

# MALACHI 4 vs 1

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<sup>1</sup> **For, behold** / the LORD, the good Teacher says: pay attention,

**the Day comes** / **the terrible 6<sup>th</sup> Day**, an appointed Day, **a specific Day... belonging to the LORD**. It is **the Day...** that the whole world has known about and been repeatedly warned. Read the vast research on psychosis and psychopathology... at all the universities worldwide; **the Day comes...** though, now on the streets it has been foolishly scoffed and dismissed -- as if that takes care of it; **but it doesn't go away**.

**the Day comes...** the day of wrath, the day of vengeance, a day of retribution... which will come on all the world, to test them and prove them who dwell on the earth. Malachi just asked: who can stand the day of his coming? **Nobody**, though some vociferous class clown... or vacant headed twit might try,

**the Day comes... that will burn as an oven** / it will burn like a furnace, and if I were to bet, nearly as hot as hell;

**and all the proud, and all who do wickedly** / every evildoer; those who did not do right; who chose to do wrong... **will be as stubble: and the Day that comes will burn them up, says the LORD of hosts,**

**so that it will leave them no root nor branch** / so they will be unable to bear any more fruit.

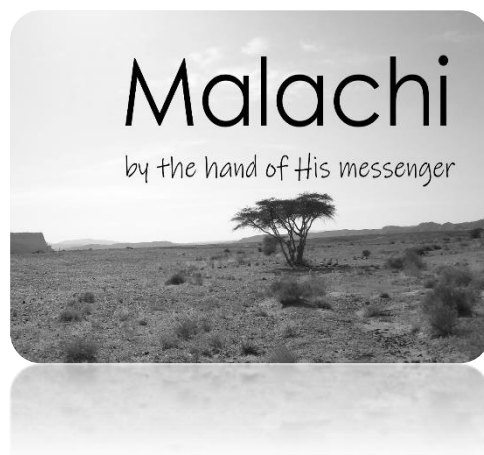
200 years earlier, prophet Zephaniah wrote: Near is the great **Day of the LORD**, Near and coming suddenly; Listen! **The Day of the LORD!** In it the warrior cries out bitterly.

A day of wrath is that day, A day of trouble and distress, A day of destruction and desolation, A day of darkness and gloom, A day of clouds and thick darkness, A day of trumpet and battle cry; Against the fortified cities, and the high corner towers. And I will bring distress on all mankind, So that they will walk like the blind, because they have sinned against the LORD; and **their blood will be poured out** like dust, and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to deliver them, on the **Day of the Lord's wrath**; and all the earth will be devoured in the fire of His jealousy, for He will make a complete end, indeed a terrifying one, of all the inhabitants of the earth -- **Zephaniah 2:14-18**.

**The 6<sup>th</sup> Day of the Lord** corresponds with the **Day of Atonement**. The world who despised and rejected the Lord... who came to substitute His life for ours, that we might exchange our messed-up lives for His. On **the 6<sup>th</sup> Day belonging to the LORD**; the Son of man, the Messiah of God comes to settle scores.

<sup>2</sup> **But to you who fear My Name** / to you in all the earth from the rising to the setting of the sun; know this, it was father Abraham who first feared Him.



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The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge... and knowledge is the vital information to know how to act accordingly; the standard of knowledge is truth and proper evidence.

To those who know: better is little with the fear of the LORD than great treasure and trouble with it. You also know: the fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; before honor comes humility -- **Proverbs 15:15, 33**

to you who fear My Name...

**the Sun of righteousness** / and isn't this just about the most enigmatic phrase the LORD could choose as He wraps up the entire Old Testament? Read the commentators... and be endlessly mystified!

But the LORD is a good Teacher; **He chose** to use something that can't be misunderstood by anyone living here on earth; **and added to it**... something that everyone on earth in all generations is willing to ignore... preferring to justify themselves in their pharisaical limited world view. So, let's look closer:

**the Sun**... from our vantage point, we know, NO brighter source of light shines on all mankind... we know, it's influence is felt on every street and pathway coursing through the earth; and by the Sun... we know, it is clear and evident: not all roads lead to Rome.

