

MALACHI

CHAPTER 1

The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by the hand of His messenger. I pray you, lay it to heart.

²I have loved you, saith the Lord. And ye said, Wherein hast Thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the Lord: yet I loved Jacob, ³and I hated Esau, and appointed his borders for desolation, and made his heritage as dwellings of the wilderness. ⁴Because he shall say, Edom is overthrown, but let us return and rebuild the desolate places. Thus saith the Lord Almighty, They shall build, but I will throw down; and they shall be called The borders of wickedness, and, The people against whom the Lord hath set Himself for ever. ⁵And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, The Lord is magnified above the borders of Israel.

⁶A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is Mine honour? And if I be a master, where is My fear? saith the Lord Almighty. Ye the priests are they that despise My name: yet ye said, Wherein have we despised Thy name? ⁷In that ye bring polluted bread unto Mine altar; and ye said, Wherein have we polluted it? in that ye say, The table of the Lord is polluted, and that which was set thereon have ye despised. ⁸For if ye bring the blind for sacrifices, is it not evil? and if ye bring the lame or the sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy ruler, and see if he will receive thee, if he will accept thy person, saith the Lord Almighty. ⁹And now propitiate the face of the Lord your God, and make supplication unto Him. These things are done by your hands; shall I accept you? saith the Lord Almighty. ¹⁰For even among you the doors shall be shut, neither shall you kindle Mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the Lord Almighty, and I will not accept a sacrifice at your hands. ¹¹For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down thereof My name hath been glorified among the Gentiles; and in every place incense is offered unto My name, and a pure offering: for My name is great among the nations, saith the Lord Almighty. ¹²But ye do profane it, in that ye say, The table of the Lord is polluted, and His meats that are set thereon are treated with contempt. ¹³Ye said also, These services be troublesome: therefore I have puffed at them with scorn, saith the Lord Almighty: and ye brought in torn victims, and the lame, and the sick: if then ye bring an offering, shall I accept them of your hands? saith the Lord Almighty. ¹⁴And cursed be he that had the power, and had in his flock a male, and whose vow is upon him, and who sacrificeth unto the Lord a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the Lord Almighty, and My name is glorious among the Gentiles.

CHAPTER 2

And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you. ²If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto My name, saith the Lord Almighty, then I will even send the curse upon you, and I will bring a curse upon your blessing: yea, I will curse it, and will scatter your blessing, and it shall not be among you, because you do not lay this to heart. ³Behold, I separate the shoulder from you, and I will spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your feasts; and I will carry you away at the same time. ⁴And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that My covenant might be with the sons of Levi, saith the Lord Almighty. ⁵My covenant was with him of life and peace, and I gave it to him that he might fear Me with fear, and be afraid at My name. ⁶The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked before Me, and directed his way in peace, and did turn many away from unrighteousness. ⁷For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the Lord Almighty. ⁸But ye have turned aside out of the way, and have caused many to fail in the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the Lord Almighty. ⁹And I have made you despised and cast out among all the people, because ye have not kept My ways, but have been partial in the law.

¹⁰Have ye not all one father? hath not one God created you? why have ye forsaken every man his brother, to profane the covenant of his fathers? ¹¹Judah is forsaken, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holy things of the Lord, which he delighted in, and is gone after other gods. ¹²The Lord will cut off the man that doeth these things, until he be even cast down out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and from among them that offer sacrifice unto the Lord Almighty. ¹³And these things which I hated, ye did: ye covered the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping, and with groaning because of troubles: is it meet for Me to have respect unto your sacrifice, or to receive aught at your hands as welcome? ¹⁴Yet ye said, Wherefore? Because the Lord hath borne witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, whom thou hast forsaken; and she was thy partner, and the wife of thy covenant. ¹⁵And did he not do well? and *there was* the residue of his spirit. But ye said, What doth God seek but a seed? But take ye heed to your spirit, and forsake not the wife of thy youth. ¹⁶But if thou hate thy wife, and put her away, saith the Lord God of Israel, then ungodliness shall cover thy thoughts, saith the Lord Almighty: therefore take ye heed to your spirit, and forsake them not, ¹⁷ye that have provoked God with your words. But ye said, Wherein have we provoked Him? In that ye say, Every one that doeth evil is pleasing in the sight of the Lord, and He taketh pleasure in such; or, Where is the God of judgement?

CHAPTER 3

Behold, I send My messenger, and he shall survey the way before Me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come into His temple, even the angel of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, He cometh, saith the Lord Almighty. ²And who shall abide the day of his coming? or who shall withstand at his appearing? for he cometh in as the fire of a furnace, and as the herb of fullers. ³He shall sit to melt and purify as it were silver, and as it were gold: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and pour them out as gold and silver, and they shall offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. ⁴And the sacrifice of Judah and Jerusalem shall be pleasing unto the Lord, according to the former days, and according to the former years. ⁵And I will draw near to you in judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the witches, and against the adulteresses, and against them that swear falsely by My name, and against them that keep back the hireling's wages, and them that oppress the widow, and afflict the fatherless, and that wrest the judgment of the stranger, and fear not Me, saith the Lord Almighty.

⁶For I am the Lord your God, and I am not changed: ⁷but ye the sons of Jacob have not refrained from the iniquities of your fathers: ye have perverted My statutes, and have not kept them. Return unto Me, and I will return unto you, saith the Lord Almighty. But ye said, Wherein shall we return? ⁸Will a man trip up God? for ye trip My heels. But ye say, Wherein have we tripped Thine heels up? In that the tithes and firstfruits are with you *still*. ⁹And surely ye look away from Me, and trip My heels. ¹⁰The year is ended, and ye have brought all the increase into the storehouses; but there shall be ravaging in His house. Observe by this, saith the Lord Almighty, and see if I will not open to you the floodgates of the heaven, and pour out My blessing upon you, until you be satisfied. ¹¹And I will distinguish among you for meat, and will not destroy the fruit of your land; and your vine in the field shall not fail, saith the Lord Almighty. ¹²And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a desirable land, saith the Lord Almighty.

¹³Ye have spoken grievous words against Me, saith the Lord. Yet ye said, Wherein have we spoken against Thee? ¹⁴Ye said, He that serveth God is vain: and what have we gained that we have kept His ordinances, and that we have have walked as suppliants before the face of the Lord Almighty? ¹⁵And now we declare strangers blessed; and all they that do unlawfully are built up; yea, they have withstood God, and have been delivered. ¹⁶Thus they that feared the Lord spake every one to his neighbour: and the Lord gave heed, and hearkened, and a book of remembrance wrote He before them that feared the Lord, and that revered His name. ¹⁷And they shall be Mine, saith the Lord Almighty, in the day which I appoint for a peculiar possession; and I will make choice of them, as a man maketh choice of his son that serveth him. ¹⁸Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, and between him that serveth God, and him that serveth Him not.

CHAPTER 4

For, behold, a day cometh, burning as an oven, and it shall consume them, and all the strangers; yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the Lord Almighty, and there shall not be left root or branch of them. ²But unto you that fear My name shall the Sun of righteousness arise, and healing in His wings; and ye shall go forth, and abound as young calves *that are* let loose from bonds. ³And ye shall tread down the wicked; for they shall be ashes beneath your feet in the day that I appoint, saith the Lord Almighty. ⁴And, behold, I will send you Elijah the Tishbite before the great and glorious day of the Lord cometh, ⁵who shall turn again the heart of the father to the son, and the heart of a man to his neighbour, lest I come and smite the earth grievously. ⁶Remember ye the law of My servant Moses, accordingly as I charged him in Horeb for all Israel, even the commandments and ordinances.