

Morning Worship

March 5, 2017

Worship Leader — Tim Waters Piano — Marcia Hart

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Chorus #212	<i>I Love You, Lord</i>	Tim/People
Worship Prayer		Allan Lane
Welcome and Fellowship		Allan/People
Scripture Reading	Psalm 89:1-8	Tim/People
Hymn #16	<i>O Worship the King</i>	Tim/People
Offering Prayer		John Lewis
Tithes and Offerings		People
Offering Music		Marcia Hart
Hymn #247	<i>Come, Thou Almighty King</i>	Tim/People
Hymn #538	<i>Ask Ye What Great Thing I Know</i>	Tim/People
Anthem	<i>At the Cross Medley</i>	Worship Choir
Children's Worship		(Children are dismissed)
Scripture Reading		Allan/People
Message	<i>Malachi: Be Ready</i>	Allan Lane
Hymn #320	<i>Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus</i>	Tim/People
Prayer Concerns		Allan/People
Chorus #571	<i>Let Others See Jesus in You</i>	Tim/People

Malachi: Be Ready

Malachi 2:17-3:6

Malachi speaks of the day when God will bring justice to the earth. There were a few people in Israel who had remained faithful to God but lamented the perceived lack of action on God's part to bring appropriate judgment upon the rebellious among them. They had wrongly concluded that God was unwilling to judge sin. Malachi speaks of that day when all wrongs will be made right - the day of the coming of the Messiah - the Lord Jesus Christ.

1. The preparation for His coming. Verse 1

The name Malachi, means "my messenger." The prophet was the Lord's messenger. We have also seen the priests referred to as the Lord's messengers. Now we see the word used twice, once for John the Baptist and once for Jesus.

Here is where we see both the first coming of Christ mentioned along with the second coming. Most scholars agree that in the first part of this verse, the Messenger referred to is John the Baptist. This is a reference to the first coming of Christ. In the second part of the verse, the Messenger is Jesus, and is a reference to the second coming of Christ.

Ironically, both times are times of judgment. The first time Christ came, He took upon Himself the judgment for the world's sins. The second time He comes, He, Himself, will judge all who refused to accept His sacrifice for their sins. In this, we see the preparation that was needed before the coming these folks were looking for could take place.

Christ had to be judged for mankind's sin, before He would judge mankind's sin. Christ had to first be nailed to a cross of judgment; before He would be seated on a judgment throne. God has graciously provided the possibility of man's forgiveness; and now patiently provides opportunity for man's repentance. Before the justice of God could prevail in this world; God wanted to first see that forgiveness was provided for this world.

2. The purpose of His coming. Verses 2-4

The purpose for the second coming of Christ is two-fold:

a. Refinement . vs. 2-3a

When the Lord comes to exact judgment, He does not begin with those whom Malachi's audience might expect. No, His focus is on the people of God (v. 3). In 2 Chronicles 7 we are reminded that if the people of God fall away, there is a way for them to return. Verse 14 most of you know by heart: "If My People ..." God says.

The mention of the Levites (priests) in verse 3, reminds us of what we are told in the book of Revelation (Revelation 5:9-10). When Christ returns for His people, He will complete whatever is lacking in us, making us like Him, our Great High Priest, in every way. His purpose is so we might worship Him properly.

b. Restoration . vs. 3b-4

Movers left a grandfather clock, without its pendulum, sitting in the living room. The seconds ticked on in a frenzied manner. Without the pendulum all the intricate mechanism rattled on with a noticeable lack of precision. Here is a picture of the world today. God has created all things to move in proper balance, but men refuse the Lord Jesus Christ, who alone can give this world it needs. Nothing will move with perfection until He comes again. But when He does come, oh, what perfection will then abound (2 Peter 3:13).

Tom Wells said "To see the world's rebels turned into friends of God is, after all, a God-centered goal. It looks beyond benefit to men. For in coming to Christ their hearts will be changed. They will be made new men throughout. As friends they will do what they would not do as foes. They will lay down their arms and raise their songs of praise: they will worship their Creator. They will adore Him whom they once despised. They will praise the Lord!"

3. The promise concerning His coming. Verse 5

In the divine plan of redemption, the Messiah had to come and first pay for the sins of the world so that judgment would be poured out on Him on behalf of all people. Thus, He would not come to judge in the days of Malachi, but in His own time.

But make no mistake. Now that we are on this side of the cross, we are closer than ever to the coming of Christ whereby He will make all things right and all things new. That is what Malachi speaks of here.

Conclusion

a. Repent of your presumption. - 2:17

Can't you just see a modern day adult Sunday school class, sitting around on a Sunday morning, bemoaning the sinfulness of our age, and talking about how the second coming MUST be around the corner, and wondering why the Lord delays.

