

1. How do these 4 verses summarize the entire message of the book of Malachi that we have been recounting in recent weeks?
  - a. Are God's people ready for the coming of the Lord?
  - b. What will God do to prepare them for that day?
  - c. How are the priests involved?
  - d. What kind of offerings will then be brought?
2. How do these verses effectively combine both days of the Day of the Lord? (the Day of Salvation and the Day of Judgment)
3. To what degree has the Lord been cleaning and refining you so that you, more and more, bring offerings in righteousness?
  - a. What does it mean to bring offerings in righteousness?
  - b. What is the last offering you brought to God in righteousness?

KTFK: us, long / gleans us. / before the / the LORD / day he / he cleans / Praise / in grace

Song: "Days of Elijah"

Prayer: "Father, I am so thankful that you did not simply come in judgment, but that you came to clean us before the judgment that must come. I owe everything to this grace, O Lord. And I ask that you would help me to live well in this grace as I await the day of your return. Amen."

### Wednesday, March 15

<sup>5</sup> "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.

1. How does this verse clearly show that the previous verses referenced the coming of the LORD for the Day of Salvation rather than the Day of Judgment?
2. Who will he be a swift witness against when he comes a second time?
3. What do all of these people have in common?
4. What do you think it would be like to have God testify against you?
5. What does it mean that they do not fear God?
6. How does fear of God lead to the abandonment of sin?
7. What role does the fear of God play in your ongoing preparation for the Day of the LORD?

KTFK: Jesus comes / will be / from sin, / Fear the / the cross / of Jesus, / soul when / and frees / that you / LORD, run / us. / a ready / and to

Song: "Soon and Very Soon"

Prayer: "Lord, may we always love and fear you, that we might never grow weary in the fight against the sin that continues to cling to us. Amen."

### Thursday, March 16

<sup>6</sup> "For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup> 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?' <sup>8</sup> Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. <sup>9</sup> You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. <sup>10</sup> 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. <sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

1. Why is it that the children of Jacob have not already been consumed?
  - a. What does it mean that the LORD does not change?
  - b. How does that lead to his people not being consumed?
2. What was the history of Israel regarding their faithfulness in following his ways?
3. When does God say that he will return to his people?
  - a. Is this a consistent principle in scripture?
4. What does this say about the ongoing prevalence of sin among God's people and the state of their relationship to him?
5. How were the people supposed to return to God?
6. Why do you think God watched their giving to see if they had returned to him?
7. What does God promise to do if they will return to him with their tithes?

KTFK: that we / whether we / we from / our giving / or if / are rich / storehouse with / him steal. / Fill the / toward God / may reveal,

Song: "We Give Thee but Thine Own"

Prayer: "LORD God, help us to turn our hearts toward you in this way. Help us to continue seeking to govern our resources so that we can always show how great and awesome you are. Amen."

## Friday, March 17

<sup>13</sup> “Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ <sup>14</sup> 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? <sup>15</sup> And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’ ”

1. What kind of reward do God’s people seem to be living for in these verses?
2. Why is living for a worldly reward certain to lead them to disappointment?
3. Where does God promise us that serving him will lead to worldly wealth?
4. If that is so, why do so many of God’s people continue to believe it is true?
5. What kind of reward are we supposed to be living for?
6. In what tangible ways does your life reveal that you are truly living for a heavenly reward?
7. How does the kind of reward we are living for affect our children?

KTFK: show them / they in / earthly things / well, for / what we / When we / we will / sin will / will as / love and / dwell. / live for / our children

Song: “To You, O Lord”

Prayer: “Help us, O LORD, to serve you faithfully despite the costs or discomforts and to know that none of our labors for you will ever be done in vain. Lead us, O LORD, to the great day of rejoicing when you will come again. Amen”

## Saturday, March 18

Read the entire passage again and review the key thoughts from each day. Which did you find most important for you this week?

Mar 17 - When we / live for / earthly things / our children / will as / well, for / we will / show them / what we / love and / they in / sin will / dwell.

Mar 16 - Fill the / storehouse with / our giving / that we / may reveal, / whether we / are rich / toward God / or / if / we from / him steal.

Mar 15 - Fear the / LORD, run / from sin, / and to / the cross / of Jesus, / that you / will be / a ready / soul when / Jesus comes / and trees / us.

Mar 14 - Praise / the LORD / in grace / he cleans / us, long / before the / day he / cleans us.

Mar 13 - Just because / the wicked / do not / now incur / the rod, / doesn't mean / that judgment / is not / still the / plan of / God.

## Family Worship 2023 March 13 - 18 Malachi 2:17 - 3:15

Kids and Parents: See if you can unscramble the daily  
**KTFK - Key Thought for Kids** (Answers on back page)

## Monday, March 13

<sup>17</sup> 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?”

1. Why do you think the people of God were saying, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delights in them”?
2. How is this statement related to the question that they were asking, “Where is the God of justice?”
3. Why would this weary the LORD?
4. Why do people often assume that if things in this life are going well for someone then God must be pleased with them, or that he no longer punishes sin?
5. How does the attitude described here lead the people of God directly away from preparing for the Day of the LORD?
6. To what degree do you think believers today have this kind of attitude?

KTFK: is not / do not / doesn't mean / God. / still the / the wicked / the rod, / now incur / Just because / that judgment / plan of

Song: “How Long, O Lord”

Prayer: “Lord, we confess that seeing the wicked prosper can cause us confusion – even anger. But help us never to doubt your word, and the fact that you will, indeed, bring them into judgment on the day of your return, so that we might keep the faith and stay the course of true faith ourselves. Amen.”

## Tuesday, March 14

<sup>3</sup> “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.

<sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.