

What Does God Want Me to Do in 2002?

Things That Matter
in Malachi

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Things That Matter In Malachi

- True Worship
(Malachi 1)
- Holy Marriage
(Malachi 2)
- Honest Giving
(Malachi 3)
- Eternal Living
(Malachi 4)

2



Things That Matter In Malachi

1. *Acknowledge God's loving care in your life*
2. *Offer appropriate honor to God*
3. *Make worship of God a big deal*
4. *Give God our first & best*
5. *Understand that God doesn't need our worship.*

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To Have a Holy Marriage, I Must:

1. *Marry only one who is a believer*
2. *Treat marriage as a permanent relationship*

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Things That Matter In Malachi

- *To not tithe is to rob God*
 - 1. *Bring tithes (10%) – God will pour out a blessing.*
 - *To not tithe is heartless worship*
 - 2. *Fear the Lord, and meditate on His name – God will have a special relationship with you.*
 - *A chief task – to prove to the world that God's way works!*
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Things That Matter In Malachi

How Do I Live For What Counts?

1. *Remember God's Judgment (1-3)
(I will give an account!)*
2. *Remember God's Word (4)
(I am to think it and live it!)*
3. *Remember God's Plan (5)
(I am to trust His schedule!)*
4. *Remember God's Way (6)
(I am to think beyond my lifetime!)*

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Eternal Living: How Do I Live For What Counts?

How Do I Live For What Counts?

1. *Remember God's Judgment (1-3)
(I will give an account!)*

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Remember God's Judgment (1-3) *(I will give an account!)*

“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven,
and **all the proud**, yes, **all who do wickedly** will be stubble.
And the day which is coming shall burn them up,’ Says the LORD of
hosts, ‘That will leave them neither root nor branch.’

But to **you who fear My name**
the Sun of Righteousness shall arise with healing in His wings;
and you shall go out and grow fat like stall-fed calves.
You shall trample the wicked,
for they shall be ashes under the soles of your feet
on the day that I do [this,]’ says the LORD of hosts.”

OBSERVATIONS

- For the proud and the wicked, there will be certain judgment.
- For those who fear God, there will be certain reward, including healing, prosperity, vindication, and justice.

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You will give an account!

Philippians 2:9-16

Therefore God also has highly exalted Him
and given Him the name which is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus **every knee should bow,**
of those in heaven, and of those on earth,
and of those under the earth,
and [that] every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ [is] Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed,
not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence,
work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God
who works in you both to will and to do for [His] good pleasure.

Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become
blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of
a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as
lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice
in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

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You will give an account!

Believers (2 Corinthians 5:9-10)

“Therefore we make it our aim, whether present or absent, to be well pleasing to Him. ***For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ***, that each one may receive the things [done] in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad.”

Unbelievers (Revelation 20:11-15)

“Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away. And there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, standing before God, and books were opened. And another book was opened, which is [the Book] of Life. And the dead were judged according to their works, by the things which were written in the books. The sea gave up the dead who were in it, and Death and Hades delivered up the dead who were in them. And they were judged, each one according to his works. Then Death and Hades were cast into the lake of fire. This is the second death. And anyone not found written in the Book of Life was cast into the lake of fire.”

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Remember God's Word (4)
(I am to think it and live it!)

“Remember the Law of Moses, My servant,
which I **commanded** him in Horeb for all Israel,
[with the] statutes and judgments.”

Remember God's Word:

- to think right
- to do right
- to get right
- to stay right

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The Bible Is Our Tool For Living!
(2 Timothy 3:16-17)

“All Scripture [is] given by inspiration of God,
and [is] profitable
for **doctrine**,
for **reproof**,
for **correction**,
for **instruction in righteousness**,
that the man of God may be complete,
thoroughly equipped for every good work.”

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The Bible Is Meant to Be Acted Upon! (Deuteronomy 5:1)

And Moses called all Israel,
and said to them:
“**Hear**, O Israel,
the statutes and judgments
which I speak in your hearing today,
that you may **learn** them
and be careful to **observe** them.”

(Purposeful, diligent, active learning!)

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The Necessity & Benefit of Daily Bible Time (Deuteronomy 17:18-20)

“Also it shall be, when he sits on the throne of his kingdom,
that **he shall write for himself a copy** of this law in a
book, from [the one] before the priests, the Levites.

And **it shall be with him**,
and **he shall read it all the days of his life**,
that he may learn to fear the LORD his God and be careful
to observe all the words of this law and these statutes,
that his heart may not be lifted above his brethren,
that he may not turn aside from the commandment [to] the
right hand or [to] the left, and
that he may prolong [his] days in his kingdom, he and his
children in the midst of Israel.”

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Remember God's Plan (5) *(I am to trust His schedule!)*

“Behold,
I will send you Elijah the prophet
before the coming of the great and dreadful
day of the LORD.”

5 OBSERVATIONS:

- God has a plan for all of history
- God is working His plan
- God's plan is right on time
- God is merciful
- God's mercy will one day cease, and be replaced by His justice & righteous judgment.

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A Peek @ God's Plan (2 Peter 3:8-15a)

“But, beloved, do not forget this one thing,
that with the Lord one day [is] as a thousand years,
and a thousand years as one day.

The Lord is not slack concerning [His] promise, as some count slackness,
but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish
but that all should come to repentance.

But the day of the Lord **will** come as a thief in the night,
in which the heavens **will** pass away with a great noise,
and the elements **will** melt with fervent heat;
both the earth and the works that are in it **will** be burned up.

Therefore, since all these things **will** be dissolved,
**what manner [of persons] ought you to be
in holy conduct and godliness,**

looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God,
because of which the heavens **will** be dissolved, being on fire,
and the elements **will** melt with fervent heat?

Nevertheless we, according to His promise,
look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things,
be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;
and consider [that] the longsuffering of our Lord [is] salvation”

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Remember God's Way (6)
(I am to think beyond my lifetime!)

“And he will turn
the hearts of the fathers to the children, and
the hearts of the children to their fathers,
lest I come and strike the earth with a curse.”

OBSERVATIONS:

- God is extremely concerned about fathers' relationships to their children, and children's relationships to their fathers.
- God makes the health of these relationships *the single deciding factor* of whether or not to strike the earth with a curse. **WHY?**

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**Reason #1: The way fathers live affects
their children!**

- Deut 5:29 – “Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, *that it might be well with them and with their children forever!*”
- Deut 12:28 – “Observe and obey all these words which I command you, *that it may go well with you and your children after you forever*, when you do [what is] good and right in the sight of the LORD your God.”

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Reason #2: The fathers are responsible to train their children!

Deuteronomy 6:5-9

“You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. And these words which I command you today shall be in your heart.

You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them

when you sit in your house,
when you walk by the way,
when you lie down, and
when you rise up.

You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.”

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Psalms 78:1-8

“Give ear, O my people, [to] my law;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings of old,
which we have heard and known,
and our **fathers** have told us.

***We will not hide [them] from their children,
telling to the generation to come the praises of the LORD,
and His strength and His wonderful works that He has done.***

For He established a testimony in Jacob,
and appointed a law in Israel,
***which He commanded our fathers,
that they should make them known to their children;***

- that the generation to come might know [them,] the children [who] would be born,
- [that] they may arise and declare [them] to their children,
- that they may set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep His commandments; and may not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation [that] did not set its heart aright, and whose spirit was not faithful to God.”

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Reason #3: The hearts of both need to be open to each other for this eternity-impacting learning to take place!

Ephesians 6:1-4

“**Children**, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. ‘Honor your father and mother,’ which is the first commandment with promise: ‘that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth.’

And you, **fathers**, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.”

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