Conclusion

What is God's foremost concern?

- ♦ Is it the _____ of the nation?
- ♦ Is it the ______ of His church for His glory?

God Affirms His Justice

Malachi 2:17-3:5 CFBC 5/26/13

Introduction

I. The First Disputation: *Reaffirmed the Lord's Covenant love for His people through His choice of Jacob over Esau.*

II. The Second Disputation: *Confirmed the honor of the Lord's name and the disregard of the Priests for the sanctity of the offerings.*

III. The Third Disputation: *Affirms why Israel's offerings were unacceptable to the Lord and denounces the behavior.*

IV. The Fourth Disputation: God affirms His justice with the promise of the Messenger of the covenant who would refine the people of God/Israel 2:17-3:5.

Colossians 3:10 ;Romans 5:3-5; Isaiah 1:25; Is. 48:10; Jeremiah 6:29-30 ;Ezekiel 22:17

1 Peter 4:17

A. The Affirmation: The Lord affirms they have wearied Him 17a.

B. The Interrogation: the people ask HOW they have wearied the Lord 17b. .

Remember:

Your responsibility, by God's enabling, is to consistently apply the divine principles and truths you have heard (Phil. 2:1-13; 1Tim. 4:7-9; James 1:22-27. As you meditate on this message, ask yourself these questions:

- How does God want my beliefs/actions to change?
- How can I accomplish this change?
- What is the first step toward bringing about this change?

C. The Refutation: *"In that you say..."17* <u>1. The Lord *explains* how they wearied Him 17.</u> a. Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, and He delights in them

- They are prohibited to do evil in the sight of God, Dt.4:25;9:18
- They have been charged to do right Dt.6:18;12:28

b. Where is the God of justice?

2. The Lord expands on His justice 3:1-5

a. I am going to send My messenger Isaiah 40:3; Matthew 11:10 b. Who can endure? v2

Zechariah 13:9,

2Cor 6:16-18

Sorcerers- A reference to witchcraft, black-magic, Ex.7:11; 22:18; Dt. 18:10

Adulterers- Those who had relations with the wife or fiancé of another man. Ex.20:14;Dt.5:18. Incur the death penalty- Lev. 20:10; Dt.22:22; Ezk.16:40;Jn.8:5

Perjurers- Someone who swore falsely in the name of God. Ex. 20:7,16; Lev 19:12; Jer.29:33; Zech 5:3-4

Oppressors- of the wage earner. Lev.19:13; Dt.24:14 Of the widows & orphans who were often objects of social injustices because no one took up their cause. Ex.22:22-4; Ezk.22:7; Zech 7:10 to provide for-Dt.10:18;14:29;16:11,14;26:12

Turn aside aliens- The foreigner was dependant on Israel's goodwill Ex.22:21;23:18

No fear-