

# Malachi

*"Messenger of God"*

St. Mina Coptic Orthodox Church Hamilton  
Minor Prophets – Pre servants

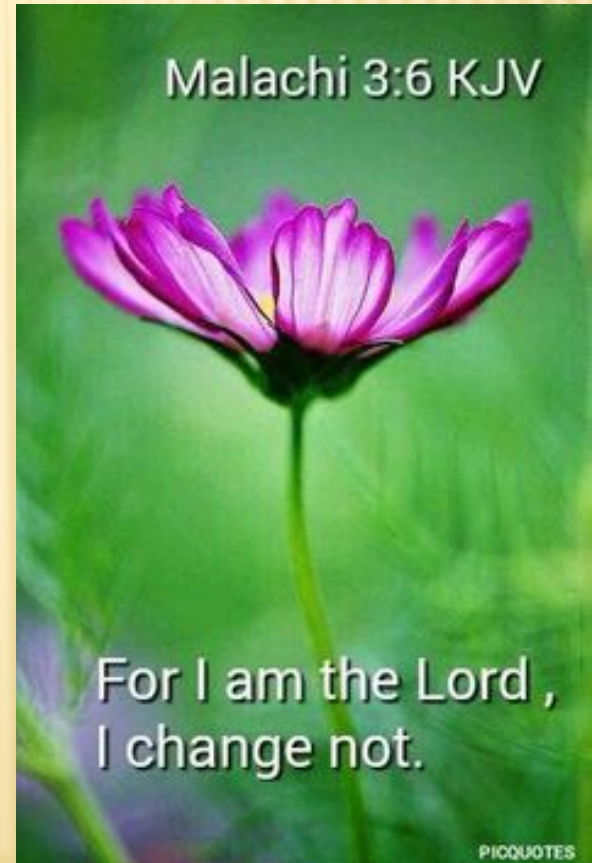
# NAME AND HISTORY

---

- ❑ Malachi means “My messenger”.
- ❑ Date: 445 – 432 BC.
- ❑ Malachi uses a different writing style called “didactic-dialectic”. This style has this form:
  - + A charge or an allegation is made
  - + The hearer raises an objection or asks a question regarding the charge or assertion
  - + A disproof is made with further amplification of the original charge or assertion

# OUTLINE OF MALACHI

- ❑ God's love for Israel and her unfaithful response (1-2)
- ❑ The Day of the Lord and the purging of Israel (3-4)



# OUTLINE

---

- + The Jews disrespect for God (1:1-14)
- + The priests and people are rebuked (2:1-16)
- + God's requirements (2:17-3:15)
- + The final lot of the righteous and the wicked (3:16-4:6)
- + After that were 400 years of silence

# MESSAGE

---

- ❑ The Jews had started the return to Jerusalem almost 100 years before the date of Malachi's writing. They returned with great zeal and enthusiasm and renewed faith.
- ❑ God had conditionally promised to bless them but instead of prospering materially they had suffered distress and famine resulting in a weakened faith.
- ❑ They murmured against God's justice and manifested skepticism.
- ❑ Malachi assures them that God loves them and that sincere service would bring increased blessing. God had not been unfaithful.

# MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

---

- ❑ The problem was the lack of sincerity, devotion and obedience on the part of the Jews
- ❑ The divorce rate showed that their morals were not good
- ❑ Offering defective animals for sacrifice betrayed a lack of devotion
- ❑ The withholding of tithes and offerings revealed their selfishness

# MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

---

- ❑ The Jews were ritualistically serving God but not in righteousness, holiness, and true devotion
- ❑ God informs them that Malachi is to be the last prophet until “Elijah” comes to herald the coming Messiah

1:1	God says: "I have loved you"	People answer: "How have you loved us?"	God has blessed Israel above other nations
1:6	God says: "If I am a father, where is my honor?"	People answer: "How have we despised your name?"	The people have not offered their best to the Lord
2:10	People ask: "If we are brothers, why do we deal treacherously with one another?"		The people have defrauded one another, especially in the area of divorce
2:17	God says: "You have wearied the Lord with your words"	People answer: "How have we wearied Him?"	The people have asked for justice, but have not acted justly.
3:1	Promise of a Coming Messenger.		
3:6	God says: "Return to Me and I will return to you"	People answer: "How shall we return?"	The people are to bring the whole tithe into the storehouse
3:13	God says: "Your words have been arrogant against Me"	People answer: "What have we spoken against you?"	They have taken the attitude that it is vain to serve the Lord
3:16	Epilogue: Promise of Coming Judgment and Restoration		



*But for you who fear  
My name the sun  
of righteousness  
will rise with  
healing in its wings;  
and you will go  
forth and skip  
about like calves  
from the stall.*

*Malachi 4:2*



# MESSIANIC PROPHECIES

---

- Malachi 3:1; 4:5-6; Isaiah 40:3-5

The Messiah would be announced by a forerunner who would possess the spirit of Elijah.

“Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, will suddenly come to His temple, even the Messenger of the covenant, in whom you delight.” (3:1)