



Malachi Hearts of Stone



The Oracle that Malachi Delivered to Israel (1:1)

• Content: An Oracle (1:1a) • Communicator: Malachi (1:1b)

The LORD's Love for Israel (1:2-5)

Claim: The LORD loves Israel. (1:2a)

Question: How did He love? (1:2b)

Response: The Election of Jacob and Judgment of Edom. (1:3-5)



Contemptible Sacrifices and Corrupted Priests (1:6-2:9)

Claim: Israel shows contempt for the LORD's Name. (1:6a, 7a)

Question: How did we show contempt? (1:6b, 7b)

Response: Crippled Sacrifices and Corrupt Priests. (1:7c-2:9)

- The sacrificial animals are crippled and diseased (1:7c-14)
- The priests are corrupt and leading people astray (2:1-9)

Profaning the Covenant by Divorce (2:10-16)

Claim: Israel has broken the covenant. (2:10-13)

Question: Why does the LORD reject our sacrifices? (2:14a)

Response: You divorced your wives to marry foreign women. (2:14b-16)

- The LORD is attentive to your covenant relationships (2:14b)
- The LORD warns the people to guard their marriages (2:15-16)

Wearying the LORD with Charges of Injustice (2:17-3:5)

Claim: You have wearied the LORD with your words. (2:17a)

Question: How did we weary the LORD? (2:17b)

Response: You have no hope for God's justice. (2:17c-3:5)

- The hypocritical charge of injustice with God (2:17c)
- The coming of the messenger to prepare the way for the Judge (3:1a)
The sudden coming of the LORD to His temple (3:1b)
- The coming of the LORD as Judge (3:2-5)



Turning Away and Robbing God (3:6-12)

Claim: Israel has turned from the LORD and robbed Him. (3:6-7b, 8a)

Question: How can we return and how have we robbed Him? (3:7c, 8b)

Response: You rob the Lord by withholding tithes and offerings. (3:8c-12)

- The Nation is being punished for the sin of ingratitude (3:8c-9)
- The LORD will abundantly bless faithful stewards (3:10-12)

Blasphemy Against the LORD (3:13-4:3)

Claim: Israel has said harsh against the LORD. (3:13a)

Question: What did we say against the LORD? (3:13b)

Response: You say God is unjust but he will be fully just. (3:14-4:3)

- The charge of futility for serving God (3:14-15)
- The coming blessing of the righteous and judgment of the wicked (3:16-4:3)

Epilogue:

Obey the Law of Moses and Wait for Elijah the Prophet (4:4-6)

ca. 430 BC

1:1	1:2	1:5	1:6	2:9	2:10	2:16	2:17	3:5	3:6	3:12	3:13	4:3	4:4-6
Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	Oracle	
God's Love	Honor God	Be Faithful	Hope in God	Obey God	Fear God								
"Burden"	"I have loved you."	"You show contempt."	"You have broken faith."	"You have wearied the LORD."	"You turned away."	"You said harsh things."	"Obey"						

The LORD, through his messenger Malachi, presented six disputes the Lord had with the nation declaring that they were merely outwardly religious demonstrating only ceremonial obedience rather than genuine love and worship; therefore, the nation would be punished if they did not repent and the LORD, announced by His messenger, would come to purify the nation in order to call them to repent and return to worship the LORD with a pure heart.