

Malachi

1:1 **The Lord's Love for Jacob.** 1:7 **Rotten offerings.** 3:1 **I send my messenger.** 4:4 **I will send you Elijah.**

1 The ¹burden of *the* word of Jehovah to Israel by ²Malachi.

2 I have loved you, saith Jehovah. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? ³*Was* not Esau Jacob's brother? saith Jehovah: yet I loved Jacob; 3 but Esau I ⁴hated, and made his mountains a desolation, and *gave* his heritage to *the* jackals of *the* wilderness. 4 ⁵Whereas Edom saith, We are ⁶beaten down, but we will return and build the waste places; thus saith Jehovah of hosts, They shall build, but I will throw down; and men shall call them *The* border of wickedness, and The people against whom Jehovah hath indignation forever. 5 And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, Jehovah ⁷be magnified ⁸beyond *the* border of Israel.

6 A son honoreth *his* father, and a servant his master: if then I *am* a father, where *is* mine honor? and if I *am* a master, where *is* my fear? saith Jehovah of hosts unto you, O priests, that despise my name. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? 7 Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar. And ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, *The* table of Jehovah *is* contemptible. 8 And when ye offer *the* blind for sacrifice, *it is* no evil! and when ye offer *the* lame and sick, *it is* no evil! Present it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee? or will he accept thy person? saith Jehovah of hosts. 9 And now, I pray you, entreat *the* favor of God, that he may be gracious unto us: this hath been ⁹by your means: will he ¹⁰accept any of your persons? saith Jehovah of hosts. 10 Oh *that there were* one among you *that* would shut *the* double gates, that ye might not kindle *fire on* mine altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, saith Jehovah of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand. 11 For from *the* rising of *the* sun even unto *the* going down of *the* same my name ¹¹*shall be* great among the Gentiles: and in every place ¹²incense *shall be* offered

¹ Or, oracle

² Or, my messenger. [Not necessarily his name.]

³ Or, *Is not Esau ... yet I have loved Jacob;*

⁴ Soncino commentary suggests, loved less, (Ge 29:31; Dt 21:15).

⁵ Or, Though Edom say,

⁶ Or, as otherwise read, impoverished,

⁷ Or, is great

⁸ Or, over

⁹ Hb. from your hand:

¹⁰ Or, accept any because of you? saith Jehovah

¹¹ Or, *is* (three times).

¹² Or, incense and a pure oblation *are* offered:

unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name *shall be* great among the Gentiles, saith Jehovah of hosts. 12 But ye profane ¹³me, in that ye say, *The* table of Jehovah *is* polluted, and *the* fruit thereof, *even* its food, *is* contemptible. 13 Ye say also, Behold, what a weariness *is it!* and ye have snuffed at ¹⁴me, saith Jehovah of hosts; and ye have brought *that which* was taken by violence, and the lame and the sick; thus ye bring the offering: should I accept this at your hand? saith Jehovah. 14 But cursed *be the* deceiver, who hath in his flock a male, and ¹⁵voweth, and sacrificeth unto ¹⁶Jehovah a blemished thing; for I *am* a great King, saith Jehovah of hosts, and my name is awesome among the Gentiles.

2 And now, O ye priests, this commandment *is* for you. 2 If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay *it* to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith Jehovah of hosts, then will I send the curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; yes, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay *it* to heart. 3 Behold, I will rebuke ¹⁷your seed, and will spread dung upon your faces, *even the* dung of your feasts; and ye shall be taken away ¹⁸with it. 4 And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant may be with Levi, saith Jehovah of hosts. 5 My covenant was with him of life and peace; and I gave ¹⁹them to him *that he might* fear; and he feared me, and stood in awe of my name. 6 *The* law of truth was in his mouth, and unrighteousness was not found in his lips: he walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many away from iniquity. 7 For *the* priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek *the* law at his mouth; for he *is the* messenger of Jehovah of hosts. 8 But ye are turned aside out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble in the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith Jehovah of hosts. 9 Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the ²⁰people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have had respect of persons in the law.

¹³ Sopherim changed to *it*,

¹⁴ So several mss. and Jewish tradition. Sopherim changed to *it*,

¹⁵ So the versions. Massoretic reads a faulty female,

¹⁶ Sopherim changed to *the* Lord

¹⁷ Sept., Vg., Gk^{Aq} read, your arm,

¹⁸ Or, unto

¹⁹ Sept., Vg. read him fear, and he feared me,

²⁰ Several mss., Sept., Vg. read peoples,

10 Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us? why do we deal treacherously every man against his brother, profaning *the* covenant of our fathers? 11 Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned *the* ²¹holiness of Jehovah which he loveth, and hath married *the* daughter of a foreign god. 12 Jehovah will cut off, to the man that doeth this, him that waketh and him that answereth, out of *the* tents of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto Jehovah of hosts. 13 And this ²²again ye do: ye cover the altar of Jehovah with tears, with weeping, and with sighing, ²³insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, neither receiveth *it* with good will at your hand. 14 Yet ye say, Wherefore? Because Jehovah hath been witness between thee and *the* wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously, though she *is* thy companion, and *the* wife of thy covenant. 15 ²⁴And did he not make one, although he had *the* residue of *the* Spirit? And wherefore one? He sought a seed of God. Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously against *the* wife of his youth. 16 For ²⁵I hate putting away, saith Jehovah, *the* God of Israel, and him that ²⁶covereth his garment *with* violence, saith Jehovah of hosts: therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.

