the ministry of death, written and engraved on stones, was glorious, so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of the glory of his countenance, which glory was passing away, ⁸ how will the ministry of the Spirit not be more glorious? ⁹ For if the ministry of condemnation had glory, the ministry of righteousness exceeds much more in glory. ¹⁰ For even what was made glorious had no glory in this respect, because of the glory that excels. ¹¹ For if what is passing away was glorious, what remains is much more glorious.

2 Corinthians 3:7-11

We have all been given an uncommon invitation- to stare into the Uncommon Gaze of Yahweh. Can you hear your Father, Lover, and Friend saying- *I love you.*

One day we will stand before Him. Will we be able today we treated Hic uncommon call as Divine and Holy?

For one day we will all be openly revealed before Christ on his throne so that each of us will be duly recompensed for our actions done in life, whether good or worthless."

2 Corinthians 5:10

Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

Romans 14:10-12

Should our hearts cry not continually echo Moses's words?

"Please show me your glory."