

P.M. OUTLINE
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THE 6 "WHEREIN"s OF MALACHI (KJV)

INTRODUCTION - Malachi's message provides a summary of Israel's rebellion against God, and it is timely for God's people today.

1. (1:1-2) "The burden of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi, I have loved you, says the Lord. **Yet ye say, Wherein ("in what way") hast thou loved us?"**

Israel has a short memory: they've forgotten God's promises, leadership, and providence.
Is our memory short?

God's love is proven in grace: (John 15:13; Romans 5:8; Ephesians 1:3)
We cannot plead ignorance of God's love toward us.

2. (1:6) "A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? and if I am a Master, where is My reverence? Says the Lord of hosts unto you, O priests, who despise My name. **Yet ye say, Wherein ("in what way") have we despised Thy name?"**

Malachi gives two illustrations of "honor" desired by God: "a son" and "a servant"
God's name is "despised" when "honor" is withheld.
"Honor" - public acknowledgement or admiration; glorify; show appreciation; to give credit.

3. (1:7) "Ye offer polluted bread upon My altar; **and ye say, Wherein have we polluted Thee?"**

"Polluted bread" - bread that was old, stale, crusty, and left-over.
(v8) "you offer the blind as a sacrifice ... offer the lame and sick, is it not evil? ... "
Will we offer God a "polluted" life? - the left-overs, less than our best, no diligence
(Ecclesiastes 12:1; Ecclesiastes 9:10; 2 Peter 1:5-11)

4. (2:17) "You have wearied the Lord with your words. **Yet you say, Wherein have we wearied Him?"**

(v2) "If ye will not hear, and if ye will not take it to heart, to give glory to My name ... "
(v8) "But you have departed from the way; you have many to stumble ... "
(v14) "... the wife of your youth, with whom you have dealt treacherously ... "
(v17) "In that you say, Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the Lord, delights in them"

5. (3:7) "Yet from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances, and not kept them. Return to Me, and I will return to you. **Yet ye say, Wherein shall we return?"**

God wants them to listen to Moses and the prophets, heed the ordinances (the Law), and return.
God offers to us a gracious way in which to "return."

6. (3:8) "Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me. **But ye say, Wherein have we robbed You? In tithes and offerings ... "**

They were habitual in giving God "pollution;" therefore, it's not surprising they withheld treasure.
"Tithe" - the 10th part to be given to the Lord (Leviticus 27:30)
"Offerings" - other offerings were required throughout the year.
God's promise: (Malachi 3:10)
For us:

Our treasure: (2 Corinthians 9:6-8)
Our offerings: time, talent, service, example, ministry: (Matthew 5:16)

CLOSE - (Romans 15:4; 1 Corinthians 10:11)