

## MALACHI

## Chapter 1

1 ¶ The burden of the word of the LORD to Israel by Malachi.

*Jacob and Esau*

2 ¶ “I have loved you,” says the LORD. “Yet you say, ‘How have You loved us?’ Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” says the LORD. “Yet <sup>b</sup>I loved Jacob,

3 “and I hated Esau. And I <sup>c</sup>laid waste his mountains and his heritage for the jackals of the wilderness.”

4 Though Edom has said, “We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places,” thus says the LORD of armies: “They will build, but I will <sup>d</sup>throw down. And they will call them, ‘The Territory of Wickedness,’ and ‘The people against whom the LORD has indignation forever.’

5 “And your eyes will see and you will say, <sup>e</sup>“Great is the Lord beyond the border of Israel.’

*Rebuke of Religious Leaders*

6 ¶ ““A son <sup>f</sup>honors his father and a servant his master. <sup>g</sup>If then I am a father, where is My honor? And if I am a master, where is My reverence?” says the LORD of armies to you priests who despise My name. <sup>h</sup>And you say, ‘In what have we despised Your name?’

7 “You offer <sup>i</sup>defiled food on My altar. And you say, ‘In what have we defiled You?’ In that you say, ‘The <sup>j</sup>table of the LORD is contemptible.’

8 “And <sup>k</sup>if you offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? And if you offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? Offer it now to your governor. Will he be pleased with you, or <sup>l</sup>accept you favorably?” says the LORD of armies.

9 “But now entreat God’s favor so that He may be gracious to us. <sup>m</sup>With such an offering on your part, will He show favor to any of you?” says the LORD of armies.

10 “Who is there even among you who will shut the doors <sup>n</sup>so that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain? I have no pleasure in you,” says the LORD of armies, <sup>o</sup>“nor will I accept an offering from your hands.

11 “For <sup>p</sup>from the rising of the sun even to the going down of the same My name will be great <sup>q</sup>among the Gentiles. And <sup>r</sup>in every place <sup>s</sup>incense will be offered to My name and a pure offering. <sup>t</sup>For My name will be great among the nations,” says the LORD of armies.

12 “But you have profaned it, in that you say, <sup>u</sup>“The table of the LORD is defiled, and its fruit, even its food, is contemptible.’

13 “You also said, ‘Behold, what a

Chapter 1: a Dt 4:37; 7:8; 23:5 b Rm 9:13 c Jr 49:18 d Jr 49:16-18 e Ps 35:27 f Ex 20:12 g Lk 6:46 h Mt 2:14 i Dt 15:21 j Ez 41:22 k Lv 22:22 l Jb 42:8 m Hs 13:9 n 1 Co 9:13 o Is 1:11 p Is 59:19 q Is 60:3,5 r 1 Tm 2:8 s Rv 8:3 t Is 66:18,19 u Mt 1:7

“weariness *it is.*” And you have disdainfully sniffed at it,” says the LORD of armies. “And you bring the stolen, the lame and the sick. Thus you bring an offering. “Should I accept this from your hands?” says the LORD.

**14** “But cursed *is* the <sup>s</sup>deceiver who has in his flock a male, and vows and sacrifices to the Lord <sup>y</sup>what is blemished. For <sup>z</sup>I *am* a great King,” says the LORD of armies, “and My name *is* feared among the nations.”

## Chapter 2

### Admonition to the Priests

**1** ¶ “And now, O you <sup>a</sup>priests, this commandment *is* for you.

**2** <sup>b</sup>“If you will not hear, and if you will not take *it* to heart to give glory to My name,” says the LORD of armies, “I will even send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them <sup>c</sup>already because you do not take *it* to heart.

**3** “Behold, I will rebuke your seed and spread <sup>d</sup>refuse on your faces, *even* the refuse of your offerings. Then *one* will <sup>e</sup>take you away with it.

**4** “And you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, so that My covenant might be with Levi,” says the LORD of armies.

**5** <sup>f</sup>“My covenant was with him, *one* of life and peace. And I gave them to him *for* the fear with which <sup>g</sup>he feared Me and was afraid before My name.

**6** <sup>h</sup>“The law of truth was in his mouth,

and iniquity was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, and <sup>i</sup>turned many away from iniquity.

