



It Really Is Worth It!



Malachi's message in 3:7 – 4:6

Give God your very best effort in obeying His word.

It really is worth it to give God your all in this life.



Outline of Malachi

1:1-2:9

Attitudes related to **God's person**

2:10 – 3:6

Attitudes related to **God's righteous standards**

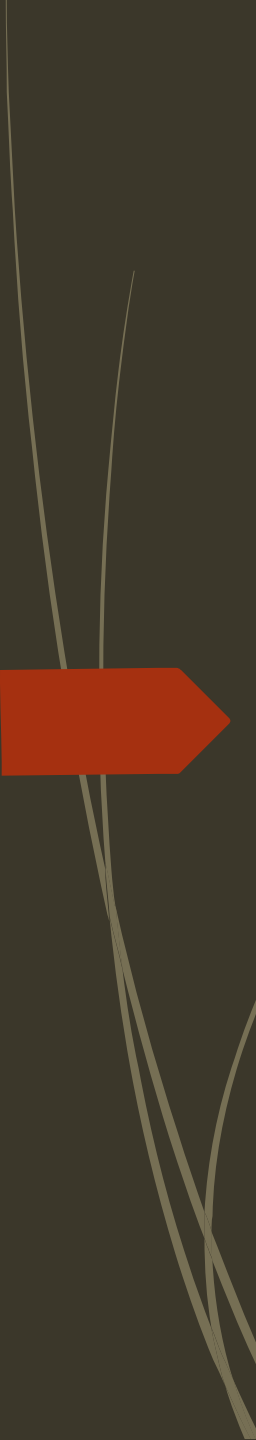
3:7 – 4:6

Attitudes related to **God's word**



“Immutability”

- ▶ *“In/im” means “not”.*
- ▶ *“Mutable” means it can change.*
- ▶ *God is not mutable, That is, He cannot change.*



Louis Berkhof,
*Systematic
Theology*, p. 58

“The Immutability of God...is that perfection of God by which He is devoid of all change, not only in His Being, but also in His perfections, and in His purposes and promises... improvement and deterioration are both equally impossible.”

Attitudes related to God's word

I. Robbing God of tithes and offerings (3:7-12).

- The charge is against the nation.



“Repentance”

- ▶ *“a complete change of direction back to God”*
- AND
- ▶ *“a total reorientation towards YHWH”*

Andrew Hill, Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi, p. 345



New Testament Giving Principles

Regular

Corresponds to
God's provision to
you (He provides,
you give)

With liberality

Sometimes out of
your own poverty

Planned

Not grudgingly

Cheerfully

In addition, you
sometimes should
meet specific
needs

1 Cor 16:1-2; 2 Cor
8:2-5; 9:5-15; 1 Jn
3:17

“I honestly believe that if you invest in the kingdom of God, you won’t lose anything in the final analysis... If you want to know how serious you are about investing in God’s kingdom, look at your checkbook. It is an objective, concrete record of where your treasure is and where your heart is.”

R. C. Sproul,
<https://www.ligonier.org/learn/articles/stewardship-tithing-and-giving/>

Attitudes related to God's word

I. Robbing God of tithes and offerings (3:7-12).

- The charge is against the nation.
- God promised blessings if they repent and gave their best.

Attitudes related to God's word

II. Questioning the value of obeying God (3:13-4:6).

- God charged them with arrogant complaining.



Attitudes related to God's word

II. Questioning the value of obeying God (3:13-4:6).

- God charged them with arrogant complaining.
- Those who fear the Lord will think rightly.

“YHWH’s scroll of remembrance contained the names, words and deeds of those who feared and honored him, and it will serve as the basis for God’s winnowing of the righteous from the wicked in the coming day of judgment.”

Andrew Hill, *Haggai, Zechariah and Malachi*, p. 355



Promises to those who fear the Lord

They belong to the
Lord

He will spare them

He considers them
His treasured
possession

He considers them
His sons

They will be able to
distinguish
between righteous
and wicked

KEY: Genuine
service, not
presence of
blessing or curse

Attitudes related to God's word

II. Questioning the value of obeying God (3:13-4:6).

- God charged them with arrogant complaining.
- Those who fear the Lord will think rightly.
- It will definitely be worth it to obey God.

Attitudes related to God's word

II. Questioning the value of obeying God (3:13-4:6).

- God charged them with arrogant complaining.
- Those who fear the Lord will think rightly.
- It will definitely be worth it to obey God.
- Give close attention to obeying God's word.