



The Lord is a **WITNESS**

THE BOOK OF MALACHI

Day 1: He Never Moved

Devotional:

Have you ever felt like God was far away? Maybe life got busy, or a season of pain made it hard to sense His presence. It is easy in those moments to wonder if God stepped back, if He grew tired of waiting, or if something changed on His end. Here is the truth that changes everything: He did not move. God is the same today as He has always been. His character does not shift with the seasons. His love does not cool when we drift. He is right where He has always been, steady, present, and waiting. Israel experienced this firsthand. They had returned to the land God promised them, enjoying His provision and blessing. But somewhere along the way, their hearts wandered. They were going through the motions of worship without genuine devotion. And God, rather than turning away, leaned in with an invitation. That same invitation is extended to you today. No matter how long you have been distant, no matter what caused the drift, the door back is open. God's consistency is your greatest source of hope. You do not have to earn your way back or clean yourself up first. You simply turn around. Encouragement for today: the distance you feel is not a wall. It is a direction. And you can change direction right now.

Bible Verse:

"For I am the Lord, I do not change; therefore you are not consumed, O sons of Jacob."
- Malachi 3:6

Reflection Question:

If God has not moved, what is one honest thing that may have caused you to drift from Him, and what would it look like to take one step back toward Him today?

Sermon Quote:

"If you're distant from God today, God hasn't moved. God's still right where He was when you left."

Prayer:

Father, thank You for being constant when everything else shifts. Help me to turn toward You today, trusting that You are already there. Amen.

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Day 2: Come Back

Devotional:

There is something deeply personal about the words “Return to Me.” God is not issuing a legal demand. He is extending a relational invitation. He sounds less like a judge and more like a Father who has been watching the road, waiting for His child to come home. Israel had physically returned to the promised land. They were back in the right place, surrounded by God’s provision. But their hearts had not made the same journey. They were present in body but absent in devotion. God saw the gap and called them by name. He does the same with us. You can be in church every Sunday, serving on a team, singing every song, and still have a heart that has quietly drifted. Proximity is not the same as closeness. God is not interested in your attendance record. He is after your heart. The beautiful promise attached to His invitation is this: return to Me, and I will return to you. Draw near, and He draws near. The movement toward God is never wasted. Every small step of genuine devotion is met with His presence moving toward you. You do not have to have it all figured out before you return. You just have to turn. He will meet you there.

Bible Verse:

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” - James 4:8a

Reflection Question:

Is there an area of your life where you have been going through the motions spiritually without genuine heart engagement? What would returning to God look like in that specific area?

Sermon Quote:

“You’ve moved. Come back. God says the people had returned to the land, but they had not returned to God.”

Prayer:

Lord, I want more than just the motions. Draw me close to You, and help me to take one genuine step toward You today. Amen.

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Day 3: Everything Belongs to Him

Devotional:

Few questions in Scripture hit as hard as this one: “Will a man rob God?” It almost sounds absurd. How could anyone steal from the One who owns everything? And yet God levels that exact accusation at His people, not once, but four times in just a few verses. The issue was not simply that they stopped giving. The issue was what their giving revealed about their hearts. When Israel withheld their tithes and offerings, they were acting as though what they had was theirs to keep. They had forgotten something foundational: everything they possessed was already a gift from God. The tithe, one tenth of what we receive, was never designed to be a transaction or a tax. It is an acknowledgment. It is a way of saying, “God, I recognize that You are the source of all of this, and I trust You with it.” Abraham practiced this long before any law required it. It has always been an act of worship, not obligation. When we give faithfully, we are not doing God a favor. We are returning what was already His, and in doing so, we are declaring where our trust truly lies. Generosity is one of the most honest statements a person can make about what they actually believe about God.

Bible Verse:

“Will a man rob God? Yet you have robbed Me! But you say, in what way have we robbed You? In tithes and offerings.” - Malachi 3:8

Reflection Question:

When you think about your finances, does your giving reflect a belief that God is the source of everything you have, or does it reflect a belief that what you earn is primarily yours?

Sermon Quote:

“You’re not giving a tithe, you are returning it because it’s His.”

Prayer:

Father, remind me that every good thing in my life comes from Your hand. Help me to hold what I have with an open hand, trusting You as my provider. Amen.

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Day 4: Test Me in This

Devotional:

God rarely invites us to test Him. But in Malachi 3:10, He does exactly that. He tells His people to bring the full tithe, and then He says something remarkable: test Me in this. See if I will not open the windows of heaven and pour out a blessing so great you will not have room enough to receive it. That image of windows opening points back to Genesis, to the flood, when God opened the windows of heaven and water poured down beyond anything anyone could contain. When God opens those windows, the result is not a trickle. It is abundance beyond human capacity. This is not a prosperity formula. Faithful giving is not a guaranteed path to wealth. But it is a step of trust, and God promises to honor trust. The blessing He pours out may come in ways you did not expect, peace in uncertainty, provision at just the right moment, or a freedom from anxiety about money that you have never experienced before. What holds most of us back is fear. We look at our budget and wonder if we can afford to give. But the real question is whether we can afford not to. Withholding from God does not protect us. It simply keeps us from experiencing what He wants to give.

Bible Verse:

"Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in My house, and try Me now in this, says the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it."
- Malachi 3:10

Reflection Question:

Is there a specific fear about finances that has kept you from giving faithfully, and what would it look like to take one step of trust in that area?

Sermon Quote:

"God doesn't stop blessing until you stop trusting."

Prayer:

God, I want to trust You with everything, including my finances. Give me the courage to take a step of faith and to believe that You are faithful to Your promises. Amen.

Notes:



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Day 5: Giving as Worship

Devotional:

Generosity is one of the most countercultural acts a person can practice. Everything around us says to hold on tighter, save more, spend on yourself. But Scripture paints a completely different picture of what a life centered on God looks like. Every gift, every tithe, every offering is an act of worship. It is a declaration that God is at the center of your life, not money, not security, not comfort. When you give, you are saying with your actions what you believe in your heart: that God is good, that He is your provider, and that you trust Him with your future. James reminds us that every good and perfect gift comes from above, from the Father who does not change. If that is true, and it is, then giving is simply the natural response of a grateful heart. We give because He gave first. We trust because He has proven Himself trustworthy. Here is the encouraging reality: your giving is never just about money. It is about the posture of your heart. And when your heart is postured toward God, when He is genuinely at the center of your life, everything else begins to align around that truth. Do not paint a picture of your life where God is not a part of it. He belongs at the center, and generosity is one of the most powerful ways to keep Him there.

Bible Verse:

"Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning." - James 1:17

Reflection Question:

How does the way you handle your finances reflect what is truly at the center of your life, and what is one practical step you could take this week to make generosity a regular act of worship?

Sermon Quote:

"Tithing is our duty. Offering is our privilege. Every time you and I give a gift, a tithe, or an offering to God, it is a privilege of our worship."

Prayer:

Lord, thank You for every good gift You have placed in my life. Help me to give generously and joyfully, keeping You at the center of everything I do. Amen.

Notes:
