

The Return on Obedience

Malachi 3:13-4:6

The Bottom Line: Be faithful until the day when our life of faith is vindicated before God and all humanity.

Introduction:

Have you ever reminisced on the final words spoken by a loved one?

Today, we arrive at the final words that God will speak to His beloved children for over four hundred years.

The ideas contained in the final portion of Malachi's prophecy seem to provide a summary of what has been spoken all throughout the book.

Truth:

In our passage this morning, we see both a firm warning and a final push for Israel to submit to the Lord and His word. Look with me at Malachi 3:13-4:6.							

Application & Conclusion:

Just as Israel was called to look to their forefathers, so the author of Hebrews tells us to remember ours. However, as we run the race before us, remembering those who came before us, we are instructed to look to Christ Jesus who is the author and perfector of our faith (rf. Hebrews 12:1-2).

Look back at Christ. Look forward to Christ. Remember the love and joy of Christ who bore the cross and calls you His treasured possession.

"Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up" (Galatians 6:9).

"Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain" (1 Corinthians 15:58).

Reflection Questions:

1. What does this teach me about God?

2. What does this teach me about me?

3. How do I apply this to my life?