**7** “For <sup>j</sup>the priest’s lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law from his mouth. <sup>k</sup>For he *is* the messenger of the LORD of armies.

**8** “But you have departed out of the way. You have <sup>l</sup>caused many to stumble at the law. <sup>m</sup>You have corrupted the covenant of Levi,” says the LORD of armies.

**9** “Therefore, <sup>n</sup>I have also made you despised and base before all the people, according as you have not kept My ways, but have been <sup>o</sup>partial in the law.

**10** ¶ <sup>p</sup>“Do we all not have one father? <sup>q</sup>Did not one God create us? Why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother by profaning the covenant of our fathers?

**11** “Judah has dealt treacherously and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has <sup>r</sup>profaned the holiness of the LORD that he loved and has married the daughter of a foreign god.

**12** “May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob the man who does this, being awake and aware, yet <sup>s</sup>who brings an offering to the LORD of armies.

**13** ¶ “And another thing you do: You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with crying out, insomuch that He does not regard the offering anymore, nor re-

v Is 43:22 w Lv 22:20 x Mi 1:8 y Lv 22:18-20 z Ps 47:2 Chapter 2: a Mi 1:6 b Dt 28:15 c Mi 3:9 d Ex 29:14 e 1 Kg 14:10 f Nm 25:12 g Dt 33:9 h Dt 33:10 i Jr 23:22 j Dt 17:8-11 k Gl 4:14 l Jr 18:15 m Ne 13:29 n 1 Sm 2:30 o Dt 1:17 p 1 Co 8:6 q Jb 31:15 r Er 9:1,2 s Ne 13:29

ceive *it* with goodwill from your hand.

**14** “Yet you say, ‘For what reason?’ It is because the LORD has been a witness between you and the ‘wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though “she *is* your companion and the wife of your covenant.

**15** “And <sup>v</sup>did not He make *them* one? In flesh and spirit they are His. And why one? Because He was seeking a <sup>w</sup>godly offspring. Therefore, take heed to your spirit and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of his youth.

**16** <sup>x</sup>“I hate divorce,” says the Lord God of Israel, “and I hate a man’s covering himself with violence as well as with his garment,” says the LORD of armies. “Therefore, take heed to your spirit so that you do not deal treacherously.”

#### *The Day of Judgment*

**17** ¶ <sup>y</sup>You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, “Wherein have we wearied *Him*?” When you say, <sup>z</sup>“Everyone who does evil *is* good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights in them,” or, “Where *is* the God of justice?”

### Chapter 3

**1** ¶ “Behold, <sup>a</sup>I will send My messenger and he will <sup>b</sup>prepare the way before Me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to His temple, <sup>c</sup>even the Messenger of the

covenant in whom you delight. Behold, <sup>d</sup>He is coming,” says the LORD of armies.

**2** “But who may endure the <sup>e</sup>day of His coming? And <sup>f</sup>who will stand when He appears? For <sup>g</sup>He *is* like a refiner’s fire, and like launderer’s soap.

**3** <sup>h</sup>“And He will sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver. And He will purify the sons of Levi and purge them as gold and silver so that they may <sup>i</sup>offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness.

**4** “Then the <sup>j</sup>offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasant to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

**5** “Then I will come near to you for judgment. And I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against <sup>k</sup>perjurers and against those who <sup>l</sup>exploit wage earners, the <sup>m</sup>widow and the fatherless, and those who turn aside the foreigner and do not fear Me,” says the LORD of armies.

#### *Robbing God*

**6** ¶ “For I *am* the LORD. <sup>n</sup>I do not change. <sup>o</sup>Therefore, you sons of Jacob are not consumed.

**7** “Even from the days of <sup>p</sup>your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept *them*. <sup>q</sup>Return to Me and I will return to you,” says the LORD of armies. “But you said, ‘How will we return?’

