

Exploring the Minor Prophets

Malachi: God's Disputer

Part 21

I. A Series of Six Disputes against an Obstinate People.

- **Dispute #1: You question God's love. 1:2-5**
"You say, 'How has God loved us?'" v.2
Cf. Dt.7:8; Rom.9:13; Eph.1:3,4; 2 Thess.2:13; 2 Tim.1:9

- **Dispute #2: You profane God's worship. 1:6-2:9**
"You say, 'How have we despised your name? How have we polluted you?'" (1:7)
Cf. Lev.10:3; Psa.47:2; Matt.15:8

- **Dispute #3: You trample God's ordinance of marriage. 2:10-16**
"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 you hand. But you say, 'Why does he not?'" (2:13,14)
Cf. Gen.2:24; Ez.9:2; 2 Cor.6:14

- **Dispute #4: You weary God with your words. 2:17-3:5**
"You say, 'How have we wearied him?'" (2:17)

- **Dispute #5: You are robbing God. 3:6-12**
"Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?'" (3:8)
Cf. Nu.18:21; Dt.14:28,29

- **Dispute #6: You speak arrogantly against God. 3:13-4:3**
"Your words have been hard against me, say the LORD.' But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?'" (3:13)

II. Grace and Hope for Repentant People. 3:7,16-18

Cf. Hos.3:1-3; Gal.3:22-24; Phil.1:6