

Can I Trust God? Malachi 3 & 4

In all of my years of service to my Lord, I have discovered a truth that has never failed and has never been compromised. That truth is that it is beyond the realm of possibilities that one has the ability to out give God. Even if I give the whole of my worth to Him, He will find a way to give back to me much more than I gave.

-Charles Spurgeon

I. Is God Just?

II. Will God Provide?

III. Is It Worth It?

Into the Bible

The writers of the Gospels clearly associated John the Baptist with the messenger that came to prepare the way for the Messiah. His message was clear about what was necessary to enter the kingdom of God. (Matthew 3:2) Does John's message still apply to us today?

God makes it clear that justice is rooted in His character and will be meted out on those who practice evil. (Psalm 37:27-28) Some people see the Old Testament portrait of a just God changing to a God of mercy in the New Testament. How does Hebrews 10:30 correct this?

Application

Under the Mosaic covenant God promised to bless His people for their obedience and withhold his blessings when they failed and fell into sin. By the time of Malachi however, the returned Jews seemed to think that God owed them prosperity for their obedience in giving sacrifices. Maybe they were interpreting Proverbs 11:24-25 like the prosperity gospel preachers. But God challenged them on their approach to giving. Why is obedience not just a matter of following the rules? (2 Corinthians 9:6-7)

For Families

Talk with your children about what we can actually give to God who needs nothing.