

CHOICES

MALACHI

1 The burden of the word of
the Lord to Israel by Malachi.

“I have loved you,” says the
Lord.

“Yet you say, ‘In what way have
You loved us?’

Was not Esau Jacob’s brother?”
Says the Lord.

**“Yet Jacob I have loved;
But Esau I have hated,**

And laid waste his mountains
and his heritage
For the jackals of the
wilderness.”

Even though Edom has said,

“We have been
impoverished,

But we will return and build
the desolate places,”

“They may build, but I will throw
down;

They shall be called the Territory
of Wickedness,

And the people against whom the
Lord will have indignation forever.

Your eyes shall see,
And you shall say,
'The Lord is magnified
beyond the border of Israel.'

Honor And Reverence

“A son honors his father,
And a servant his master.
If then I am the Father,
Where is My honor?

And if I am a Master,
Where is My reverence?
Says the Lord of hosts

To you priests who despise
My name.

Yet you say, 'In what way have
we despised Your name?'

“You offer defiled food on My
altar,

But say,

‘In what way have we defiled
You?’

By saying,
‘The table of the Lord is
contemptible.’

And when you offer the blind as
a sacrifice,

Is it not evil?

And when you offer the lame
and sick,

Is it not evil?

Offer it then to your governor!

Would he be pleased with you?

Would he accept you
favorably?”

Says the Lord of hosts.

“But now entreat God’s favor,
That He may be gracious to us.
While this is being done by
your hands,
Will He accept you favorably?”

“Who is there even among
you who would shut the
doors,

So that you would not kindle
fire on My altar in vain?

I have no pleasure in you,”
Says the Lord of hosts,
“Nor will I accept an offering
from your hands.

My name shall be great
among the Gentiles;
In every place incense shall
be offered to My name,

And a pure offering;
For My name shall be great
among the nations,”
Says the Lord of hosts.

“But you profane it,
In that you say,
‘The table of the Lord is defiled;
And its fruit, its food, is
contemptible.’

You also say,
‘Oh, what a weariness!’
And you sneer at it,”
Says the Lord of hosts.

“And you bring the stolen, the
lame, and the sick;

Thus you bring an offering!

Should I accept this from your
hand?”

Says the Lord.

“But cursed be the deceiver
Who has in his flock a male,
And takes a vow,
But sacrifices to the Lord what
is blemished

For I am a great King,”
Says the Lord of hosts,
“And My name is to be feared
among the nations.

Robing
GOD?

“For I am the Lord, I do not
change;

Therefore you are not
consumed, O sons of Jacob.

Yet from the days of your
fathers

You have gone away from My
ordinances

And have not kept them.

Return to Me, and I will return to
you,”

Says the Lord of hosts.

“But you said,

‘In what way shall we return?’

“Will a man rob God?
Yet you have robbed Me!
But you say,
‘In what way have we robbed
You?’

In tithes and
offerings.

You are cursed with a curse,
For you have robbed Me,
Even this whole nation.

**Bring all the tithes into the
storehouse,
That there may be food in My
house,
And try Me now in this,”
Says the Lord of hosts,**

If I will not open for you the
windows of heaven

And pour out for you such
blessing

That there will not be room
enough to receive it.

**“And I will rebuke the
devourer for your sakes,
So that he will not destroy the
fruit of your ground,
Nor shall the vine fail to bear
fruit for you in the field,”**

“And all nations will call you
blessed,
For you will be a delightful
land,”
Says the Lord of hosts.







