



GLC PRESENTS:
▲BOOK STUDIES

MALACHI

GIVE GOD YOUR BEST

Sessions 1 and 2

Ptr. Jonathan Fenix
and Judah Paolo

NAME

CONTACT INFO:



MALACHI: GIVE GOD YOUR BEST

Copyright © 2017 by Global Leadership Center

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means - electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording, or any other, without the prior permission of GLC.

SCHEDULE

August 10

Session One — Introduction

Chapter 1:1

Session Two — First Dispute

Chapter 1:2 to verse 5

August 17

Session Three — Second Dispute

Chapter 1:6 to Chapter 2:9

Session Four — Third Dispute

Chapter 2:10 to verse 16

August 24

Session Five — Fourth Dispute

Chapter 2:17 to Chapter 3:5

Session Six — Fifth Dispute

Chapter 3:6 to verse 12

August 31

Session Seven — Sixth Dispute

Chapter 3:13 to verse 18

Session Two — Epilogue and Conclusion

Chapter 4:1 to verse 6

SESSION 1

Introduction

The Book of Malachi is the last book of the Old Testament. It is one of the Twelve Minor Prophets. Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel and Daniel are called the Major Prophets because of their length, not because they are more important than the shorter prophetic books.

Malachi's ministry is generally dated between 457 to 444 B.C. during the time of Ezra and Nehemiah when the Jews had returned from their exile.



- **The dates from Creation to the Divided Kingdom are rounded off approximations and not exact dates. This is simply to provide a historical context for our study.**
- **However, data in the Old Testament plus comparisons with ancient historical records are sufficient to come up with exact dates.**

What is a prophet?

- A prophet is a person who speaks in behalf of God to bring His message to the people. While a prophet may at times *foretell* about future events, many times he *forthtells* about God's concerns in the present time.

What is a prophet?

- Because of the nature of the prophets' task their writings addresses current concerns about the original hearers or recipients while also telling of things to come.
- We must remember that much of the future things predicted in the Old Testament are already the past because they were fulfilled during the New Testament period.
- A bulk of these prophecies were realized in the Person of Jesus of Nazareth, the Messiah.

Who was Malachi?

- The name Malachi means “my messenger” in Hebrew and may or may not be a proper name.
- Some think he was an unnamed prophet because a typical proper name should be “YaHWeH’s messenger” instead of “my messenger.” Others do not see any reason why Malachi cannot be the actual name of the prophet. A few even think Ezra was “the messenger” because of the timeline and similar issues between the Book of Ezra and the Book of Malachi.
- Whoever Malachi was it is clear that his Master and his Master’s Message was far more important than him, the messenger. Malachi’s focus was God’s issues with His people and he faithfully and firmly delivered his message/s.
- Malachi brought up six disputes between YaHWeH and the Jews. The people have been doing their best to rebuild their lives after returning from exile. The problem was they were doing their best only for themselves, not for God who brought them back to the Promised Land.

SESSION 2

The First Dispute (Malachi 1:2–5)

¹ A prophecy: The word of the LORD to Israel through Malachi.

² “I have loved you,” says the LORD.

“But you ask, ‘How have you loved us?’

“Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” declares the LORD. “Yet I have loved Jacob, ³ but Esau I have hated, and I have turned his hill country into a wasteland and left his inheritance to the desert jackals.”

⁴ Edom may say, “Though we have been crushed, we will rebuild the ruins.”

But this is what the LORD Almighty says: “They may build, but I will demolish. They will be called the Wicked Land, a people always under the wrath of the LORD. ⁵ You will see it with your own eyes and say, ‘Great is the LORD—even beyond the borders of Israel!’

Background:

- Isaac had twin sons, Esau, also called Edom and Jacob, who was later renamed Israel (**Genesis 25:25–26, 32:28**).
- Esau, being the firstborn, had the birthright which is directly connected to God's blessings. However, he sold it to his brother for a bowl of lentil stew (**Genesis 25:34**). For this act Esau is considered godless (**Hebrews 12:16–17**). Even his choices for wives showed his disregard for God as well as his inability to control his base appetites (**Genesis 26:34–35; 28:8–9; Chapter 36**).

Hebrews 12:16–17

Genesis 26:34–35

Genesis 28:8-9

- The Edomites also showed no compassion to the Israelites their cousins and gave them a hard time during their wandering in the desert (**Numbers 20**).
- Ultimately, it was God's sovereign decision to choose Jacob and reject Esau (**Romans 9:10–13**), which is why His promise to Abraham was channeled to Isaac (not Ishmael) and Jacob (not Esau). That is why the Israelites are God's covenant people, not the Edomites.

God's Covenant Love:

- God made an unconditional and unilateral promise to Abraham to make him into a great nation and give his descendants their own land (**Genesis 12, 15 and 17**). This promise or covenant is based on God's character, not on people's worthiness. God is both sovereign and faithful so He sovereignly chose Isaac and Jacob and their descendants to inherit His covenant with Abraham and He has faithfully fulfilled His promise even though the Israelites have consistently proven their unfaithfulness and unworthiness.

Genesis 12:1–3

Genesis 15:18–21

Genesis 17:3–8

-
- God’s Covenant Love to the Israelites is intended to ultimately bless all peoples and all nations (**Genesis 12:3**) through the coming of the Messiah who eventually established a new covenant between God and men (**Jeremiah 31:31–34, Luke 22:20, 1 Corinthians 11:25, 2 Corinthians 3:6, Hebrews 8 and 9 and 12:24, Galatians 3:7–9, Romans 9:6–8**).

Jeremiah 31:33

Luke 22:20

2 Corinthians 3:6

Galatians 3:7–9

Romans 9:6–8

- **God:** “I have loved you.”
- **The People:** “How have you loved us?”
- **God:** “I have loved Jacob but Esau I have hated.”
- **Proof:** God has consistently blessed Israel in spite of their failures and shortcomings while He has continually prevented the Edomites from progressing even if they keep trying to rise up into a great nation.
- **Problem:** Doubting or questioning God’s love was the reason and/or excuse for their behavior towards God.

What does this mean to us?

Let us consider God's Covenant Love through Christ:

“who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood: Grace and peace be yours in abundance.” **(1 Peter 1:2)**

“But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.” **(1 Peter 2:9)**

“³ Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ.⁴ For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love⁵ he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will—⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves.⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God’s grace⁸ that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and understanding,⁹ he made known to us the mystery of his will according to his good pleasure, which he purposed in Christ,¹⁰ to be put into effect when the times reach their fulfillment—to bring unity to all things in heaven and on earth under Christ.” **(Ephesians 1:3–10)**

“¹¹ In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will,¹² in order that we, who were the first to put our hope in Christ, might be for the praise of his glory.¹³ And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit,¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of his glory.”
(Ephesians 1:11–14)

