

Is your relationship with God a False sense of Security?

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Book of Malachi

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The LORD's Love for Israel Malachi 1:1-5

1 This is the burden of the word of the LORD to Israel through Malachi: **2** “I have loved you,” says the LORD. Yet you say, “In what way have You loved us?” “Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?” declares the LORD. “Yet Jacob I have loved;

3 But Esau I have hated, and laid waste his mountains and his heritage for the jackals of the wilderness”.

4 Even though Edom has said, “We have been devastated, but we will rebuild the ruins,” this is what the LORD of Hosts says: “They may build, but I will demolish. They will be called the Land of Wickedness, and the people against whom the LORD will have indignation forever.

5 You will see this with your own eyes, and you shall say, ‘The LORD is great—even beyond the borders of Israel.’”

(Continual sinning will become a normal way of life when one stops seeking truth and becomes disobedient to the word of God, thus a warning came through Malachi to the people)

**“Confess *your* faults (sins) one to another, and pray one for another, that you may be healed.
James 5:16**

The Lord, turns His attention to Israel's priests'.

Malachi 1:6. A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor?

And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence? Says the Lord of hosts, to you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, in what way have we despised Your name?

They are blind, totally oblivious of their sins found in verses 7 through 14 of chapter 2.

God lists all they have done and tells them of His displeasure of what they have done and what will happen to them and with them.

Those turning away from God's commandments and being disobedient to His ways knowing with what happened to the generations of those before them, still chose to be disobedient to Him.

How have we dishonored you, how have we been disobedient to you. Those actions were even coming from the priest's that vowed to uphold the entire word of God. We see the same thing today from both the priest, pastors, and congregations sitting in the seats of many churches.

The Lord cursed the priests of Israel.

Malachi 2:1-2. “And now, O priests, this commandment is for you. 2 If you will not hear, And if you will not take it to heart, To give glory to My name,” Says the Lord of hosts, “I will send a curse upon you, And I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already, Because you do not take it to heart.

One must ask, what did they do to receive this response from God. We already know they were disrespectful. (See next sentence).

Malachi 2:7-9. **7** For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And people should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

8. But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi, Says the Lord of hosts.

9. Therefore I also have made you contemptible and base (**bottom, floor**, lowest part) Before all the people, Because you have not kept My ways But have shown partiality in the law.

From the book of Malachi the nation was given a warning of what was to happen to all those that were committing sins while believing they were safe from the judgment of God. In chapter 4 we read of what would become of those that continued in their sins.

For behold, the day is coming, Burning like an oven, and all the proud, yes, all who do wickedly will be stubble. And the day which is coming shall burn them up, Says the Lord of hosts, That will leave them neither root nor branch. **Malachi 4:1.**

All they really had was a false sense of security as a relationship with God, never realizing what they were losing.

But what of those that remained faithful whom served for God.

But to you who fear My name The Sun of righteousness shall arise With healing in His wings: And you shall go out And grow fat like stalled fed calves. You shall trample the wicked , for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day that I do this, says the Lord of hosts. **Malachi 4:2-3**

If you have a strong relationship with God the Father and our Lord and Savior Yeshua our High Priest. And if the Holy Spirit resides in you even if you struggle against sin but are walking each and everyday with God as your guide, than you are a Christian Warrior, prepared to battle the enemy.

Never give up, never give in, stay strong with your obedience to God and your security in Him will last forever. Amen, Shabbat Shalom.