Malachi 1

King James Version (KJV)

(Malachi means -> My Messenger This Book is not dated. It is approx. 372-374 BC. This is after the release of Israel by the Persians; after Ezra and Nehemiah. The priests of Israel have gone bad again; back to their idolatry. They still haven't learned to be faithful to God. Malachi is the last of the Minor Prophets)

1 The <u>burden of the word</u> of the LORD to Israel by Malachi. (God's Word is a blessing; not a burden. The word burden should be translated – divine oracle)

(The burden of the Word stated here is God's warning and judgment, for the idolatry of Israel and their corrupt priests. They have returned to Israel after their captivity and have gone right back into idolatry)

- ²I have loved you, saith the LORD. Yet ye say, Wherein hast thou loved us? Was not Esau Jacob's brother? saith the LORD: yet I loved Jacob, (God loved Jacob because he was faithful to God. He valued his heritage as well)
- ³ And I hated Esau, and laid his mountains and his heritage waste for the <u>dragons</u> of the wilderness. (<u>dragons</u> = <u>jackals</u> <u>better translation</u>)

(God knew both Jacob and Esau from the First Age. Esau didn't care anything about his birthright or his inheritance. He traded it to Jacob for a bowl of pottage <stew>. He only cared about the ways of the world. God had no respect for him because of that) See Genesis-27, see Romans-9

⁴Whereas <u>Edom</u> saith, We are impoverished, but we will return and build the desolate places; thus saith the LORD of hosts, They shall build, <u>but I will throw down</u>; and they shall call them, The border of wickedness, and, The people against whom the LORD hath indignation for ever. (Edom = red) (Edom was Esau's descendants)

NOTES: (Some believe that this is Rosh; later named Rush; and today, Russia. It is too far north, away from the fertile lands)

(In 1917, communists threw God out of their country. Communist nations will never succeed because of that. There are mostly good Christian people in Russia, but the nation, itself, will never succeed if it remains communist. The same goes for China, as with all other communists)

(Others believe that this is the people today in the Middle East. Their lands are all mostly deserts, also far away from the fertile lands. They fell to Islam; a cult that is determined to destroy Christians and Jews by their evil doctrine. "Join us or die" is their motto. They even kill each other – Sunni vs Shia vs Wahabi, etc)

(Since Israel became a nation again in 1947 - the Western Christian nations have helped Israel defend itself against the onslaught of the Muslim Nations; and Russia has always sided with the Muslims)

⁵And your eyes shall see, and ye shall say, The LORD will be magnified from the border of Israel. (Their false prophets will say that; but God will have nothing to do with them; unless they repent and change their ways)

(God is against their governments, not the people. A single Christian person in the middle of this corruption is still loved by God)

⁶A son honoureth his father, and a servant his master: if then I be a father, where is mine honour? and if I be a master, where is my <u>fear</u>? saith the LORD of hosts unto you, <u>O priests, that despise my name</u>. And ye say, Wherein have we despised thy name? (fear = reverence)

(The corrupt priests replaced the worship of God with the worship of pagan idols. This was an insult to God, after all that He did for those people)

NOTE: (Even today, they despise God by changing the meaning of His Word with false teachings. Most Christian preachers teach the traditions of men; instead of God's Word – chapter by chapter, verse by verse. So, the people remain Biblically ignorant. They will be worshipping the antichrist in the end days of this Age, when he arrives)

'Ye offer polluted bread upon mine altar; and ye say, Wherein have we polluted thee? In that ye say, The table of the LORD is contemptible. (They didn't even know that they had wandered off the track, right into the ditch. They had replaced true worship with idol worship and traditions of men)

(Today, the Bread of life is Jesus Christ. The Holy Communion is our meal offering with God. Those who oppose Him defile God's altar. And yet, in every Christian church, they celebrate Easter instead of Passover)

See Daniel-9:27 (They will worship the antichrist and therefore stop the daily oblation to the true God)

NOTE: (Yahoveh is God; not Allah; not antichrist. Jesus is Yahoveh – God in the flesh. The Holy Spirit is Yahoveh in spirit form. Melchizedek was Yahoveh in a man's form – although He had neither mother nor father. The Angel of the Lord is Yahoveh in angelic form. There is only ONE GOD. HE can take whatever form He chooses)

*And if ye offer the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? and if ye offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? offer it now unto thy governor; will he be pleased with thee, or accept thy person? saith the LORD of hosts. (They were supposed to offer the best that they had; not the worst. What they were offering to God, even a man would not accept. Their offerings were pathetic, yet they thought that they were pleasing God)

NOTE: (The blind mentioned here are the spiritually blind, who know nothing about God's Word. They won't know what to do when antichrist arrives in the end days. They will be totally seduced by him. God can't use them because they are ignorant of His plan for our salvation)

- ⁹ And now, I pray you, beseech God that he will be gracious unto us: this hath been by your means: will he regard your persons? saith the LORD of hosts. (If they repent, God will take them back. They won't)
- ¹⁰ Who is there even among you that would shut the doors for nought? neither do ye kindle fire on mine altar for nought. I have no pleasure in you, saith the LORD of hosts, neither will I accept an offering at your hand. (These people and their preachers were in it for personal gain; not to glorify God; not to help lead the people to salvation. HE will not bless them nor accept their offerings)
- ¹¹ For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the <u>Gentiles</u>; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering: for my name shall be great among the heathen, saith the LORD of hosts.

 (Gentiles = the nations the ethnic peoples)

(This will happen during the Millennium. Everyone will know God. They will see Jesus. There will be only one faith. Some will stand with God; others will not. The truth is absolute. There is no middle ground; no "gray area")

¹² But ye have profaned it, in that ye say, The table of the LORD is polluted; and the fruit thereof, even his meat, is contemptible. (When a real preacher teaches the truth of God's Word, the crooked ones turn on him and falsely accuse him; so that they can silence him)

EXAMPLES: (They teach "rapture doctrine"; you don't have to know what will happen in the end days – you're going to be gone. That is a false teaching designed to keep the people Biblically ignorant. Also, they celebrate Easter, instead of Passover. That is an insult to God)

(Also, the Muslims live to destroy Christianity wherever they find it. It is a part of their evil doctrine. They murder Christians and Jews in every one of the nations that they control. They even blaspheme Jesus by saying that He was just a wise man)

¹³ Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it! and ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD. (HE won't. These people offer their worst, if anything at all. And then, they complain that God doesn't bless them. They continually insult God by ignoring His Word and by teaching their own doctrines)

NOTE: (How many churches today, read one verse from the Bible, and then preach a one hour sermon written from the preacher's imagination. They should be teaching what God says – chapter by chapter, verse by verse; not what the preacher thinks that God says)

¹⁴ But <u>cursed be the deceiver</u>, which hath in his flock a male, and voweth, and sacrificeth unto the LORD a corrupt thing: for I am a great King, saith the LORD of hosts, and my name is dreadful among the heathen. (cursed be the deceiver - teaching false doctrine causes followers to sin. It could cost them their salvation. Again, they don't offer their best to God. If the heathen and the deceivers don't fear judgment yet, they will when they face God on judgment day)

NOTE: (Men called Jesus the Son of God. HE called Himself the Son of man. He was God, in the flesh; not His son. HE called Himself the son of man because He was born from Mary, in a flesh body. There is only one God. HE can take whatever form that He chooses. Jesus, God in flesh form, was just one of those offices that He chose to use)