

Nissy Varghese

Prof. Emanuel

Assignment 6

4/21/20

Malachi is the last book of the old testament. The book was written by Malachi as a way of passing an important message to the people of Judah who had forgotten God after being exiled from their promised land. It is through Malachi that God showed and reminded the people of Judah where they had gone wrong. God told the people of Judah that they needed change; they were to take responsibilities of their actions and be faithful to fulfill the promises made by their fathers on Mount Sinai. The book of Malachi is organized in a unique and different way from the other books of the old testament. In the book, how God used to war his people against the wrongs they have been doing; God would identify the mistake, show how people the consequences of the same, and educate them on how to avoid repeating it.

God accused the people of Israel of being faithless. God asks the people of Israel why they are faithless to one another, and yet they are of the same father (Malachi 2:10). God informed them that rejecting the covenant of God shows not only unfaithfulness to God but also to one another, which is wrong since the people of Israel are born from the same father. The people of Israel were also involved in mangled marriages. According to the book, the people were faithless to the wives of their youth. God indicates in the book that he hates divorce (Malachi 2: 13). Another transgression committed to God by the Israelites was that of tightfisted tithes. The book asks, will a man rob God?. The lord says in the book that the Israelites should bring full tithes to the storehouse that they can all be found in the house God (Malachi 3:7)

The book of Malachi was written as an appeal to the people of Israel, especially to the rivalry between Jacob and his brother Esau. The book warned the people of Israel that if they needed God once more, they were to be responsible for their sins and fulfill the promises of their fathers made on Mount Sinai. The book reminded the Israelites that because they are descendants of Jacob, God's favor will continue to be upon them. The book of Malachi was written early in the 2nd century BC. According to the themes of the book, it is suspected that the writing of the book may have taken place during that time. This is the reason it is placed after Haggai and Zachariah, and this was the time when Ezra and Nehemiah came to Jerusalem during the period of 445 BC. The recipients of the book were Israelites or the people of Judah. The historical circumstance of the people of Judah was that their fathers had made promises to God on Mount Sinai. It is these promises made by their fathers that God wanted them to fulfill to receive His mercies.

From the book, I have learned that God's mercies endure forever to his people as long as they keep God's commandments. I have also learned that God may forsake one and leave them to suffer if they don't obey his teachings and does actions against his will. As long as one does and obeys the teachings of God, they are guaranteed of his mercies and protection. The book can be applied in the following ways. As it can be seen in the history of Israel when the Israelites kept on disappointing God. God would come back to them through his chosen people and rescue them. The books call Christians to live faithfully before God and give Christians hope that God is not yet through extending his mercies to His people.

