

## Malachi: God's Faithfulness

### Discussion Guide

In this series we are starting something we plan to do this with several books of the Bible. We'll talk about the general theme of the book and how that theme plays out in it, as well as in our lives today, so after we frame it you can study more on your own. We will build an overview so you don't feel lost or without an anchor in each of the books, and we encourage you to go dive deeper once you have that anchor to keep you focused.

The fancy word for what we are doing here is **exegesis**. That's your bible nerd word for the day.

We are really excited to hear about how God teaches you while you do that, so please comment on the website under the corresponding Bible Study.

Today we are talking about Malachi and the theme of the book which is **God's faithfulness to a faithless people**.

How were God's people faithless?

Read Malachi 1:1-8. How were God's people faithless here? (Cross reference Leviticus 22:18-19)

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Read Malachi 2:7-8. How were God's people faithless here? (Cross reference Deut 32:1-2)

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Read Malachi 3:6-9. How were God's people faithless here? (Cross reference Leviticus 27:30)

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Based on these examples what can we learn from the OT about our NT faithlessness? What might it look like now for us to be faithless in these ways?

Example:	Faithlessness Displayed:	What that might look like for us:
Malachi 1:1-8		
Malachi 2:7-8		
Malachi 3:6-9		

What are some ways/tools you employ to be faithful in these areas, instead of faithless?

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Read Malachi 4:2 and express God's promise to a faithless people:

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How do you think this promise was ultimately fulfilled?

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Here are some additional blessings from scripture about God's faithfulness.

**Zechariah 8:7-8**

<sup>7</sup> "Thus says the LORD of hosts:

'Behold, <sup>j</sup> I will save My people from the land of the <sup>1</sup> east  
And from the land of the <sup>2</sup> west; <sup>8</sup> I will <sup>k</sup> bring them back,  
And they shall dwell in the midst of Jerusalem.

<sup>l</sup> They shall be My people  
And I will be their God,  
<sup>m</sup> In truth and righteousness.'

**Genesis 6:17-18**

<sup>17</sup> <sup>w</sup> "And behold, I Myself am bringing <sup>x</sup> floodwaters on the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh  
in which is the breath of life; everything that is on the earth shall <sup>y</sup> die. <sup>18</sup> "But I will establish  
My <sup>z</sup> covenant with you; and <sup>a</sup> you shall go into the ark - you, your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives  
with you.

**Genesis 17:18-20**

<sup>18</sup> And Abraham <sup>a</sup> said to God, "Oh, that Ishmael might live before You!" <sup>19</sup> Then God said: "No, <sup>b</sup> Sarah  
your wife shall bear you a son, and you shall call his name Isaac; I will establish My <sup>c</sup> covenant with him  
for an everlasting covenant, and with his descendants after him. <sup>20</sup>" And as for Ishmael, I have heard you.  
Behold, I have blessed him, and will make him fruitful, and <sup>d</sup> will multiply him exceedingly. He shall  
beget <sup>e</sup> twelve princes, <sup>f</sup> and I will make him a great nation.

**John 3:16**

<sup>16</sup> "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**1 Thessalonians 5:9-10**

<sup>9</sup> For <sup>i</sup> God did not appoint us to wrath, <sup>m</sup> but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> <sup>n</sup> who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him.

**Romans 11:25 - 27**

<sup>25</sup> Lest you be wise in your own sight, I want you to understand this mystery, brothers: a partial hardening has come upon Israel, until the fullness of the Gentiles has come in. <sup>26</sup> And in this way all Israel will be saved, as it is written,  
"The Deliverer will come from Zion,  
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob";

**Micah 7:18-19**

<sup>18</sup> <sup>b</sup> Who is a God like You,  
<sup>c</sup> Pardoning iniquity  
And passing over the transgression of <sup>d</sup> the remnant of His heritage?  
<sup>e</sup> He does not retain His anger forever,  
Because He delights in <sup>f</sup> mercy. <sup>19</sup> <sup>i</sup> He will again have compassion on us,  
And will subdue our iniquities.  
You will cast all <sup>2</sup> our sins  
Into the depths of the sea.

**Numbers 23:19**

<sup>19</sup> God is not man, that he should lie,  
or a son of man, that he should change his mind.  
Has he said, and will he not do it?  
Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?