



DATE: 12 June 2024 WED
TEXT: **Malachi 3:16-18**
TITLE: **:: Like Malachi**

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.

Malachi 3:16

REVIEW

Think like David: God's created works

Think like Asaph: God's previous actions

Think like John: God's marvelous love

Think like Haggai: God's great forgiveness

INTRODUCTION

- the people of **MALACHI'S** day had no way of knowing God was about to change things

the religion of the Old Testament would be set aside and Jesus would pay the full payment for mankind's sin

- these were very religious people...but they had grown lethargic and were merely going through the motions

Malachi 3:14 ...it is vain to serve God

in turn, they became very **SARCASTIC** in their responses to the prophet's questions

1:2, 6, 7, 13 for example

- for Israel, this was a time for **REVIVAL** or **RUIN**

- in our own day, people still want outward Christianity...they are more interested in a miracle than in the One who has the power to change them inwardly

**They want God's hand
more than they want God's face**

- ten times in Malachi's book, God references His name

1:6, 11, 14 for example

the most-used name here is *Lord of Hosts* **24x**

in the Bible, there are over 1,000 names for God

Malachi 3:16

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.

thought = to weave together; account

Exodus 34:5

And the LORD descended in the cloud, and stood with him [Moses] there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD.

Moses wanted to see His glory...
God proclaimed His name

**so when we follow Malachi's model of thinking,
we ponder the NAME of God and it results in:**

1. DEEPER REVERENCE FOR GOD

verse 16a Then they that feared the LORD spake often one to another...

notice that the "fear of the LORD" came first

knowing God's name makes Him more personal, and knowing Him better makes Him more important

cf **Matthew 18:17**

...let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

those who understand God's names should never consider using the name of God without a deep reverence for God Himself

Familiarity breeds contempt

Exodus 20:7

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain...for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Psalms 61:5

For thou, O God, hast heard my vows: thou hast given me the heritage of those that fear thy name.

Psalms 86:11

Teach me thy way, O LORD; I will walk in thy truth: unite my heart to fear thy name.

NOTE: often, people ask me, "What should I call you?"
Kyle asked, etc.

2. DEEPER REQUESTS FROM GOD

verse 16b ...spake often one to another, and the Lord hearkened, and heard it

thinking on God's name changed the way people talked with one another

weather, sports, etc.

Jesus taught us to pray with this in mind:

Matthew 6:9

Our Father, which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name...

the better we know God...the more intimate we are with Him...the more natural it will be for us to express praise and thanksgiving

cf Chandler: Da-a-a-a-d...growth, maturity

NOTE: no one in the Old Testament addressed God as *Father*, but Jesus did so over 170 times

by its very nature, prayer should draw us into deeper conversations with God

Psalm 18:1-3

I will love thee, O LORD, my strength. The LORD is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer; my God, my strength, in whom I will trust; my buckler, and the horn of my salvation, and my high tower. I will call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised: so shall I be saved from mine enemies.

10 names/titles for God here

We are completely known to God: known like earthworms, cabbages, and nebulae, as objects of divine knowledge.

That is our destiny whether we like it or not.

But though this knowledge never varies,
the *quality* of our being known can.

~C.S. Lewis

3. DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD

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.

it only stands to reason that the more time you spend with a person, the more valuable they will be in your life

after eight years in Big Spring...

God considers us His **JEWELS**...think about that:

all the stars in space, all the beauty of earth

the cattle on a thousand hills **Psalms 50:10**

all of Heaven...all the angels

and yet, God considers people His treasure

Psalms 149:4

For the LORD taketh pleasure in His people...

in other places, the word is *peculiar*

Exodus 19:5

Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: **for all the earth is mine:**

1 Peter 2:9

But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light:

Titus 2:14 ...purify unto himself a peculiar...

NOTE: family inside-jokes, etc.

likewise, God considers us to be His **CHILDREN**

...as a man spareth his own son

Romans 8:16-17

The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: and if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ;

Romans 8:32

He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?

Hebrews 12:7

...God dealeth with you as with sons

4. DEEPER REALITY WITH GOD

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.

just as a bank teller learns to identify counterfeit money by working with the real thing, so our thinking on the name of God helps us know right from wrong

1 Kings 3:9 Hebrews 5:14

NOTE: I know how my father thought...

it is important to know what people to trust, what sources to seek for truth, etc.

Malachi 4:2 fear my name...grow up as calves of the stall

this is a promise that we will be well-fed and serve a purpose in the Father's plan

Proverbs 3:2, 16 length of days

longer days imply more than just a longer life...it means we will accomplish more with the time we have been given

baptize in His name	Matthew 28:19
ask in His name	John 14:13
no other name given	Acts 4:12
teach in His name	Acts 5:28
suffer for His name	Acts 5:41
cast out demons in His name	Acts 16:18
call on His name	Romans 10:13
sing unto His name	Romans 15:9
gather in His name	1 Corinthians 5:4
justified in His name	1 Corinthians 6:11
giving thanks in His name	Ephesians 5:20
every knee bow...name	Philippians 2:10



THINK reading list:

Exodus 3:14-15 (33:18-34:8) John 14:13-14



THINK playlist:

Take The Name Of Jesus With You

Alpha And Omega Gaither Vocal Band