

STUDY GUIDE

A large tree stands on a grassy hill against a cloudy sky. The left side of the tree's canopy is brown and sparse, while the right side is lush and green. The word "MALACHI" is superimposed in large white letters across the middle of the tree.

# MALACHI

renewal & restoration

**MMBC**†  
MOUNT MORIAH BAPTIST CHURCH



**STUDY GUIDE**

**MALACHI**

**RENEWAL &  
RESTORATION**



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This study guide has been prepared by Pastor Ryan Marcum for the beloved ones of Mt. Moriah Baptist Church. This is a resource to be used by families and individuals as we walk through the Book of Malachi. Resources used will be footnoted for further study. Love God. Love People. Make Disciples.

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# WHY MALACHI

Why study the book of Malachi? This is the question I will seek to answer in this short introductory paragraph. Like any book that we find in the Word of God Malachi is inspired, it is ***breathed out*** by God and useful for **teaching, rebuking, correcting**, and to **train** God's people in righteousness.<sup>1</sup> The idea that all of Scripture is *breathed out* by God is important to our study. The Greek word *theopneustos* does not appear in any other text prior to Paul's letter to Timothy. The idea that God-breathed Scripture denotes that the Word of God has a *divine origin*<sup>2</sup> which tells us that it has authority. With this in mind we must approach each book, chapter, verse, and word as from God to the reader. Malachi, like any other book in the Bible is from God, and for us.

## Author

The only thing that we know about Malachi is his name and what it means. Malachi means, "my messenger." Malachi is a minor prophet as opposed to a major prophet. Major prophets are typically longer and broader in scope, while minor prophets are shorter and narrow in focus. (For a list of Major and Minor Prophets)<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> 2 Timothy 3:16-17

<sup>2</sup> ESV Study Bible, *theopneustos*, 2 Tim. 3:16

<sup>3</sup> Search ChristianBook.com, Books of the Bible chart



## Date

Though we do not know the exact date of Malachi, we can figure out roughly the time period of events. The people of God have returned from Babylonian exile, and the temple has been rebuilt approx. 515-16 BC.

## Uniqueness

Malachi is unique in that it reads like a question and answer dialogue. One commentary puts it like this, *God lays out a charge against His people concerning some failure in covenant, to which the people respond by asking how they have failed.*<sup>4</sup> The ESV Study Bible outlines six disputations, in layman's terms a disputation means the act of debating. In other words, Malachi presents 6 issues from God toward His people and the people respond.

The six Disputations:

- 1.** 1:2-5: Dishonoring God in Worship
- 2.** 1:6-2:9: Priestly offenses
- 3.** 2:10-16: Marriage & Divorce
- 4.** 2:17-3:5: God's Justice
- 5.** 3:6-12: Offerings
- 6.** 3:13-4:3: Judgement

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<sup>4</sup> Expository Commentary, Malachi, Crossway



## Theme

God is calling His covenant people back to obedience, God is sending a wake-up call through His prophet, Malachi.

Malachi addressed the covenant community of Israel during a time of great discouragement and disarray following the return from exile in Babylon. Although heirs of the prophetic promises of restoration, God's people lacked any sense of His love (1:2-5). Their worship was impure and dishonoring (1:6-2:9). Spiritual betrayal disrupted the community, especially its marriages (2:10-16). God's people neglected to tithe (3:6-12) and considered God's cause futile (2:17-3:5; 3:13-4:3). Malachi set about repairing the covenant relationship in two ways; by calling the community to **renewal** obedience to the Mosaic covenant, and by describing the coming "Day of The Lord" (4:5; 3:1-5; 4:1-3), when God would bring justice and **restoration** to His people.<sup>5</sup>

## Covenant

What is a covenant? At its most basic level, a covenant is an oath-bound relationship between two or more parties. Thus, human covenants (for example, marriage) fall under this general definition. In divine covenants, God sovereignly establishes the relationship with His creatures.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> <sup>5</sup> Expository Commentary, Malachi, Crossway

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/what-covenant>



# READING PLAN / STUDY QUESTIONS

## Session 1

**Malachi 1:1-5:** The oracle of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi. "I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert." If Edom says, "We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins," the LORD of hosts says, "They may build, but I will tear down, and they will be called 'the wicked country,' and 'the people with whom the LORD is angry forever.'" Your own eyes shall see this, and you shall say, "Great is the LORD beyond the border of Israel!" **(ESV)**

## Reflection

The wake-up call from the Lord to His people begins with, *I have loved you*. From our vantage point we can see the covenant people of God from Abraham to the audience of Malachi. We can see their call to covenant relationship, their disobedience, and God's discipline.



