

Minor Prophets... Mal. 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts. 2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

- Minor Prophets...
  I. THE LORD'S COMPLAINTS, 1:1-2:17
  - A. The Nation's Spiritual Sins, 1:1-2:9
    - 1. Despising God's Name, 1:6
    - 2. Defiling God's Altar, 1:7-14
    - 3. Disregarding God's Law, 2:1-9
      - a. God's Commandment to the Priests, 2:1-4
      - b. God's Covenant with the Priests, 2:5-7
      - c. God's Contempt for the Priests, 2:8-9
  - B. The Nation's Special Sins, 2:10-17
    - 1. Their Detestable Ways, 2:10-13
      - a. A Denial of Brotherhood, 2:10
      - b. A Distortion of Belief, 2:11-13
        - (1) Their Marriages, 2:11
        - (2) Their Mockery, 2:12
        - (3) Their Misery, 2:13

- 2. Their Deserted Wives, 2:14-16
  - a. What the Lord Witnessed, 2:14
  - b. What the Lord Wanted, 2:15
  - c. What the Lord Withstands, 2:16
- 3. Their Distorted Words, 2:17
  - a. Their Words Wearying to God, 2:17a
  - b. God's Words Wrested by Them, 2:17b
- II. THE LORD'S COMING, 3:1-4:6
  - A. To Deal Judgmentally with Sinners, 3:1-15
    - 1. Their Ungodly Actions, 3:1-6
      - a. The Lord's Coming in Grace, 3:1a-b
        - 1. The Message for the Times, 3:1a
        - 2. The Messiah in the Temple, 3:1b
      - b. The Lord's Coming in Government, 3:1c-6 (1) His Immediate Reception, 3:1c

(2) His Imperial Resolve, 3:2-5

(a) To Refine, 3:2-3

Mal. 3:2 But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he *is* like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' soap:

3 And he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the LORD an offering in righteousness.

Isa. 2:12; Joel 3:11-16; Amos 5:18-21; Zech. 1:14-17

Isa. 56:7; 66:20-23; Jer. 33:18; Ezek. 40:38-43; 43:13-27; 45:9-25;

Zech. 14:16-21

By application:

<u>2 Cor. 7:1</u> Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

Jas. 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

1 Jn. 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

- 1 Cor. 3:11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.
- 12 Now if any man build upon this foundation gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble;
- 13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is.
- 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.
- 15 If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.

Eph. 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word, 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

(b) To Revive, 3:4

Mal. 3:4 Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the LORD, as in the days of old, and as in former years.

2 Tim. 2:4 No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of *this* life; **that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier**.

Heb. 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Heb. 13:16 But to do good and to communicate forget not: for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.

1 Sam. 15:22 And Samuel said, Hath the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, as in obeying the voice of the LORD? Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams.

Prov. 12:22 Lying lips are abomination to the LORD: but they that deal truly are his delight.

Prov. 15:8 The sacrifice of the wicked *is* an abomination to the LORD: but the prayer of the upright *is* his delight.

Jer. 9:24 But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness, in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.

(c) To Remove, 3:5

Mal. 3:5 And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the LORD of hosts.

<u>2 Pet. 3:9</u> The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to usward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

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

Ezek. 20:34 And I will bring you out from the people, and will gather you out of the countries wherein ye are scattered, with a mighty hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with fury poured out.

- 35 And I will bring you into the wilderness of the people, and there will I plead with you face to face.
- 36 Like as I pleaded with your fathers in the wilderness of the land of Egypt, so will I plead with you, saith the Lord GOD.
- 37 And will cause you to pass under the rod, and will bring you into the bond of the covenant:
- 38 And I will purge out from among you the rebels, and them that transgress against me: I will bring them forth out of the country where they sojourn, and they shall not enter into the land of Israel: and ye shall know that I am the LORD.

(3) His Immutable Righteousness, 3:6

Mal. 3: 6 For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.

Rom. 4:6 Even as David also describeth the blessedness of the man, unto whom God imputeth righteousness without works,

Jas. 2:23 And the scripture was fulfilled which saith,

Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him

for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of

God.

...Major Message

# Minor Prophets... Conclusion

Jer. 30:11 For I am with thee, saith the LORD, to save thee: though I make a full end of all nations whither I have scattered thee, yet will I not make a full end of thee: but I will correct thee in measure, and will not leave thee altogether unpunished.

Heb. 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.