

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions

v92

Malachi

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Malachi

Malachi 1

Malachi 1:1

ULT	UST
The burden of the word of Yahweh to Israel by the hand of Malachi.	*This is a serious message from Yahweh. Yahweh gave it to Malachi to tell to the Israelite people.*

By whom did the word of Yahweh come to Israel?

The word of Yahweh came by Malachi.

Malachi 1:2-3

Whom did Yahweh love, and whom did he hate?

Yahweh loved Israel, Jacob, and he hated Esau.

Malachi 1:4-5

How would Israel respond when Yahweh would throw down the rebuilt ruins of Edom?

Israel would respond by saying, “Great is Yahweh beyond the borders of Israel.”

Malachi 1:6-7

As Israel’s father and master, what did Yahweh ask the priests?

Yahweh asked the priests where was the honor and reverence due his name, and why they despised his name and his table.

Malachi 1:8-9

How would Yahweh respond to offerings of blind, lame, and sick animals?

Yahweh would not accept blind, lame, and sick offerings, nor show favor or graciousness to Israel for them, nor receive Israel for offering them.

Malachi 1:10-11

Why would Yahweh prefer that one of the Israelites shut the temple gates to prevent them from lighting fires on his altar in vain?

Because Yahweh's name was going to be glorified among the nations, and in every place the nations were going to offer pure offerings unlike the offerings from the hands of the Israelites.

Malachi 1:13

ULT	UST
But you say, 'Behold, what a weariness!' And you puff at it," says Yahweh of Armies. "And you bring the stolen and the lame and the sick —thus you bring the offering! Should I accept this from your hand?" says Yahweh.	*You even say, 'We are tired of doing this work!' You show that you do not care about it." This is what Yahweh, who commands the heavenly armies, says. "You bring me animals that you stole, cannot walk, or are sick. If you bring these as offerings, do not think that I will accept them from you!" says Yahweh.*

How did the priests regard the service of Yahweh?

They regarded it as tiresome, and they disdainfully snorted at it.

Malachi 1:14

ULT	UST
"But cursed be the deceiver if a male is in his flock and he vows it, but he sacrifices the blemished to the Lord. For I am a great King, says Yahweh of Armies, and my name is feared among the nations.	*"I will punish anyone who tries to cheat me. If someone promises to give me a good male animal from his flock but then gives me one that is not healthy, I will punish that person. After all, I am the great King. I am Yahweh, who commands the heavenly armies, and people all over the world respect me."*

Why did the Lord curse the deceiver who vowed to sacrifice a male animal in his flock and instead gave a flawed animal?

Because Yahweh is a great King, and his name is feared among the nations.

Malachi 2

Malachi 2:3-4

By what would the priests know that Yahweh had commanded them to take it to heart to give glory to his name?

They would know by the curse of Yahweh on their blessings, and by him spreading dung on their faces.

Malachi 2:7

ULT	UST
For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and they should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of Yahweh of Armies.	*After all, a priest should teach people how to know God better. People should learn from what the priest says, because he brings messages from me, Yahweh, the commander of the heavenly armies.*

Why did Levi honor Yahweh, stand in awe of Yahweh's name, have true teaching in his mouth rather than unrighteousness, walk with Yahweh in peace and uprightness, and turn many away from sin?

Because the priest should guard knowledge as the messenger of Yahweh.

Malachi 2:8-9

How did the priests corrupt the covenant of Levi and not keep Yahweh's ways?

The priests did so by showing partiality in their instruction.

Malachi 2:10-12

Who would Yahweh cut off from the tents of Jacob?

Yahweh would cut off any man who dealt treacherously against his brother or who married the daughter of a foreign god, and then brought an offering to Yahweh.

Malachi 2:14-15

Why did Yahweh not accept Israel's offerings?

Because Israel had dealt treacherously with the wife of his youth.

Malachi 2:15-16

Why did Yahweh command the Israelites to guard themselves in their spirit and not be faithless?

Because Yahweh had made Israel and his wife one in order to have godly offspring, and because Yahweh hated divorce and him who covers his garment with violence.

Malachi 2:17

ULT	UST
You have wearied Yahweh with your words. But you say, “How have we wearied him?” In your saying, “All of the doers of evil are good in the eyes of Yahweh, and he delights in them,” or, “Where is the God of justice?”	*Yahweh is tired of hearing what you have been saying. You may wonder what I mean and ask, “How have we made him tired?” You have made him tired by saying, “Yahweh thinks that people who do evil things are actually good. He is happy with them.” Yahweh is also tired of hearing you say, “God is not being fair!”*

How did the Israelites weary Yahweh with their words?

They wearied Yahweh with their words by saying that he who does evil is good in Yahweh’s sight and he delights in them, and by asking where the God of justice was.