Discipline is never easy. In fact, for most, discipline is hard. Yet, God in His greatness shows His faithfulness and love to those who are His.

Job 5:17-18: "Behold, blessed is the one whom God reproves; therefore despise not the discipline of the Almighty. For he wounds, but he binds up; he shatters, but his hands heal. ESV

Malachi was a messenger from God to the people of God. These were God's covenant people, they had been given the promised land, and they experienced exile... And God reminds them in verse 1, *I have loved you.*"

## **Question**

Have you ever asked God, "How have you loved me?"

Throughout our lives we might be tempted to ask this question. When the storms and valleys of this life get the best of us we will be tempted to ask God, "Where are you?!"

## **Worship**

How Deep The Father's Love For Us, written by Stuart Townend



How deep the Father's love for us  
How vast beyond all measure  
That He should give His only Son  
To make a wretch His treasure

How great the pain of searing loss  
The Father turns His face away  
As wounds which mar the Chosen One  
Bring many sons to glory

Behold the man upon a cross  
My sin upon His shoulders  
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice  
Call out among the scoffers

It was my sin that held Him there  
Until it was accomplished  
His dying breath has brought me life  
I know that it is finished

I will not boast in anything  
No gifts, no power, no wisdom  
But I will boast in Jesus Christ  
His death and resurrection

Why should I gain from His reward?  
I cannot give an answer  
But this I know with all my heart  
His wounds have paid my ransom



## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, May we come to know your vast love for us. That while we rebel against your goodness you remain faithful to your promises. That all who place their faith in your Son Jesus will be called adopted, justified, and heirs. Not only do we pray this for us but for those whom you place in our lives. Let us be beckons of love, amen.



## Session 2

**Malachi 1:6–14:** “A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, ‘How have we despised your name?’ By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, ‘How have we polluted you?’ By saying that the LORD’s table may be despised. When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the LORD of hosts. And now entreat the favor of God, that he may be gracious to us. With such a gift from your hand, will he show favor to any of you? says the LORD of hosts. Oh that there were one among you who would shut the doors, that you might not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the LORD of hosts, and I will not accept an offering from your hand. For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts. But you profane it when you say that the Lord’s table is polluted, and it’s fruit, that is, its food may be despised. But you say, ‘What a weariness this is,’ and you snort at it, says the LORD of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the LORD. Cursed be the cheat who has a male in his flock, and vows it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished. For I am a great King, says



the LORD of hosts, and my name will be feared among the nations.” **(ESV)**

**Malachi 2:1-9:** “And now, O priests, this command is for you. If you will not listen, if you will not take it to heart to give honor to my name, says the LORD of hosts, then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings. Indeed, I have already cursed them, because you do not lay it to heart. Behold, I will rebuke your offspring, and spread dung on your faces, the dung of your offerings, and you shall be taken away with it. So shall you know that I have sent this command to you, that my covenant with Levi may stand, says the LORD of hosts. My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me. He stood in awe of my name. True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts. But you have turned aside from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says the LORD of hosts, and so I make you despised and abased before all the people, inasmuch as you do not keep my ways but show partiality in your instruction.” **(ESV)**



## Reflection

In this section the prophet Malachi brings to light poor offerings and the offenses of the priests who were charged to instruct the people of God. There is strong rebuke for the priests who *corrupted* (2:8) the Lord's covenant with Levi.

The Lord's covenant with Levi:

The ESV Study Bible outlines Israel's priests (2:1–9): it is their responsibility to guard the sanctuary from defilement and to inspect all sacrifices so as to exclude, for example, blind, lame, or sick animals (1:8; Lev. 22:17–25; Deut. 15:21; 17:1).

