

CHEATING THE LORD FROM WHAT IS RIGHTFULLY HIS

(Malachi 3:7-12)

V. GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE PRIESTS REGARDING HIS WORD (2:1-9)

VI. GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE REGARDING HIS INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE (2:10-16)

VII. GOD'S APPEAL TO ISRAEL BASED ON THEIR FUTURE RELATIONSHIP (3:1-4:6)

A. The Wretched Spiritual Condition of the People (2:17)

B. God Promised His People A Coming Judgment (3:1-5)

C. God Does Not Change, this is Why Judah is Not Consumed (3:6)

D. God's Charge of Disobedience (3:7-9)

1. Contrasting with God's unchanging faithfulness in v. 6, Yahweh gave a condemnation of the nation's historically _____ and _____ against His Law. (v. 7a, cf. Ex. 32:7-9; Deut. 9:6-8)

2. Thankfully the Lord included a conditional clause; “_____ to *Me*, and I will _____ to *you*,’ Says the Lord of hosts.” (v. 7b)

3. The Lord gave the people an example- the whole nation had _____ in their lack of tithes (Lev. 27:30, 32; Deut. 12:5-18; 14:22-29) and offerings (Num. 18:21-32). (vv. 8-9)

E. God's Remedy and Promise of Blessings (3:10-12)

1. The people needed to bring the _____ tithe, _____ just part of what they owed, into the storehouse in order to support the Levites and the temple ministry. (v. 10a)

2. The Lord chose to give them positive motivation; He promised to _____ their full obedience with _____ and _____ abundant enough to satisfy their every need. (v. 10b)

3. IF Judah would choose to repent and obey the voice of the Lord...
 - a. They would _____ experience crop failure due to pestilence, lack of rain, and rot (Duet. 28:22-24; Hag. 1:10-11; 2:17), Yahweh would supernaturally _____ it. (v. 11)
 - b. All the other nations would _____ divine blessing on the Israelites because their land would be such a _____ to live. (v. 12)
 - c. Unfortunately the remnant that returned to Judah after the exile _____ their opportunities and _____ could look at them and call them blessed; but this will change in the kingdom.

F. Giving Under the Dispensation of Grace

According to 1 Corinthians 16:2 there is a procedure in Grace-giving...

1. As to _____... it was to be "*On the first day of the week.*"
2. As to _____... it should be "*each one of you.*"
3. As to _____... we are to "*lay something aside, storing up.*"
4. As to _____... it should be in proportion "*as he may prosper.*"

* Regarding your own giving to the Lord, are you currently cheating God?