

Wheelersburg Baptist Church 9/29/2024

Malachi 2:17-3:5 “What Wears the God of Justice?”

Series: *Malachi: Great Among the Nations*

Theme Song: “*Great Among the Nations*” (Malachi 1:11)

My name will be great, great among the nations.

My name will be great, great among the nations.

From the rising to the setting of the sun, my name will be great, great among the nations.

I. The Lord reveals the human _____ (2:17).

A. The Lord is wearied when people question His _____.

B. The Lord is wearied when people question His _____.

II. The Lord reveals the divine _____ to address the human problem (3:1-5).

A. The _____ is coming (1).

1. He is preceded by a _____.

2. He is the _____ Himself.

3. He will come suddenly to His _____.

4. He will be the messenger of the _____.

B. The _____ of the Messiah is coming (2-5).

1. It will be a day of _____ (2-4).

a. He will clean up the _____.

b. He will clean up the _____.

2. It will be a day of _____ (5).

a. The Lord Himself will be both _____ and _____ on that day.

b. The Lord Himself has given us this day to _____ for that day.

Make It Personal: Am I _____ for what is coming?

Community Group Discussion:

1. The book of Malachi sounds like a court case, with the prophet Malachi acting as the Lord’s prosecuting attorney. He shows that God’s people had violated God’s covenant. Take time to review what we’ve seen thus far in the legal docket. What did Malachi say the people’s crime was in 1:2-6? In 1:6-14? In 2:1-9? In 2:10-16?

2. In today’s text, Malachi 2:17-3:5, Malachi confronts yet another crime. After reading the text, discuss this question. What wears God? What were Malachi’s people doing that wearied God, and what might we do that wears Him?

3. In 2:17 we learn that the people were asking, “Where is the God of justice?” Why were they asking this question? What do we learn about God’s view of justice from the answer He gives in 3:1-5?

4. In 3:1-5 the Lord reveals His plan for addressing the human problem. What is His plan? What details does He give regarding this plan in this passage?

5. What does Malachi mean when he says the Messiah’s work will be “like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap” in verse 2? How is this a hope-giving announcement?

6. In the book of Malachi, we see the title “the LORD of hosts” used more than twenty times. Use your study Bibles to explore what this title means. Why does Malachi use it so often? How should knowing the *Lord of hosts* personally affect us this week?