The Chapters of Malachi

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Malachi

SECTION OUTLINE ONE (MALACHI 1-4)
Malachi talks about Israel's privileged status and transgressions and God's future promises. He also refers to two key prophets: John the Baptist and Elijah.

I. ISRAEL’S PRIVILEGE (1:1-5)
   A. God's devotion to Jacob's descendants (1:1-2; 5)
   B. God's destruction of Esau's descendants (1:3-4)

II. ISRAEL’S POLLUTIONS (1:6-2:17; 3:5-15)
   A. The priests' sins (1:6-2:9)
      1. Their rebellion (1:6-14; 2:7-9)
         a. They despise and dishonor God's holy name (1:6, 11, 14b).
         b. They offer polluted sacrifices (1:7-10; 12-14a).
         c. They pervert God's Word, causing many to stumble (2:7-9).
      2. Their rebuke (2:1-3): God warns that the priests and their descendants will be severely punished if they do not repent.
      3. Their role model (2:4-6): Levi, the tribe's founder
   B. The people's sins (2:10-17; 3:5-15)
      1. Their iniquities (2:10-17; 3:5, 8-15)
         a. They are untrue to each other (2:10).
         b. They divorce their wives (2:13-16).
         c. They marry pagan wives (2:11-12).
         d. They claim evil is good (2:17).
         e. They are sorcerers, adulterers, liars, cheaters, oppressors, and unjust people (3:5).
         g. They rob God (3:8-12).
      2. God's invitation (3:6-7): Repent!

III. ISRAEL'S PROPHETS (3:1a; 4:5-6): Malachi refers to two key prophets:
   A. John the Baptist, who introduces Christ's first coming (3:1a)
   B. Elijah, who will introduce Christ's second coming (4:5-6)

IV. GOD'S PROMISES TO ISRAEL (3:1b-4, 16-18; 4:1-4)
   A. Christ's coming (3:1b, 16; 4:1-4)
      1. The place (3:1b): The millennial Temple
      2. The particulars (3:16; 4:1-4)
         a. The journal (3:16): Christ will bring with him a scroll of remembrance, in which he will record the names of those who love and fear him.
         b. The judgment (4:1): He will punish the wicked.
         c. The joy (4:2-4): The Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings!
   B. Israel's cleansing (3:2-4, 17-18)
      1. To be refined as silver and gold (3:2-4)
      2. To be regarded as treasure (3:17-18)