Malachi 3

Malachi 3:1

ULT	UST
“Behold me, sending my messenger, and he will prepare the way to my face. Then suddenly he will come to his temple, the Lord whom you are seeking. And the messenger of the covenant, whom you are desiring, behold, he is coming,” says Yahweh of Armies.	*Yahweh, who commands the heavenly armies, says, “Pay attention! I am about to send my messenger. He will get things ready for me to come. Then I, the Lord you are looking for, will suddenly come to my temple. You want someone to bring you a message about my agreement with you, and I am going to send someone to do that.*

What would happen after Yahweh sent his messenger of the covenant who would prepare his way?

The Lord, whom Israel sought, would suddenly come to his temple.

Malachi 3:3

ULT	UST
And he will sit refining and purifying silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and like silver. And they will be to Yahweh bringers of an offering in righteousness.	*He will help people stop sinning, just as a metalworker sits patiently near silver he has melted and keeps removing impurities from it. He will purify the descendants of Levi, just as a metalworker purifies gold and silver. Then they will bring proper offerings to Yahweh.*

When would the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasing to Yahweh?

It would be pleasing after the purification of the sons of Levi, when they were refined like gold and silver.

Malachi 3:4-5

After the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem were pleasing to Yahweh through the purification of Levi’s sons, what would Yahweh do?

He would draw near to Israel for judgment and be a swift witness against those who did not honor him.

Malachi 3:6-7

Even though the people of Jacob had turned aside from Yahweh’s ordinances, why had they not been consumed?

They had not been consumed because Yahweh does not change.

Malachi 3:7

ULT	UST
From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says Yahweh of Armies. "But you say, 'In what shall we return?'	*Ever since the time of your ancestors, you have disobeyed my laws. You have completely ignored them. Now come back to me, and I will come back to you," says Yahweh, the commander of the heavenly armies. "You may wonder what I mean and ask, 'How can we come back to you?'*

How had Israel turned away from Yahweh?

They had turned away by not keeping his ordinances.

Malachi 3:8

ULT	UST
Will a human rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'In what have we robbed you?' In the tithe and the contribution.	*You might think that no one would even try to steal from God. But you are stealing from me! You may wonder what I mean and ask, 'How are we stealing from you?' You are stealing from me by not giving me the tithes and offerings that you should.*

How had Israel robbed God?

They had robbed God in tithes and offerings.

Malachi 3:10-12

What did Yahweh promise would happen if Israel brought the full tithe into the storehouse?

Yahweh promised that he would rebuke the one who devours you, and that all the nations would call Israel blessed.

Malachi 3:13-15

How had the Israelites spoken against Yahweh?

They had said that serving God is pointless because the arrogant and evildoers prosper even when they tempt him.

Malachi 3:17

ULT	UST
“And they will be to me,” says Yahweh of Armies, “a special possession on the day that I am preparing. And I will have compassion on them just as a man has compassion on his son, the one serving him.	*Then Yahweh, the commander of the heavenly armies, said, “These people especially will belong to me. On the day when I judge people, I will spare them from punishment. I will treat them kindly, just as parents treat kindly the children who obey them.*

Who did Yahweh say would belong to him and be spared?

Yahweh said that those who feared Yahweh and esteemed his name would belong to him and be spared.

Malachi 3:17-18

On the day that Yahweh would act, what would happen?

The Israelites would again distinguish between the righteous and the wicked, and between one who worships God and one who does not worship him.

Malachi 4

Malachi 4:1-2

On the day that was coming, burning like a furnace, what would happen to the proud and evildoers?

The proud and evildoers would become stubble, being burnt up.

Malachi 4:2

ULT	UST
But for you fearers of my name, the sun of righteousness will rise, and healing will be upon its wings. And you will go out and skip like calves of the stall.	*But those of you who honor me will experience my power saving you as if the sun were rising and bringing you warmth and light. By my power, I will heal you. You will be as happy as calves are when they leave their stalls to go and play out in the open fields.*

For whom would the sun of righteousness rise?

The sun of righteousness would rise for those who feared Yahweh's name.

Malachi 4:2-3

What would those who feared Yahweh's name do on the day that Yahweh acted?

They would go out leaping like calves from the stall and tread down the wicked.

Malachi 4:4

ULT	UST
"Remember the instruction of Moses my servant, which I commanded him at Horeb for all of Israel, the statutes and the judgments.	*"Remember to obey the laws that I gave to my servant Moses on Mount Sinai. Obey all the rules and regulations that I gave him for all the Israelite people to obey.*

What did Yahweh command all Israel to do?

He commanded them to remember and obey the law of his servant Moses.

Malachi 4:5-6

What would Yahweh do before the day of Yahweh?

He would send Elijah to turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, so that Yahweh would not curse the land.