**of righteousness**... this word carries with it such revulsion particularly when it is attached to the self-righteous prig... whose pride and boredom... is too often a killjoy of life. Here are 3 verses to let us know what this word means: father Abraham amen / he believed what the LORD promised to him... and it was counted for him as righteousness -- **Genesis 15:6**, which is why Abraham is the father of faith.

After God gave His people the 10 commandments and no more, Moses wrote: you will not tempt the LORD your God.... you will diligently **keep** and **do** the commandments of the LORD your God.... and it will be right for us, if we **observe** and **do** all these commandments before the LORD our God, as He has commanded us - **Deuteronomy 6:16-25**. This side of the Resurrection... we know the LORD said: there are 2 commandments that sum up everything: **1**. Love God our Father above everything else; and **2**. Love one another; by this they will know you are My disciples.

Prophet Jeremiah writing... about promises to both the **House of Israel** and **the House of Judah** when the time of the Gentiles is fulfilled and comes to a close; he wrote the word from the LORD:

In those days... I will cause a Branch of rightness to grow up to David, and He will execute judgment and rightness in the land. In those days, Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell safely; and this is what she will be called: The Lord our Rightness -- **Jeremiah 33:14-16**.

John wrote: And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and He who sat on it was called Faithful and True, and in Rightness He judges and makes war: and His name is called The Word of God -- **Revelation 19:11,13**.



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John wrote: then Jesus said to them: **I Am the light of the world**: he who follows Me will **not** walk in darkness, but will have the light of life -- **John 8:12**.

Previously he wrote: In Him was life; and the life was the light of mankind. And the light shines in darkness... **He was the true Light**, who enlightens everyone who comes into the world. For the law was given by Moses; grace and truth came by Jesus Christ -- **John 1**.

Malachi wrote:

**to you who fear My Name...**

**the Sun of righteousness** / the Lord of glory = the glorious Lord...**will arise with healing in His wing / in His rays** ...there will be salvation and wholeness in all He touches; in all He shines on;

**and you will go forth** / to all who were thirsty, who had no money; to all who heard the call to come and drink of the waters of life, that they thirst no more... Isaiah wrote, For you -- poor, simple, impoverished sinners saved by His grace... you will go out with joy, you will be led forth with peace... the mountains and the hills will break forth before you into singing... and all the trees of the field will clap their hands! -- **Isaiah 55:12**. In other words: all creation will rejoice and applaud... those from every nation... who went in search of the City... whose Builder and Maker is God.

**and grow up as calves of the stall** / as young calves frolic when release from the pen to the pasture; even the most feeble will run and not be weary; they will walk and not faint; and will probably mount up with wings as eagles, too: who can imagine?

**<sup>3</sup> And you will trample the wicked; for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, in the Day that I will do this, says the LORD of hosts** / and not taking this verse out of context; they sang in the congregation: you will trample on the lion and adder, the young lion and dragon you will trample under your feet -- **Psalms 91**,

Don't forget: they are joyously singing this victory song:

**<sup>4</sup> Remember the law of Moses My servant**, which I commanded in Horeb for all Israel, with the statutes and judgments / 10 commandments and no more; that we might live long on the earth and prosper; even a child can learn and love to do that! If we do what Jesus told us to do the night He was betrayed, we will accomplish this verse; and one day we will not only remember Moses, the faithful servant of the LORD; but we will want to thank him, too.

**<sup>5</sup> Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and dreadful Day of the LORD** / John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah; when Messiah came in humility the first time, when He paid a price that nobody could pay; substituting His life for ours; offering salvation to the world on the Passover, **the 1<sup>st</sup> great Day of the Lord**; but this verse speaks of **the terrible 6<sup>th</sup> Day of the Lord** a horrifying day like no day ever before or after:

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**6 And he will turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the earth with a **curse**.**

Here in my Bible, I have written, GOD might not be able to legislate morality... but He sure is able to tell us how we are made and what works best for us in His world. His Law lovingly restrains lawless behavior. So, what can we do? Many things. He gave us 10 commands and no more; we can take them to heart and remember to practice them; every day; and we can talk about them to our family and friends. After all, we were created to do them; and our Creative Father in heaven will help us, if we turn to Him and ask.

What can we do? Many things starting with: **Do what He said**. We can Preach Christ! We can also, turn the page and keep going. We can live our convictions, but definitely: Preach Christ!

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