

OVERRULED: God's Deserved Honor

(Malachi 1:6-2:9)

Introduction

A) Nate cautiously approached his pastor one day and admitted, "I'm not sure what the problem is. I feel empty inside."

This confession concerned his pastor considerably since Nate was one of his most faithful laypersons. Whenever the pastor called a meeting or needed something done around the church, Nate and Nancy always showed up. "Tell me about it," the pastor said.

"Well, I just feel like I am going through the motions. Doing church work, helping people, and even attending worship do not energize me anymore," moaned Nate. "I'm tired of doing stuff. I'm living a lifeless religion."

B) If you've served God for any length of time, you've probably thought or expressed the same feelings. Why was Nate experiencing those thoughts? Today we will try and answer that question as we continue our study through Malachi.

C) Contextualize this sermon in the **OVERRULED** series.

D) Contextualize Malachi 1:6-2:9.

I. Charge Against the Priest (v. 6-7)

A) Desired Relationship (v. 6a)

B) Diminished Reverence (6b-7a)

C) Decreased Respect (v. 7b)

Question: Is your life honoring to God?

II. Contempt Toward God (v. 8-14)

The Hebrew's worship evidenced their contempt (lack of honor for God.)

A) Polluted Sacrifice (v. 8-9)

B) Preferred Silence (v. 10-11)

C) Profaned Service (v. 12-13)

D) Punishment Served (v. 14)

Application: Worship is more than a private or public emotional connection with God.

Worship is a lifestyle

Worship reflects the heart

Worship results from submission

III. Chastisement Of The People (2:1-9)

A) Punishment Stated (2:1-3)

B) Perfect Standard (2:4-7)

C) Public Humiliation (2:8-9)

Conclusion.

You weary God when you say . . .

I honor God, but you don't pray.

I honor God, but you don't read His Word.

I honor God, but you don't give.

I honor God, but are haphazard in participating in public worship.

I honor God, but don't invest in others

I honor God, but you don't obey/submit.
I honor God, but you harbor your pet sin

How can you justify receiving God's best (Jesus) and not giving Him your best?

Why did Nate feel he was going through the motions?
Because his focus had moved from God to self.