



Malachi

Background

- Nothing is known about Malachi's family, birthplace, or background. He likely prophesied after the time of Nehemiah, sometime between 425-400 BC.
- His name means "Messenger." As the last of the Old Testament prophets, he is the final messenger until the forerunner and the Messiah. He prophesies of both.
- The book of Malachi is the link between the reformed, revived Judaism of Nehemiah's time and the dead, legalistic Judaism of Jesus' time.
- 400 years of silence, known as the "Intertestamental period," follow the final recorded words of Malachi.

Roadmap

1. God's Conversation with Religious Rebels (1:1-3:15)

- A. "You doubt my love" (1:2-5)
- B. "You dishonor my name" (1:6-2:9)
- C. "You profane my covenant" (2:10-16)
- D. "You challenge my justice" (2:17-3:6)
- E. "You steal my offerings" (3:7-12)
- F. "You question my goodness" (3:13-15)

2. God's Compassion on the Righteous Remnant (3:16-4:6)

Landmark

Malachi reveals that apathy appalls God. He charges the people with six serious crimes. They respond with an incredulous, "Wherein?" He patiently provides the proof and calls them to repentance.

Must See

Christ is the "Sun of righteousness" with healing in His wings (4:2).

Takeaway

1. All unfaithfulness begins with questioning God's love.
2. God is watching our worship.
3. Dead worship leads to disobedient living.
4. Christ is the cure to the curse of sin.