1 - **Questions For God?  
Lessons From Malachi – Part 2**

2 - **Context Of Malachi -** “My Messenger”

* **432 BC** - Malachi prophsies continuing Nehemiah’s work.
* Approximately 100 years after the first remnant returned, or
* 80 after the temple was rebuilt, or
* 12 years after rebuilding the walls of Jerusalem.

3 - **Message Of Malachi -** “My Messenger”

* This is God’s message! ***“Thus says the Lord of Hosts”*** used 55 times.
* **Unique literary style** in the form of a debate or challenge.
* **“Didactic-dialectic”** form of public speaking.

1. **Assertion or charge** is made.
2. **An objection to the charge** is made **in the form of a question**.
3. The **objection is responded to** with evidence.

4 - **1 - How Have You Loved Us? (1:2)**

* By choosing to redeem us and care enough to discipline us.
* By choosing to bless us beyond measure.

5 - **2 - How Have We Despised Your Name? (1:6)**

* By choosing to give our left-overs to God.
* By failing to appreciate the opportunity to worship and study His word.
* By failing to revere and implement God’s word in our lives.

6 – **3 - For What Reason Does He Reject My Offering? (2:14)**

* They would “***cover the altar of the Lord with tears...***”because God “***no longer regards***” their offering. (2:13)
* Not **walking** ***“by faith”***? (Genesis 4:4-5; 1 Sam. 15:22; Jeremiah 6:20; Matthew 7:21-23)
* **Not honoring our words/commitments/covenants**(i.e., marriage) (1 Peter 3:7)
* **Pay our vows**. (Psalms 61:8)

7 - **4 - How Have We Wearied You? (2:17)**

* **Adapting God’s word** to fit **our wants** & wishes. (Isaiah 5:20; Proverbs 17:15;
* **Thinking that God changes** (3:6; Numbers 23:19)
* **Putting off the day of judgement**. (Eccles. 8:11; Amos 6:3; 2 Peter 3:3ff; note 3:3-5 )

8 - **5 - How Have We Robbed You? (3:8)**

* God said, ***“Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse… and test Me now in this”*** if God would not richly bless them.
* **Do we fail to bring to God all of ourself?** (Romans 12:1-2; 2 Corinthians 8:5)
* All of our ***“heart… soul… mind… strength”***. (Mark 12:30; 1 Chronicles 28:9)

9 - **6 - What Have We Said Against You? (3:13)**

* **Arrogant words**. (3:13)
* ***“It is vain to serve God;*** *and* ***what profit*** *is it* ***that******we have kept His charge?”*** (3:14)
* **Do we trust God** with all that we are? (2 Timothy 1:12)
* If not “***vain***”, will I commit to “***abounding in the work of the Lord***”? (1 Corinthians 15:58))

10 - **7 - How Shall We Return? (3:7)**

* **God wants us back!** (Zechariah 1:3; Deut. 4:30; 30:2)
* **Give Him our best** and **find joy in worship** and service!
* **Seek Him reverently and humbly with our whole heart**! (3:16-18; Jeremiah 24:7)
* **Look to the future!** (4:1-6)