Malachi uses "anthropomorphism," that is, he uses human language to say that God was tired, He was fed up as it were, with these people. They did not think they had wearied God, but they had. The fact is that there are a number of reasons why God might delay judgment. The chief reason: He wanted to give people a chance to repent and get right with Him. Peter explains this in 2 Peter 3:9.

The prophet says their request for instant judgment was presumptuous - if they really wanted the justice of God then they would be in trouble, too (3:2). The fact was

that just like there were those who needed to repent of waywardness; they needed to repent of their hardheartedness.

The rebellious and wayward were not the only ones that God was giving time to repent; they had some things that God was giving them time to repent of, too. Namely, it was their lack of compassion and their judgmental spirit toward those who in rebellion. Their eyes needed to be opened to the compassion of God above them; the need of those around them; and the callousness within them.

Bob Pierce, founder of World Vision said "Let my heart be broken with the things that break God's heart." That is what was needed to be the prayer of the people in Malachi's day. Does it need to be your prayer, too?

b. Resolve to be patient. - 3:1-5

Malachi pointed them to the coming of the Messiah, which would bring judgment to the wicked and reward to the righteous; and the justice and righteousness which the people said they longed. Remember, the Old Testament prophets knew the facts about the Messiah, but they did not fully comprehend the time sequence concerning the events of His coming. They did not understand there would be a second coming of the Messiah. For example, the Old Testament prophets would speak how the Messiah would suffer and die, but also of how He would reign victoriously. Peter explains they couldn't put this together; but with the resurrection of Jesus and the promise of His return, we can now look back on the Old Testament passages and better understand them (1 Peter 1:10-11).

Old Testament prophets saw the 1st and 2nd comings of Christ as one event. Kind of like a person seeing what looks to be one mountain peak, but there is another peak behind it with a valley in between. While both comings of Christ are mentioned in this prophecy, it is the second coming of Christ, when all wrongs will be made right, that the prophet has in view; and Malachi shares three truths about the coming of the Messiah that will bring about ultimate justice to this world.

What are we to do until the Lord comes again and rights all wrongs? As Jesus expressed it in the parable of the ten servants, "Occupy till I come" (Luke 19:13). Here's a list of Biblical proportion to follow: "Walk submissively, worship triumphantly, witness urgently, work fervently, and watch expectantly. We must make sure we are ready and that others around us are ready. We are to represent Him; we are to seek justice; we are to model righteousness; and we are to call everyone we possibly can to repentance and faith in Christ."

Occupy Till He Comes!

That's Not Fair!

Three weeks ago during our January Bible Study Bro. Tim taught Malachi 2:17-3:5. He kept reminding us how God's people seem to use that phrase when they think they are being mistreated.

"That's not fair" is too common of a complaint. Once a socialist came to see Andrew Carnegie, American businessman, and founder of Carnegie Steel Company (it later became U.S. Steel). The socialist was railing against the injustice of Carnegie having so much money. In his view, wealth was meant to be divided equally. Carnegie asked his secretary for an assessment of everything he owned. At the same time looked up the figures on world population. He did a little arithmetic on a pad, then said to his secretary, "Give this gentleman 16 cents. That's his share of my wealth."

The words "It's not fair!" so easily fall from our lips. According to Ann Landers the average teenager uses the phrase "it's not fair" 86 times a day. Do a web search for the simple phrase "when life is not fair" and it will yield a staggering 97.2 million results.

Malachi 2:17 tells us that God is tired of playing games with His people. He tells them "You

have wearied the Lord with your words..." The word 'wearied' implies repetitious entreaties. Parents get weary when their young children are always asking for things. "Can I have this? Can I do that? Are we there yet? What's for dinner?" are just a few of their repetitive offerings. However, it is not so much the repetitiousness that bothered God; it was much more the nature of the complaint. God was more offended by the content of their complaint than by their never-ending moaning. God was offended that the people would accuse Him of injustice.

The Jewish people of Malachi's day were facing a problem that many in the Old Testament wrestled with: "Why does God allow rotten people to get away with doing evil and they even seem to prosper while good people seemed to suffer most." They did think that they were the 'good' people despite all their faults and failings that are recorded in this short book of prophecy.

What they are actually saying is; "We are the good but are not getting rich. Why? Where is the God of justice?" Someone said "People who are out to find fault seldom find anything else"

The people of God in Malachi's day made statements without having all the facts. With their limited understanding they thought they knew more than the eternal, creator God. As Christians we affirm that God is a God of justice but we know that injustices occur daily in this life. Yet we believe that God will one day judge all evil. But in the meantime the wicked do prosper and good people are sometimes afflicted. The first five verses in Malachi 3 deal with the peoples complaining and Malachi gives them a two-fold answer. First, God is coming and there will be a judgement. Second, ALL evildoers will be judged. Be ready!

