

Robinson Rojas

BIB102: Old Testament Literature: OB

3/ 30 / 2021

Dr. David Emanuel

Assignment 5

The book of Malachi has a very interesting dynamic, God is speaking to the people of Israel through the Prophet Malachi. This book is broken down into 4 chapters, chapter 1 & 2-God is faithful to his people, but they are unfaithful to him, chapter 3- God will purify his people, and lastly, chapter 4- The “day of the lord” is coming.

This book was written in the time of Nehemiah, most likely around 430 B.C. The book is taking place at the end of the exile, after king Cyrus of Persia allowed the Hebrew exile to return home. However, the people of Israel were not grateful and found themselves complaining to God. So, God used the Prophet Malachi to speak to the people of Israel and tell them that the reason why they are not receiving their blessings is because they have not been obedient and have not kept their covenant with God. What make this book more interesting is the fact that God will go on to remain silent into the start of the new testament, which took an approximately over 400.

The message in the book of Malachi is strictly for the people of Israel, God is trying to correct their transgressions and disobedient. They had forgotten God and how he had brought them out through many trials and tribulations. Their Priest decided they were not going to honor God in their ways, which then led the people of Israel to follow after their leaders and disobey God, and finally they started breaking covenant through Divorce. Even though, this book was clearly addressing an issue with the people of Israel, we as Christian can all relate to this situation. We all go through moments when we forget what God have done for us and from where he has brought us out of. Then we start depending more on our own actions then obeying God. This is what exactly happened to the People of Israel.

As a Married man, one of the most triggering part was for me was how God refers to Marriage and how he expects us to honor our vow with our spouses and honor our covenant with God. Especially during the times that we are living in today's generation. Divorce is such a common thing whether is inside the Church or out in the world, infidelity being one of the major reasons. This is why in Malachi 2: 14-16 God says "So be on your guard and do not be unfaithful". Also, a lot of Christian tends to get married and just like the people of Israel forget God and just complain about the things that they don't have. This is something I will be taking into consideration as a Husband, I have the responsibility of making sure I protect my Wife and protect the Covenant we made toward God.

This book is highly used in times of tithing and offering, but nevertheless, this book is so much more than just give to your local church. I can literally hear God pleading with his people for us to get it right. He has so many blessings for us, this is what Malachi chapter 3 talks about when God is telling his people “Try me and see if I won't open the floodgates of Heaven and pour you out blessings that you won't have room to receive”. Many times we think God asks something from us because he doesn't want us to have certain things or enjoy certain lifestyles, but this is the total opposite, God doesn't want us to settle for less or even worse try to accomplish it on our own.

My biggest takeaway from this book is the danger of forgetting God throughout our journey. During difficult times it is easy to cry out to God, especially when you don't have any options left. However, the tricky part is when you receive your blessing or like the people of Israel receive your freedom, are you still going to choose God over everything else?