Furthermore, The Levites were responsible for the tabernacle and its implements as well as overseeing the sacrifices and offerings of the people.<sup>7</sup>

In the New Testament God opens His covenant through the work of Jesus Christ to all who would believe. We see that those who place their faith in Jesus are called a *royal priesthood*.

1 Peter 2:9: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. (ESV)

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<sup>7</sup> <https://www.gotquestions.org/God-inheritance-Levites.html>



As such, we are to offer God our whole selves in an act of worship.

Romans 12:1–2: I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (ESV)

## **Question**

Do you honor God with your daily choices? Do you present yourself to God in worship? Being a *living sacrifice* means that you have died to sin, Paul says *you were buried with Christ, and raised to new life* (Rom.6:3-4).

## **Worship**

Take My Life and Let It Be, Frances R. Havergal

Take my life and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in endless praise,  
let them flow in endless praise.



Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for thee,  
swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing  
always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from thee,  
filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold;  
not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect and use  
every power as thou shalt choose,  
every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart it is thine own;  
it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at thy feet its treasure store.  
Take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.



## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, We pray that our hearts be turned with affection for you. Bring us to worship you with our best, our whole being. We thank you for the gift of salvation brought through your Son Jesus. Move us to love you and to worship in spirit and in truth, amen.



## Session 3

**Malachi 2:10–16:** Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why then are we faithless to one another, profaning the covenant of our fathers? Judah has been faithless, and abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem. For Judah has profaned the sanctuary of the LORD, which he loves, and has married the daughter of a foreign god. May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob any descendant of the man who does this, who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts! And this second thing you do. You cover the LORD's altar with tears, with weeping and groaning because he no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. But you say, "Why does he not?" Because the LORD was witness between you and the wife of your youth, to whom you have been faithless, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union? And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. "For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless." **(ESV)**

## Reflection

The covenant people of God were forbidden to marry foreigners that He calls them *defeat*.



Deuteronomy 7:1–4: “When the LORD your God brings you into the land that you are entering to take possession of it, and clears away many nations before you, the Hittites, the Girgashites, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, seven nations more numerous and mightier than you, and when the LORD your God gives them over to you, and you defeat them, then you must devote them to complete destruction. You shall make no covenant with them and show no mercy to them. You shall not intermarry with them, giving your daughters to their sons or taking their daughters for your sons, for they would turn away your sons from following me, to serve other gods. Then the anger of the LORD would be kindled against you, and he would destroy you quickly. (ESV)

God provides His covenant people with an outline for marriage. In Malachi God rebukes His covenant people and charges them to *guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth.*

God cares about marriage. But why?

Ephesians 5:22–23: Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. (ESV)

God has not only instituted marriage between one man and one woman (Gen.2) but He tells us that marriage is a picture of Christ and the church. Paul continues;



Ephesians 5:25–27: Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. (ESV)

Again, God cares about marriage, both husbands and wives are given instruction to live in harmony to serve and submit to one another. A marriage that pursues God's instruction reflect the relationship between Christ and the church.

## **Question**

Have you ever thought about marriage as a reflection of Christ and the church? How has Christ give Himself up for the church? How has Christ given Himself up for you?

## **Worship**

Jesus Paid it All, Elvina M. Hall

I hear the savior say  
Thy strength indeed is small  
Child of weakness watch and pray  
Find in me thine all in all

Lord, now indeed I find  
Thy power and thine alone



Came and changed the lepers spots  
And it melt the heart of stone

And when before the throne  
I stand in him complete  
Jesus died my soul to save  
My lips shall still repeat

Jesus paid it all  
All to him I owe  
Sin had left a crimson stain  
He washed it white as snow

## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, Thank you for the gift of marriage and what it represents. Give us a longing to be husbands and wives that seek to follow you and your instruction. Give us a longing to live godly, to serve others, and to point everyone we meet to your Son Jesus, amen.



## Session 4

**Malachi 2:17:** You have wearied the LORD with your words. But you say, “How have we wearied him?” By saying, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delights in them.” Or by asking, “Where is the God of justice?” **(ESV)**

**Malachi 3:1–5:** “Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. “Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts. **(ESV)**

## Reflection

Like the Israelites, we too might look around and see evil



seemingly winning. We might begin to notice those who want nothing to do with God prospering.

