

Richard Todd Merz serving Christ meaning maturing each day / this occurs through study and then living!! Scripture, the most accurate book on the planet written over 1,500 years by an approximate (give or take a few per the dictionary) 40 authors [MOD 1 applied January 16, 2022]

NEW FORMAT

MALACHI CHAPTER 3

Scripture passage included then commentary underneath each verse

King James Version

(KJV)

Verse 1: 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.

Verse (1) is not a calling of man but of God. We often place the person over the calling but that is not what God does – the calling is over the person in each case. This is because man has a sin nature, and the calling of God does not. A man can rise to the calling or not.

What I viewed in this verse is “...and he shall prepare the way...” meaning this terminology is associated in Scripture with Mark 1:3 “The voice of one crying in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord [The Ministry of John the Baptist], make his paths straight” (King James Version).

This is to show that both testaments Old and New were covered in the innocent blood of Jesus Christ and no other.

1. The Old Testament was sprinkled in Scripture Exodus 24:8 “And Moses took the blood, and sprinkled it on the people, and said, Behold the blood of the covenant, which the LORD hath made with you concerning all these words” (King James Version)”.
2. The New Testament Matthew 26:28 “For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins” (King James Version).

Verse 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:

Building off verse (1), the calling is over the person because no one can stand the Glorious Day of God's Return. Romans 14:11 “For it is written, As I live, saith the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God” (King James Version).

God is the “Refiner” and the “Full Soap” and calls man for His purpose who shall also be in the “Refinement” and “Full Soap”.

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Verse 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.

Every word of God and every verse has meaning beyond any commentary that ever or will ever exist. For anyone to pompously believe that their work in matters of Scripture is complete is false. See the issue at hand is found in this verse as to why carry out God's calling of Scripture on this Ministry Website?

This Ministry Website does not proclaim to contain all matters of truth of God but does proclaim the Love of God and does demonstrate how God works through man so that God's Love is in the calling.

God "Shall" refine and purify the Silver and the Gold. God purges to the point of **Gold and Silver = Joint**. John 17 is found in this verse that they "May" offer unto the LORD an offering "in righteousness".

This calling of God upon this Ministry Website owner is exactly that = The PURPLE is not so PURPLE after all. This is the Mystery of God revealed. The PURPLE will be purged and only Righteousness "Shall" remain.

Verse 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.

Notice: To build off verse (3), "Then shall the offering...be pleasant".

Notice: God does move forward in the present but does not forsake the past (God is not limited to time). Man does not make anything new in matters of the faith; only God does. God makes new matters of faith to purge the Silver as well as the Gold unto a state of Gold and Silver = Joint.

The Flood during Noah's day and the building of the Ark (Reference: Genesis Chapter 6 through Genesis Chapter 10:1) was an unspeakable Mercy of God to save unborn GENERATIONS as God purged the **PURPLE** in favor of **RIGHTEOUSNESS** - a judgement and a preservation **from the flood through the Tribulation for the Israelites (Scofield, 1996). As God will also do at the RAPTURE for the Saints pictured in Enoch who was taken to Heaven (before) the flood as the Rapture will occur for the Saints (before) the Tribulation (Scofield, 1996). Notice, salvation is (still) available in the Tribulation.**

Scofield, C. I. (1996). *The scofield study bible*. New York, NY: Oxford University Press.

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Verse 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.

This verse teaches about the fear of God, and in the teachings of the New Testament we understand that the sin of the heart is guilty but engaging in not only what is guilty in the heart but also in life is what this verse is referring to in the Old Testament. Self-Control.

The reality is that not even the Atheist can argue against that life itself does in fact culminate into a moment in time where our next chapter is unknown. This is where faith comes into play because the unknown has knowns yet is unknown until we get there. Everyone has faith including the Atheist.

Naturally, since accountability is real in our daily known lives then certainly accountability is more in the unknown chapters of culmination. Our hearts and our actions will be held accountable. Accountability is inescapable.

For this Ministry Website Owner, each day is a day closer to the Glory of God and in this is excitement and fear. Excitement because of what God has promised in His Word, fear because He is God, and I am not. Yet, I must work through each excitement and fear to carry out the content of this Ministry Website.

Verse 6: For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Humanity must discuss change because of our sin nature but notice how God does not change. God indicates that because He does not change then those who fear Him are not consumed as we know this life is temporary.

God has absolutely no reason whatsoever to change. This is more reason to fear God. Humanity must change, God does not. Instead, God gave of Himself to bring us into a state of having eternal opportunity to be held by the Unchangeable God.

Verse 7: Even from the days of your fathers ye are gone away from mine ordinances, and have not kept them. Return unto me, and I will return unto you, saith the LORD of hosts. But ye said, Wherein shall we return?

Notice the requirement here for forgiveness and reconciliation is for man to return unto God and God will then return unto man. Simple. True to form, man finds a way to be arrogant and make an unjustified return question of "Wherein shall we return?" The true core of man revealed in the unjustified return question.

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Either we bout for integrity and possess it and own it / or we use lip service and write integrity, but the core does not display integrity. The opportunity is to rise above our historical record of not having integrity at the core – that is what God is getting at.

Verse 8: Will a man rob God? Yet ye have robbed me. But ye say, Wherein have we robbed thee? In tithes and offerings.

In this verse many have come into conflict with this principle including this Ministry Website Owner. I have had some years where my tithes and offerings were well above the requirement of Scripture with no boasting whatsoever – it was done with the right heart. Contrary, I have also had some years where I did not rise to the requirement. My heart has always been on tithes and offerings so we must inventory why not when we do not.

