

# Major Lessons from the Minor Prophets

## Malachi: The Final Word of the Old Covenant

### Message 4: Unchanged\*

#### Malachi 3:6-18 (ESV)

<sup>6</sup>“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ <sup>8</sup>Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. <sup>9</sup>You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. <sup>10</sup>Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. <sup>11</sup>I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>12</sup>Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>13</sup>“Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against you?’ <sup>14</sup>You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? <sup>15</sup>And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’” <sup>16</sup>Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. <sup>17</sup>“They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. <sup>18</sup>Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him.

#### Malachi 4:1-6 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> “For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup>But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>4</sup>“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. <sup>5</sup>“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. <sup>6</sup>And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

A biblical **cliffhanger** of sorts ...

Some things we can count on:

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God

Why that's a good thing:

2. The \_\_\_\_\_ of people

Why that's a troubling thing:

3. The \_\_\_\_\_ of Scripture

Why that's a critical thing:

4. The \_\_\_\_\_ of judgement

Why that's a terrifying thing:

5. The \_\_\_\_\_ of God's promises

Why that's a glorious thing:

Where Malachi leaves us:

\_\_\_\_\_ that the story doesn't end here!

\_\_\_\_\_ that we are a LOT like the Israelites!

\_\_\_\_\_ upon God's grace that changes us!

\_\_\_\_\_ in the covenant-keeping God!

*Next week:  
Elijah: Prophet of Fire*