The covenant people of God have experienced exile, poverty, persecution and all types of trials. They began to question God's promises, His faithfulness, even His justice.

God reminds them that He is faithful, that He is sending a messenger to *prepare the way*. The Messiah is coming to bring about the promises of God, to vindicate His people.

For us, we have seen in Scripture the coming of the Messiah! For those who have placed their faith and trust in Jesus for the forgiveness of sin they have been brought into a new covenant with God. We enjoy the blessings of God, we have been adopted as sons and daughters, and will one day experience the fulfillment of His justice. Praise the name of the Lord Most High!

## **Question**

Have you ever been tempted to compare your life with others? If your faith is in Jesus you are blessed.

Ephesians 1:3–4: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love (ESV)



## **Worship**

God of Abraham  
You're the God of covenant  
And of faithful promises  
Time and time again  
You have proven  
You'll do just what You said

Though the storms may come and the winds may blow  
I'll remain steadfast  
And let my heart learn, when You speak a word  
It will come to pass

Great is Your faithfulness to me  
Great is Your faithfulness to me  
From the rising sun to the setting same  
I will praise Your name  
Great is Your faithfulness to me

When the seasons change  
You remain the same

God from age to age  
Though the earth may pass away  
Your word remains the same, yeah  
Your history can prove  
There's nothing You can't do  
You're faithful and true

I put my faith in Jesus



My anchor to the ground  
My hope and firm foundation  
He'll never let me down

## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, Thank you for life and breath and all that you have blessed us with namely your grace, your mercy, and salvation. Help us to see the blessings that we have come from you and are for you and to be used to bless others. Again, we thank you for all that we have gives us hearts to use our giftedness, our resources, and our abilities to love you and to love others, amen.



## Session 5

**Malachi 3:6–12:** For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, 'How shall we return?' Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts. **(ESV)**

## Reflection

Malachi again points out Israel's offerings because they are *robbing* God. God's covenant people were robbing God in their tithes and contributions and were under a curse. God reminds them that He will bless them if they return to their covenant obedience by bringing *the full tithe into the storehouse*.



Verse 6 tells us that, *I the Lord do not change*. This is wonderful news for us today, it is also a warning to heed. God is faithful and blesses those who bring their offerings to Him.

2 Corinthians 9:7–8: Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work. (ESV)

## **Question**

How does your family give back to God? Are you cheerfully giving to the Lord? Do you give as an act of worship?

## **Worship**

I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130), Shane & Shane

Out of the depths I cry to You  
In darkest places I will call  
Incline Your ear to me anew  
And hear my cry for mercy Lord

Were You to count my sinful ways  
How could I come before Your throne  
Yet full forgiveness meets my gaze



I stand redeemed by grace alone

Yeah, I will wait for You, I will wait for You  
On Your word I will rely  
And I will wait for You, surely wait for You  
'Til my soul is satisfied

So put Your hope in God alone  
Take courage in His power to save  
Completely and forever won  
By Christ emerging from the grave

Now He has come to make a way  
And God Himself has paid the price  
That all who trust in Him today  
Find healing in His sacrifice  
That all who trust in Him today  
Find healing in His sacrifice

I will wait for You, I will wait for You  
Through the storm and through the night  
I will wait for You, surely wait for You  
For Your love is my delight







## Session 6

**Malachi 3:13–18:** Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evil-doers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’” Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. “They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him. **(ESV)**

**Malachi 4:1–3:** For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evil-doers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. **(ESV)**



## **Reflection**

Obedience and Faith cannot be separated in the lives of those who belong to the Lord. Our faith gives way to obedience.

Charles Spurgeon once said, "Remember, "By faith Abraham obeyed." Have faith in God, and then obey, obey, obey, and keep on obeying, until the Lord shall call you home. Obey on earth, and then you will have learned to obey in heaven. Obedience is the rehearsal of eternal bliss. Practice by obedience now the song which you will sing for ever in glory. God grant his grace to us! Amen."

