

# How to Restore Joy to our Worship

Malachi 1:7-14  
God's Messenger to a Disillusioned Nation, Part 4

Have you ever gotten bored with God? Bored with reading the Bible? With church? Worn out with the rituals of worship? Exhausted with routine? Have you lost the joy of worshipping the Lord?

Beginning in Mal.1:6 through Mal. 2:9, the Prophet Malachi boldly confronts the priests head on who have become bored with the routine of serving God (Mal.1:6; 2:1).

- In the first section, Malachi focuses on their MINISTRY (1:6-14).
- In the second section, Malachi focuses on their MESSAGE (2:1-9).
- Remember three truths to break out of the boredom and restore joy to your worship:

## 1. God's NAME is Gloriously Great

- When we lose the wonder of the glory and greatness of God in who He is and what He has done, we will grow bored with our worship. Four times in this chapter, Malachi describes God as GREAT: v. 5, v.11 (2X), v. 14
- Here are examples of those who despised God or His people:
  - A. Who despised God's birthright? ESAU! Gen.25:34
  - B. Who were the sons of Eli who despised God in the way they carried out their priestly ministry? HOPHNI and PHINEAS. 1 Samuel 2:30.
  - C. Who was the giant who despised David and God and wanted to kill him? GOLIATH! 1 Samuel 17:42.
  - D. Who despised Nehemiah and his desire to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem? Nehemiah 2:19.

Remember!

## 2. God is WORTHY of Pure Sacrifices, v.11

- When God's people lose their heart to sacrifice their time, talent, and tithe to the Lord, they will grow weary in well doing and bored with their faith.
  - v.7: "Polluted bread" means that they were offering sacrifices that should have been disqualified.
  - Deut. 15:21; And if there be any blemish therein, as if it be lame, or blind, or have any ill blemish, thou shalt not sacrifice it unto the LORD thy God.
- When we fail to give God what He deserves and desires, it leads to two dangerous attitudes:
  - A. To Blind Cynicism, v.6,7**  
2 Samuel 24:24; Neither will I offer burnt offerings unto the LORD my God of that which doth cost me nothing.

## **B. To Blatant Hypocrisy, v.8**

Remember!

### **3. God's KINGDOM will Universally Come, v.11**

MALACHI anticipates a future great day when God will be worshiped in spirit and in truth. Yes, Malachi is concerned with the matters at hand, but he also looks forward to a future day when all things will be set right.

In conclusion, please remember:

1. It is easy to go through the motions of religion. Fight to keep your relationship with God fresh and personal.
2. We are a kingdom of priests and must offer ourselves as a living sacrifice daily to God.
3. If you do not feel loved by God, you will not give God your best. So know you are loved by Him who deserves our best. Let's give Jesus our all because He gave His all for us.