God is extremely specific in this verse, “Tithes and Offerings”.

But know this, God specifically indicates to test God in this matter and see what blessings God will provide. Going ahead to Verse (10), God says “...and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven...”. Notice windows is (plural not singular).

This Ministry Website Owner will leave it up to the individual to work it out with the local church in terms of discussing the “Tithes and Offerings” in more depth.

Verse 9: Ye are cursed with a curse: for ye have robbed me, even this whole nation.

I am making it known that God did call me unto this Ministry Website, and I am taking all who are serious about their eternal life with me. So, we are on this journey together.

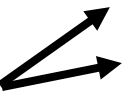
My Church family called me out to dig deeper into the soul, I now have a Ministry that I could not under any circumstance foresee. God let me know that I was too comfortable not engaging in this area of life. This circular approach is necessary to unlock what is inside.

However, God pulled back on the throttle, so that I carry this Ministry Website out in chunks rather than in large gains. This is so I have balance. So, I do verses at a time rather than entire Chapters at a time.

Building off verse (8), God is profoundly serious about obeying or being cursed. Notice how circular this is, it is collective hence why calling out is necessary. This bubbles all the way to the National Level and is why I am grateful for my Military tour of duty in Afghanistan in 2017-2018 where this Ministry Website matured.

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Hebrews 12:1 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,” (King James Version).

Verse 10: Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

Here is what the contention is even for this Ministry Website Owner as I have sometimes been well above the Scripture requirement yet had some years where I did not rise to the requirement.

This verse is clear, “Bring ye all the tithes...”. This Ministry Website Owner will leave it at that to discuss further will the local church. Blessings are NOT in the MONEY; they are in the HEART.

Verse 11: And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.

Notice here, God will rebuke on our behalf Evil who stands in the way of GOD’s HEART. The fruit of God’s labor shall prosper. The time of the harvest is in God’s hand.

Verse 12: And all nations shall call you blessed: for ye shall be a delightsome land, saith the LORD of hosts.

Look at this very closely. ALL Nations shall call you blessed. Now this is Joint.

Verse 13: Your words have been stout against me, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, What have we spoken so much against thee?

This is where character and integrity are vital (Henry, 2008). What this verse is indicating is that those who lack character and integrity do the questioning as if they did not do any wrong.

This is termed “The Club” or clusters in the broader league of self-justification (Henry, 2008).

Henry, Matthew. (2008). Matthew Henry’s commentary on the whole bible. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers Marketing, LLC.

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Verse 14: Ye have said, It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it that we have kept his ordinance, and that we have walked mournfully before the LORD of hosts?

Matters of the faulty HEART. The reality of life is that Evil exists, and it will appear to be achieving its ends, but the deeper reality is that God is setting up Evil for the massive fall. Therefore, being strong in the faith is vital and so live day by day and hour by hour rather than in the holistic view. The holistic view will skew the HEART so do not only be a holistic view person but also be a day by day and hour by hour person.

This verse is the difference between a THOUGHT person of God and a JEWEL Ministry person of God giving all glory unto God alone. See verses (16 to 18) for more discussion.

Verse 15: And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up; yea, they that tempt God are even delivered.

This builds off verse (14) in that Evil will fall. The Evil are not in reality ever happy because God has won the victory, so their happiness is in fact a fake façade. Evil has a moment in the sun that is it. But we do have to understand that while we live in the age of Evil's Sun the wrath of Evil is Great.

Revelation 12:12 “Therefore rejoice, ye heavens, and ye that dwell in them. Woe to the inhabitants of the earth and of the sea! for the devil is come down unto you, having (great) wrath, because he knoweth that he hath but a short time” (King James Version). The only way to combat this is with Great Ministry uplifted by the Great Witnesses.

Hebrews 12:1 “Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so (great) a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,” (King James Version).

Verse 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.

This particular Chapter has a lot of arrows because it accentuates the curse of God, or the blessings of God and we are all in it in community as well as self.

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Look how High God is as God has a "...book of remembrance...for them that feared the LORD, and that thought upon his name." (King James Version).

In other words, our works in caparison to God are but only a thought. God took upon Himself ALL the sin of the world unto Eternal Life. However, God does weigh our faithfulness in His Book.

Notice this, the next verse accentuates "And they shall be mine" = Love of God as he refers to us as "Jewels".

Does God see us as ONLY a thought person that He elevates to a JEWEL or does God see us as a JEWEL person that then carries more JEWELS in heaven?? The choice is ours to make on Earth. These are matters of the HEART not Monetary or Status and is open to ALL.

My Church Family made me see this as I fell into a THOUGHT person from a JEWEL person previously. Hence – I was called out and rightfully so. These are matters of the HEART not anything else. How do we run the race of the calling set before us???? The JEWEL is any Ministry that is run in a manner of Hebrews 12:1 so yes being an usher, so yes meeting and greeting, so yes taking prayer requests etc.

Hebrews 12:1 "Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us," (King James Version).

Verse 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.

Notice this, God will "spare his Jewels" because either they were THOUGHT people who were raised to a JEWEL or because the Ministry was a JEWEL because the race was run in accordance with Hebrews 12:1 from which more JEWELS will stem from in heaven. All glory is God's alone.

Verse 18: Then shall ye return, and discern between the righteous and the wicked, between him that serveth God and him that serveth him not.

This is what my Church Family was getting at when I was rightfully called out. Who truly serves God???? It is discernable. I had to regain my JEWEL / Ministry.