## **Worship**

Trust and Obey, John Henry Sammis

When we walk with the Lord  
in the light of his word,  
what a glory he sheds on our way!  
While we do his good will,  
he abides with us still,  
and with all who will trust and obey.

Refrain:

Trust and obey, for there's no other way  
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

Not a burden we bear,



not a sorrow we share,  
but our toil he doth richly repay;  
not a grief or a loss,  
not a frown or a cross,  
but is blest if we trust and obey. [Refrain]

But we never can prove  
the delights of his love  
until all on the altar we lay;  
for the favor he shows,  
for the joy he bestows,  
are for them who will trust and obey. [Refrain]

Then in fellowship sweet  
we will sit at his feet,  
or we'll walk by his side in the way;  
what he says we will do,  
where he sends we will go;  
never fear, only trust and obey. [Refrain]



## **Prayer**

Psalm 119:33–40: Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes; and I will keep it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it. Incline my heart to your testimonies, and not to selfish gain! Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways. Confirm to your servant your promise, that you may be feared. Turn away the reproach that I dread, for your rules are good. Behold, I long for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life! (ESV)



## Closing

**Malachi 4:4-6:** “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.” **(ESV)**

## Summary

For those whose hope is in the Lord, even though we face dark days and valleys of death, we will fear no evil (Psalm 23). Though we are disciplined God is faithful. Though we rebel and are tempted to go our own way, God is faithful.

There is coming a *great and awesome day of the Lord*. The day of the Lord’s return to right all the wrongs, to judge the living and the dead, and to establish a new heaven and new earth (Revelation). God tells His covenant people that Elijah, will prepare the way so that His people could avoid judgement and be blessed by reconciliation of fathers and their children.



Matthew 11:14 tells us that Jesus names John the Baptist as the coming Elijah, the one who prepared the way for the Messiah.

God promises that He will send a prophet to prepare His people for that coming day. As new covenant believers, we await the second coming of Christ, we continually look back to Jesus, our greater Moses, through whom God finally and ultimately spoke His will, and we keep ourselves ready for the great and final day.<sup>8</sup>

God could have easily wiped out His covenant people through their exile but He is faithful to His covenant. God could easily deny us access to Him because of our sin oh but God, who is rich in mercy (Eph.2:4-6), provides a way for us to be forgiven, displaying His power of salvation to everyone who believes (Rom.1:16) in His Son Jesus.

## **Worship**

Oh But God, Davy Flowers

I was buried beneath my rebellion  
Lost without hope of redemption  
Blind in my need for a Savior  
Oh but God  
Crushed by the weight of my failure  
Living the lie I created

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<sup>8</sup> Expository Commentary, Malachi, Crossway



Digging my grave without knowing  
Oh but God oh but God

Rich in mercy how You loved me  
Too much to let me stay lost  
My salvation sent from heaven  
Nailing my sin to a cross  
Oh but God

You gave me a truth worth believing  
And I traded my chains for Your freedom  
Cause You were the one that I needed  
Oh but God  
Resurrecting my heart from the ruins  
My rescue came through like the morning  
Now this is my sure testimony  
Oh but God oh but God

Rich in mercy how You loved me  
Too much to let me stay lost  
My salvation sent from heaven  
Nailing my sin to a cross  
Oh but God

All the wreckage of my choices  
You have turned to life from ashes  
Lifted from death risen with Him  
Now I stand in confidence  
All the wreckage of my choices  
You have turned to life from ashes  
Lifted from death risen with Him



Now I stand in confidence

Rich in mercy how You loved me  
Too much to let me stay lost  
My salvation sent from heaven  
Nailing my sin to a cross Oh  
Rich in mercy how You loved me  
Too much to let me stay lost  
My salvation sent from heaven  
Nailing my sin to a cross  
Oh but God

## **Prayer**

Heavenly Father, you are rich in mercy and steadfast in your love. Forgive my rebellion, my complaining, and my grumbling. Thank you for turning my life from lost to found, from darkness to light, and from rebellion to obedience. I do not deserve your grace but I will hold fast to your word that all who call upon the name of the Lord will be saved, amen.



**STUDY GUIDE**

**MALACHI**

**RENEWAL &  
RESTORATION**