**8** “Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me. But you say, ‘How have

t Mt 3:5 u Pv 2:17 v Mt 19:4,5 w 1 Co 7:14 x Mt 5:31; 19:6-8 y Is 43:22,24 z Is 5:20 Chapter 3: a Mt 11:10; Mk 1:2; Lk 1:76; 7:27; Jn 1:23; 2:14,15 b Is 40:3 c Is 63:9 d Hk 2:7 e Mt 4:1 f Rv 6:17 g Mt 3:10-12 h Is 1:25 i 1 Pt 2:5 j Mt 1:11 k Zc 5:4 l Jn 5:4 m Ex 22:22 n Rm 11:29 o Lm 3:22 p At 7:51 q Zc 1:3 r Mt 1:6

we robbed You?" <sup>s</sup>In tithes and offerings.

**9** "You *are* cursed with a curse, for you have robbed Me, *even* this whole nation.

**10** "Bring all the tithes into the <sup>t</sup>storehouse so that there may be food in My house, and test Me now in this," says the LORD of armies, "if I will not open <sup>u</sup>to you the <sup>v</sup>windows of heaven and <sup>w</sup>pour out a blessing *on* you so that *there will not be room enough to receive it*.

**11** "And I will rebuke the <sup>x</sup>devourer for your sakes, and he will not destroy the fruits of your ground. Neither will your vine cast its fruit before the time in the field," says the LORD of armies.

**12** "And all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a <sup>y</sup>delightful land," says the LORD of armies.

**13** ¶ "Your <sup>z</sup>words have been harsh against Me," says the LORD. "Yet you say, 'What have we spoken against you?'"

**14** <sup>a</sup>"You have said, 'It *is* vain to serve God. And what profit *is it* that we have kept His ordinance and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of armies?'"

**15** 'And now <sup>b</sup>we call the proud happy. Yes, those who work wickedness are built up. Yes, they <sup>c</sup>tempt God and go free.'

**16** ¶ Then those <sup>d</sup>who feared the LORD <sup>e</sup>spoke often to one another. And the LORD hearkened and heard

*it*, and a <sup>f</sup>book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the LORD and who esteem His name.

**17** "And <sup>g</sup>they will be Mine," says the LORD of armies, "in that day when I make up My <sup>h</sup>peculiar treasure. And <sup>i</sup>I will spare them as a man spares his own son who serves him.

**18** <sup>j</sup>"Then you will return and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him who serves God and him who does not serve Him.

## Chapter 4

### *The Day of the Lord*

**1** ¶ "For behold, the <sup>a</sup>day comes that will burn as an oven. And all the <sup>b</sup>proud, yes, and all who do wickedly will be <sup>c</sup>stubble. And the day that comes will burn them up," says the LORD of armies, "so that it will <sup>d</sup>leave them neither root nor branch.

**2** "But to you who <sup>e</sup>fear My name, the <sup>f</sup>Sun of Righteousness will arise with healing in His wings. And you will go forth and grow up as calves of the stall.

**3** <sup>g</sup>"And you will tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet in the day that I will do *this*," says the LORD of armies.

**4** ¶ "Remember the <sup>h</sup>law of Moses My servant that I commanded him in Horeb for all Israel, *with* the <sup>i</sup>statutes and judgments.

**s** Ne 13:10-12 **t** Pv 3:9,10 **u** 1 Ch 26:20 **v** Gn 7:11 **w** 2 Ch 31:10 **x** Am 4:9 **y** Dn 8:9 **z** Mt 2:17 **a** Jb 21:14 **b** Ps 73:12 **c** Ps 95:9 **d** Ps 66:16 **e** Hb 3:13 **f** Ps 56:8 **g** Ex 19:5 **h** Is 62:3 **i** Ps 103:13 **j** Ps 58:11 **Chapter 4:** **a** 2 Pt 3:7 **b** Mt 3:18 **c** Ob 18 **d** Am 2:9 **e** Mt 3:16 **f** Lk 1:78 **g** Mc 7:10 **h** Ex 20:3 **i** Dt 4:10 **j** Mt 11:14; 17:10-13; Mk 9:11-13; Lk 1:17; Jn 1:21

**5** “Behold, I will send you <sup>j</sup>Elijah fathers to the children and the hearts  
the prophet <sup>k</sup>before the coming of the of the children to their fathers, lest I  
great and terrible day of the LORD. come and <sup>m</sup>strike the earth with a  
**6** “And <sup>h</sup>he will turn the hearts of the <sup>n</sup>curse.”

---

**k** Jl 2:31 **l** Lk 1:17 **m** Zc 14:12 **n** Zc 5:3