

GOD DESERVES OUR PURE WORSHIP

(Malachi 1:6-14)

I. INTRODUCTION

II. SUPERScription (1:1)

III. ORACLE ONE: GOD'S APPEAL TO ISRAEL BASED ON THEIR PAST RELATIONSHIP (1:2-5)

IV. ORACLE TWO: GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE PRIESTS REGARDING SACRIFICE AND WORSHIP (1:6-14)

A. The Lord's Protest to POLLUTED Worship (1:6-8)

1. The Lord had a covenantal _____ to Israel as a _____ to His children and as a _____ over His house. (v. 6a; cf. Exod. 4:22; Isa. 1:2; 44:1-2; 63:16; 64:8; Hos. 11:1)

* What is your relationship to God as a believer under Grace?

2. This passage is addressed primarily to the _____ in Judah. (v. 6b)

3. The defiled or polluted "food" that these priests were offering on God's altar/table was most likely _____ which were also considered "*food*" or "*bread*" by the Lord. (vv. 7-8; cf. Lev. 21:6; Ezek. 44:7)

* What did the Lord strictly forbid regarding these sacrifices? (Lev. 22:18-22)

* What did these sacrifices point to that it was so important that they be without blemish? (Heb. 9:11-14; 10:1-14)

B. The Lord's Appeal to PURE Worship (1:9-11)

1. The Lord despised their hypocrisy in worship, and if their phoniness was to continue, He wanted them to _____ the temple gates, and _____ vain sacrifices to Him. (vv. 9-10)

* Has God's attitude changed on this?

2. Malachi predicted that one day the _____ will offer the Lord _____ in worship. (v. 11)

* When will this happen? (Isa. 11:3-4, 9; Dan. 7:13-14, 27-28; Zeph. 2:11; 3:8-11; Zech. 14:9, 16)

C. The Lord's Pronouncement Concerning PROFANE Worship (1:12-14)

1. To "*profane*" the Lord's name means to _____ it, and make it _____ (v. 12; cf. Ezek. 22:26)
2. The omniscient God saw their wicked _____, their attitude of _____, and their total lack of _____ for who He is, when they brought the lame and the sick for sacrifice. (v. 13)

* Does the Lord deserve your undivided attention along with a proper attitude?

3. God pronounced a _____ on those who took a _____ to offer a proper sacrifice, but instead offered one with blemish; obviously His name was _____ feared among His own people. (v. 14)

* Have you been worshipping the all-knowing God with a proper heart?