Haggai, Zechariah, and Malachi

Sam Freesmeyer, Erik Borlaug

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Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi

Class Schedule

Lesson	Date	Title	Teacher
1	Sunday, Aug 2 nd	Class Introduction	Sam
2	Wednesday, Aug 5 th	Introduction to Haggai	Sam
3	Sunday, Aug 9 th	The Book of Haggai	Sam
4	Wednesday, Aug 12 th	Introduction to Zechariah	Erik
5	Sunday, Aug 16 th	Zechariah 1-2: Visions 1-3	Erik
6	Wednesday, Aug 19 th	Zechariah 3-4: Visions 4-5	Erik
7	Sunday, Aug 23 rd	Zechariah 5-6: Visions 6-8	Erik
8	Wednesday, Aug 26 th	Zechariah 7-11: The Two Burdens: Part 1	Erik
9	Sunday, Aug 30 th	Zechariah 12-14: The Two Burdens: Part 2	Erik
10	Wednesday, Sep 2 nd	Introduction to Malachi	Sam
11	Sunday, Sep 29 th	Malachi 1-2	Sam
12	Wednesday, Sep 6 th	Malachi 3-4	Sam
13	Sunday, Sep 9 th	Application	Sam

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Lesson 11: Malachi 1-2, Condemnation

Although the urging of Haggai and Zechariah had brought the completion of the temple, this had not produced the messianic age many expected. The warm response to Zechariah's call to repentance had grown cold, because God apparently had not restored the covenant blessings. Malachi, writing a short time later, called the people to repentance with respect to: the priesthood, which had become corrupt; worship, which had become routine; divorce, which was widespread; social justice, which was being ignored; and tithing, which was neglected.

The Lord's Love for Israel

Malachi 1:2-5

Assertion	Objection	Refutation
"21 house loved your "	"How have you loved us?"	"Is not Esau Jacob's brother?
" ² I have loved you"		Yet I have loved Jacob"
—	\	+
Jehovah declares His love for	Their inward doubt is	God shows the people what
the people, and by this love	revealed. They believed that	"not loving" looks like in his
He shows the hearers their	the Lord did not love them;	hatred for Esau and the
own ingratitude and lack of	otherwise things would be	people of Edom.
devotion toward Him.	different.	

Question:

Read Genesis 25:21-23, then Romans 9:6-29. Was God's choice of Jacob over Esau fair? Why or why not?

The Priests' Polluted Offerings

Malachi 1:6-14

Assertion	Objection	Refutation
"6where is my honor?where	"How have we despised your	" ⁷ By offering polluted food upon my
is my fear?, O priests, who	name?"	altar."
despise my name."		
I		L
1	"How have we polluted you?"	"By saying that the Lord's table
'		may be despised."
V	\	\
God recalls the long	The priests supposed	" ⁷ By offering polluted food" ESV
established principles that a	objections reflect their lack	" ⁷ Ye offer polluted bread" KJV
son should honor his father	of understanding. To	They were offering the blind, the
and a servant his master. In	profane the altar is to	lame, and the sick from the flocks.
certain cases, not doing so	profane God Himself. Their	To offer such a worthless gift to a
resulted in death (Ex. 21:15,	offering was their actions,	governor was insultinghow
17; Deut. 21:18-21)	not their words.	much more of an insult to God!

Question:

Consider Malachi 1:13 where the people say "What a weariness this is..." Do we sometimes consider our service to God to be wearisome? Write down an example of when you've felt burdened by your service to God.

The Lord Rebukes the Priests

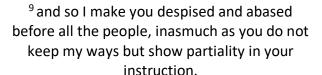
Malachi 2:1-9

The priests had insulted the name of Jehovah and had brought it into disrepute; now they must give glory to it or suffer the consequence of Jehovah's curse, demonstrated in the outpouring of His wrath.

The Good Example of Levi	The Poor Example of the Priests
^{5a} My covenant with him was one of life and	^{8a} You have turned aside from the way.
peace	^{8b} You have caused many to stumble by your
^{5b} It was a covenant of fear, and he feared	instruction.
me.	^{8c} You have corrupted the covenant of Levi
^{5c} He stood in awe of my name.	
^{6a} True instruction was in his mouth	
6bno wrong was found on his lips.	
^{6c} He walked with me in peace and	
uprightness	
^{6d} he turned many from iniquity.	



⁷ For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.



Question:

Malachi 2:1-3 show us the seriousness of the Priests' responsibility for God's Word. Pick one of the good examples of Levi listed above and tell why it's important in our stewardship of God's Word today, as Christians.

Divorce and Intermarriage Strongly Denounced

Malachi 2:10-16

You have:		
¹¹ Profane[ed] the covenant of our fathers	Exod 19:5-6	
¹¹ Been faithless		
¹¹ Committed abominations	Deut 18:9-14	
¹¹ Profaned the sanctuary		
¹¹ Married the daughter[s] of a foreign god	Exod 34:16, 1 Kings 11:1-2	
¹⁴ Been faithless to your wives	Gen 2:24	
Therefore:		

[&]quot;15...guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. 16 For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless."