

MINISTRY OF MALACHI
MESSIAH AND HIS FORERUNNER
(Malachi 3:1-18)

- I. God's MESSENGERS (Mal. 3:1-6)
 - A. The forerunner: JOHN THE BAPTIST (3:1*a*; cf. Mt. 3:3; 11:10; Mk. 1:2-3; Lk. 1:76; 3:4; 7:26-27; Jn. 1:23)
 - B. The “messenger of the covenant”: JESUS CHRIST (3:1*b*-5)
 - 1. He will be GOD in the FLESH (3:1*b*)
 - 2. He will PURIFY His people (3:2-4)
 - 3. He will JUDGE the wicked (3:5)
 - 4. He will KEEP His WORD (3:6)

- II. God's POSSESSIONS (Mal. 3:7-12)
 - A. Israel's ROBBERY of God (3:7-9)
 - 1. God accuses them of CONSTANT REBELLION
 - 2. God issues a call to REPENTANCE and RESTORATION
 - 3. Israel was ROBBING in TITHES and OFFERINGS
 - 4. Israel incurred God's CURSE
 - B. God's RICHES for blessing (3:10-12)

1. It is available to the REPENTANT and OBEDIENT
2. It is available in great ABUNDANCE
3. It is transmitted through MUNDANE means
4. All nations will ACKNOWLEDGE God's blessing

III. God's SERVANTS (Mal. 3:13-18)

A. The FAITHLESS (3:13-15)

1. God charged them with ARROGANCE against HIM
2. They said SERVING God was USELESS
3. They concluded there was more PROFIT in REBELLION

B. The FAITHFUL (3:16-18)

1. There were some who "FEARED the LORD...and ESTEEM His name"
2. He RECORDS their names FOREVER
3. He promises, "They will BE MINE"
4. He promises they will be SPARED

IV. Lessons

- A. Jesus Christ is GOD in the FLESH
- B. God offers FORGIVENESS to the REPENTANT
- C. God's PEOPLE must give GENEROUSLY to the LOCAL CHURCH