

Blessings in the House

God Has Not Changed

A weekly devotional message for the family

(Malachi 3:1-6, 16-17) “Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. (2) But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap: (3) And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness. (4) Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years. (5) And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts. (6) For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed... (16) Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another: and the LORD hearkened, and heard it, and a book of remembrance was written before him for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name. (17) And they shall be mine, saith the LORD of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels; and I will spare them, as a man spareth his own son that serveth him.”

God has not and will not change. As we study the scriptures, we will see what God's ways are and what His wants are. From the early days of man until today, we will see that God's ways and wants has not changed. As we read these verses in Malachi, we see in verse 6 that God does not change. In verse 5 God tells us that He hates sin, however in verses 2 and 3 God is a refiner to cleans us from all our sins. Then in verses 16 and 17, God lets us know that He takes special recognition and appreciation of those who love Him.

God's Ways

God is holy. He loves righteousness and hates sin. He will never change, He is holy and His ways are holy and just.

(Psalm 99:9) “Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God is holy.”

(Hebrews 1:9a) “Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity ...”

(Psalm 19:7-11) “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. (8) The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. (9) The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. (10) More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. (11) Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.”

The Lord is holy and clean and so are all His ways. He has been this way from before time, and He will never change. The Lord hates sin that is why He is a purifier. Through the blood of Christ, we too can be made holy. (Hebrews 13:20-21) “Now the God of peace, that brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great shepherd of the sheep, through the

blood of the everlasting covenant, (21) Make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is wellpleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever.”

God's Wants

God wants a special people. He has always desired a people to call His own. (II Chronicles 16:9a) “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward him...” (I Peter 2:9-10) “But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light: (10) Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.”

As we study the relationship between God and Abraham, we see a special relationship between the two. (Genesis 17:1-5) “And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect. (2) And I will make my covenant between me and thee, and will multiply thee exceedingly. (3) And Abram fell on his face: and God talked with him, saying, (4) As for me, behold, my covenant is with thee, and thou shalt be a father of many nations. (5) Neither shall thy name any more be called Abram, but thy name shall be Abraham; for a father of many nations have I made thee.”

The Lord appeared to Abraham because Abraham was a man that loved God and followed Him. God made a covenant with Abraham and with the covenant there were requirements and blessings. When we keep the commandments of the Lord, then we find great rewards, Ps 19:11. God is looking for a special people of His own, a people to bless. God's ways have not changed He is holy. God's desires have not changed. He wants a people to call His own, a people that are cleansed by the power of His blood, a people to bless, a people to give His rewards to. (James 1:17) “Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”

Let us follow the Lord, and keep His commandments. God does not change, His ways and wants are the same. God does not change, when He makes a covenant, there are both requirements and rewards. When we do our part, we must remember that the Lord will always do His part. He is looking for a special people. I want Him to look here with us to be the special people that He is looking for. (Hebrews 13:8) “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever.”