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, March 5, 2017

Choir Rehearsal.....9:00 am

Sunday School.....9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough, Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters

Alternate: Larry McKahan

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Monday, March 6

Food Kitchen.....5:30 pm

Wednesday, March 8

Prayer Warriors.....10:00 am

Youth Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Adult Choir.....7:30 pm

Thursday, March 9

R Team.....6:30 pm

Saturday, March 11

Mission Trip Meeting 9:30 am

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, March 12, 2017

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Isaac Waters, Ken Kirkpatrick, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Ken Nice

Evening Worship.....6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 15

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, March 16

O Team.....6:30 pm

Saturday, March 18

Betty Campbell's 90th Birthday Celebration from 2-4 pm at McCarthy Baptist Church

Up-Coming Events.....

March 5-12— Week of Prayer for North American Missions

March 6 — Food Kitchen 5:30 pm

March 8 — Prayer Warriors 10:00 am

March 10-11 — NW Region Disaster Relief Training

March 12— Daylight Saving Time begins

— Food Pantry Collection

March 17 — Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 18 — Betty Campbell's 90th birthday celebration 2-4 pm

March 19 — Lunch and Business Meeting at Noon

March 30 — VBS Worker's Clinic FBC, St. Joseph 6:30-9:00 pm

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

Sunday Nights

We will have Bible study tonight at 6:30 pm. Please join us tonight for a special surprise!

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

This Wednesday at 6:30 pm we will begin a new study entitled ***More to Your Story***. This six session study by Max Lucado focuses on discovering your plan in God's plan. Hope to see you here!

March 5—11, 2017
Week of Prayer for
North American Missions
And Annie Armstrong

Easter Offering

Food Kitchen

We will serve Monday, March 6, at 5:30 pm. Please feel free to join us as we show the love of Christ and minister to those in need.

Prayer Warriors
Wednesday, March 8, 2017
10:00 am

Southern Baptist Convention Disaster Relief Training **March 10-11**

Cost for first time
registration is \$20.00.

Pleasant Valley Baptist Church 1600 North 291 Hwy
Liberty, Missouri 64068

Daylight Saving Time! **March 12**

Please remember to spring forward one hour the night of March 11.

90th Birthday Celebration

Betty (Harr) Campbell

March 18, 2017

2:00-4:00 pm

McCarthy Baptist Church

Please come and help us celebrate Betty's 90th birthday!

**FELLOWSHIP DINNER AND
BUSINESS MEETING**
Sunday, March 19,

Immediately following the Morning Worship Service.

In Sympathy

We offer Christian compassion to Datha Dillon in the recent passing of her
daughter,
Susan Walsh.

For the Record-

Attendance: February 26, 2017

Sunday School..... 48

Visitors..... 6

Total.....	54
Contacts Made.....	4
Morning Worship.....	54
Children's Worship.....	14
Wednesday Night	18

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget \$ 2,040.52
 Offering Received ... \$ 2,373.20

Offering Received by Mail:

March Counting Team:

Bill Schottel and Mike Green

March Van Driver:

George Burgess

Remember to call 232-3747
before 8 am if you need a ride.

March Member Birthdays:

01...Ken Nice
 05...Sharon Yarbrough
 13...Tim Ford
 16... Don Sharp
 16... Aleana Lane
 20... Betty Campbell
 27... Jim Winans

March Anniversaries

Fred and Linda Kerns
 March 14, 1969

Prayer Requests ...

Datha Dillon's Daughter's family
 Troy Griswold—surgery recovery
 Rev. A. B. Brown
 Tracy Maisel and Tim Ford
 Juanita and Bill Haskins—adjustments
 Tim Izer
 Gary & Peggy Fewins, Byron & Joel
 George Ferbert—strength
 Nellie Reynolds—recovery at home
 Larry Danner—cancer treatment
 Cynthia Burdick—cancer treatment
 Jim Winans at home
 Karissa and Matt Long and family
 Betty Campbell—healing
 Marcia and Don Hart—future plans

Lisa Bowers—Jack and Flo's daughter

LoLeta Middleton—strength

Ellen Blanton and Lois Ulmer—

Elvera's daughter & daughter-in-law

Stella Davis and Linda Rails—Doris

Richardson's sisters

Madeline Swink Ann Riddle

Kathryn Beavers Keon McKahan

Louanne Laurence Leona Reynolds

Jozy Winans Kenny Duty

Kevin Duty Buddy Means

Bill Haskins Debbie Sands

Pat Puckett Judy Anderson

Brenda Burgess Roscoe Lane

Carolyn Houts

Missionaries Don and Diane Combs

Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church

David and Deborah Grace

Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People

Our Nation and Leaders

Our Military Service people

Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