17 Ye have wearied Jehovah with your words. Yet ye say, Wherein have we wearied *him*? In that ye say, Every one that doeth evil *is* good in *the* sight of Jehovah, and he delighteth in them; or where *is* the God of justice?

3 Behold, I send my messenger, and he shall prepare *the* way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, will suddenly come to his temple; ²⁷and *the* ²⁸messenger of the covenant, whom ye desire, behold, he cometh, saith Jehovah of hosts. 2 But who can abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: 3 and he will sit *as* a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will

²¹ *Or*, Holy *or possibly*, sanctuary

²² *Or*, a second time ye do:

²³ *So* Massoretic, Aram., Vg. 4QXII^a reads because of troubles, doth he still regard [the offering and receive it with good will at] *etc.* Sept. reads because of troubles; is it worthy to regard *the* offering and receive it with good will at *etc.*

²⁴ *Or*, And not one hath done so who had a residue of *the* spirit. Or what? is there one that seeketh a godly seed?

²⁵ *Hb.* he hateth putting away (*or*, divorce), 4QXII^a Sept. (Vg.) read For if thou hate and put away,

²⁶ *Pertaining to marriage* (*cf.* Ruth 3:8-9)

²⁷ *Or*, even

²⁸ *Or*, angel

purify the sons of Levi, and refine them as gold and silver; and they shall offer unto Jehovah offerings in righteousness. 4 Then shall *the* offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto Jehovah, as in *the* days of old, and as in ancient years. 5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against the false swearers, and against those that oppress *the* hireling in *his* wages, *the* widow, and *the* fatherless, and that turn aside *the* sojourner from *his* right, and fear not me, saith Jehovah of hosts. 6 For I Jehovah, change not; therefore ye, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.

7 From *the* days of your fathers ye have turned aside from mine ordinances, and have not kept *them*. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith Jehovah of hosts. But ye say, Wherein shall we return? 8 Will a man rob God? yet ye rob me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and heave-offerings. 9 ²⁹Ye have cursed *me* with the curse; for ye rob me, *even* this whole nation. 10 Bring ye the whole tithe into the store-house, that there may be food in my house, and prove me now herewith, saith Jehovah of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that *there shall not be* room enough to receive it. 11 And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast its fruit before *the* time in the field, saith Jehovah of hosts. 12 And all nations shall call you happy; for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith Jehovah of hosts.

13 Your words have been stout against me, saith Jehovah. Yet ye say, What have we spoken against thee? 14 Ye have said, It is vain to serve God; and what profit is it that we have kept his charge, and that we have walked ³⁰mournfully before Jehovah of hosts? 15 and now we call *the* proud happy; yes, they that work wickedness are built up; yes, they tempt God, and escape.

16 Then they that feared Jehovah spake one with another; and Jehovah hearkened, and heard, and a book of remembrance was written before him, for them that feared Jehovah, and that thought upon his name. 17 And they shall be mine, saith Jehovah of hosts, *even* mine own possession, in the day that I ³¹make; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him. 18 Then shall ye return and discern between *the* righteous and *the* wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

²⁹ *Sopherim changed to* Ye are cursed with the curse; *So* Massoretic (Aram.) (Vg.). 4QXII^a reads Ye are looking on appearances; Sept. reads And ye certainly turn your attention away;

³⁰ *Or*, in mourning apparel before Jehovah

³¹ *Or*, do this; *Similarly* in ch. 4:3.

4 For, behold, the day cometh, it burneth as a furnace; and all *the* proud, and all that work wickedness, shall be stubble; and the day *that* cometh shall burn them up, saith Jehovah of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch. 2 But unto you that fear my name shall *the* sun of righteousness arise with healing in its ³²wings; and ye shall go forth, and gambol as calves of *the* stall. 3 And ye shall tread down *the* wicked; for they shall be ashes under *the* soles of your feet in the day that I make, saith Jehovah of hosts.

4 Remember ye *the* law of Moses my servant, which I commanded unto him in Horeb for all Israel, *even* statutes and ordinances. 5 Behold, I will send you ³³Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of Jehovah come. 6 ³⁴And he shall turn *the* heart of *the* fathers ³⁵to *the* children, and *the* heart of *the* children to their fathers; lest I come and smite the ³⁶earth with a ³⁷curse.

End of the Book of Malachi
End of the Old Testament

³² *Or*, beams;

³³ Soncino commentary *says*, Referred to in verse [3:]1 as the *messenger* who will prepare the way for the coming of the LORD. 'Far more than the prophet of zeal and fire of the Biblical narrative, he is to later generations the helper and healer, the reconciler and peace-bringer, the herald of the days of the Messiah' (Hertz, *Pentateuch*, Soncino edn., p. 970).

³⁴ 1Ki 18:37.

³⁵ *Or*, with (*twice*)

³⁶ *Or*, land

³⁷ *Or*, ban. *or*, devoting to destruction.