

The Messiah is Coming

Malachi 3:1-6

Malachi 3:1-6 (NASB)

Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is Coming,” says the LORD of hosts (verse 1).

Malachi 3:2 (NASB)

But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap.

Malachi 3:3 (NASB)

And He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the LORD offerings in righteousness.

Malachi 3:4 (NASB)

Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD, as in the days of old and as in former years.

Malachi 3:5

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers and against the adulterers and against those who swear falsely, and against those who oppress the wage earner in his wages, the widow and the orphan, and those who turn aside the alien, and do not fear Me,” says the LORD of hosts.

The Context of the Promise: A Challenge to the Justice of God (Malachi 2:17).

You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, “How have we wearied Him?” In that you say, “Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights them,” or “Where is the God of justice?”

The Lord's Response: I WILL COME

“Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is Coming,” says the LORD of hosts (Mal. 3:1).

“My Messenger” (Mal. 3:1)

The title “My Messenger” is the same Hebrew term as the name “Malachi.”

Who is the Messenger in Malachi 3:1?

Behold, I am going to send you **Elijah** the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD (Mal. 4:5)

The Forerunner (Matthew 11:7-14)

7 And as these were going away, Jesus began to speak to the multitude about **John, “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind?**

8 “But what did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ palaces (Matthew 11:7-8).

The Forerunner (Matthew 11:7-14)

**9 But why did you go out ? To see a prophet? Yes, I say to you, and one who is more than a prophet
(Matt. 11:9).**

The Forerunner (Matthew 11:7-14)

10 This is the one about whom it is written, ‘Behold, I send My messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.’

11 “Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not arisen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet he who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

(Matt. 11:10-11)

The Forerunner (Matthew 11:7-14)

12 And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and violent men take it by force.

13 For all the prophets and the Law prophesied until John.

14 And if you care to accept it, he himself is Elijah who was to come.

(Matthew 11:12-14)

(Malachi 3:1).

**Who is the Messenger of the
Covenant?**

See Matthew 3:11-12; Luke 3:15-17

The Lord will come

Behold, I am going to send My messenger, and he will clear the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple; and the messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight, behold, He is Coming,” says the LORD of hosts (verse 1).

He is Coming (Mal. 3:2-3)

But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire and like fuller's soap.

The Reason for His Coming (Mal. 3:2-3)

And He will sit as a smelter and purifier of silver, and He will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, so that they may present to the LORD offerings in righteousness.

The Results of His Coming

Acceptable Worship (Mal. 3:4)

See John 4:21-24

Lesson

Only those who are purified by the LORD can offer pleasing sacrifices to Him.

The Results of His Coming

**Judgment Against All Forms of
Injustices (Mal. 3:5)**

Lesson

The root of all forms of injustice is the absence of the fear of God.

Lesson

**Jesus will come again to establish
God's Justice in the age to come.**