



SERIES: MAY- JULY: THE MAIN THING

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Scripture: Malachi

TITLE: Malachi – Live Like It

On a recent ministry trip, my family had the pleasure of spending time with someone who was almost 100 years old. What a rich perspective to learn from. My kids were able to ask questions about the past and the rapid pace of change. And today, we're living history. Changes are occurring faster than ever. But if there's one thing we, as the people of God, should know is that God does not change. And that is why we should study the Book of Malachi.

Malachi, a prophet in the days of Nehemiah, directs his message of condemnation to the Jewish nation with corrupt priests, wicked practices, and a false sense of security in their privileged relationship with God. In a unique question-and-answer exchange, Malachi probes deeply into their problems of hypocrisy, infidelity, mixed marriages, divorce, false worship, and arrogance.¹

The book was written between 450-430 B.C. And though it is only 4 chapters long, it delivers a powerful reminder that God's ways are best. When we stray from His ways, there is a cost in our relationship with God and with each other.

Is Christ found in the Book of Malachi? We get a unique picture of Christ and the one who would prepare His way. Malachi 4:2 describes Jesus as the Sun of Righteousness. And then, in Malachi 3:1 (CSB), we get a prediction of John the Baptist, who would prepare the way of the Lord 400 years in the future. Malachi writes,

“See, I am going to send my messenger, and he will clear the way before me. Then the Lord you seek will suddenly come to his temple, the Messenger of the covenant you delight in—see, he is coming,” says the LORD of Armies.”

So, what's the main thing from the Book of Malachi? It's live like it. Live like a child of God.

And that's my challenge for you today. Live like a child of God. Live like a follower of Christ. Malachi 3:3-4 says,

“He will be like a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver. Then they will present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. And the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will please the LORD as in days of old and years gone by.”

We know that we are saved by grace through faith. Our works don't save us. And our actions reveal the true condition of our hearts. The book of Malachi is a final rebuke before 400 years of

¹ Bruce Wilkinson and Kenneth Boa, [Talk Thru the Bible](#) (Nashville: T. Nelson, 1983), 295.

silence from God. As the children of God, we are to act like children of the King. Paul would declare that we are a new creation in Christ. Therefore, we should act like it.

When we live like God's children, we will win the day.