



“Worship Him” Malachi 1:6-14

You are what you love. And you worship what you love. And you talk about what you love. And you might not love what you say you love. If you were accused of being a wholehearted worshipper of God, would there be enough evidence to convict you?

Accusation: Half-hearted Worship vv6, 12

- God through Malachi begins with the inner essence of worship and then works out to the more public expressions of worship. Matt15:8-9
- You can do all kinds of good deeds and attend many church services and not worship.
- The inner essence of worship is a right understanding of God (Truth) and a right valuing of His supreme worth (Spirit). John4:23-24

Evidence: Not Giving Your Best vv7-9, 13

- The inner essence of worship will be visible by the fruit of our lips and the fruit of our deeds.
- Heb13:15-16 Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.
- Rom12:1 I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

Judgement: Your Worship is Vain (empty). vv10, 14a

- Our sinful tendency is to worship our work, work at our play and play at our worship. Matt6:21; 1Cor10:31
- How serious of a problem is this?
 - >There are whole books of the Bible giving us details for heartfelt worship (Exodus/Leviticus).
 - >The largest book in the Bible is a manual on worship (Psalms).

>1st four of the 10 commandments are about worship.

>Lev10 Nadab and Abihu offer unauthorized fire before the Lord. And fire comes out from the Lord and consumed them.

>2Sam6 the Ark of the Lord is being brought back to Israel and the oxen stumble and Uzzah tries to steady the Ark and he is struck dead.

>Rev3:15-16 I know your works: you are neither cold nor hot. Would that you were either cold or hot! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of my mouth.

Rationale: Our Worship should be as glorious as the One we Worship. Ps66:2; vv11, 14b

- Nothing is more faith fortifying, soul satisfying and life liberating than seeing what God is worth and giving to Him what He is worth.
- When our worship is as glorious as the One we worship, it will attract even those whose hearts are hardened toward God.

Growing Notes

- 1) You are what you love. And you worship what you love. And you talk about what you love. And you might not love what you say you love. Explain. What evidence would you look for if someone told you that they loved God with all their heart?
- 2) Read Malachi 1:6-14. Note and review the structure of this text: Accusation: Half-hearted worship vv6, 12; Evidence: Not giving your best vv7-9, 13; Judgement: Your worship is vain vv10, 14a; Rationale: Our worship should be as glorious as the One we worship vv11, 14b
- 3) What is half-hearted worship? What was the inner essence of their worship (vv6, 12)? What evidence was showing that they were not giving their best (vv7-9, 13)? What does it mean to worship God in vain and how serious of an offense to God is this (vv10, 14a)?
- 4) What does it mean that our worship should be as glorious as the One we worship (vv11, 14b)? What would this reveal to the world about our relationship with God? What do you think there is nothing more faith fortifying, soul satisfying and life liberating than seeing what God is worth and giving to Him what He is worth? Pray that db is place that does that.