Giving God Our Very Best

Tony Mauck · Malachi 1:7–14

INTRODUCTION

- I want to talk for a few minutes this morning about leadership, particularly as it relates to worship.
- There is no excuse for those of us who are older, who have been around for a while, to not give our very best effort in leading God's people.
- Our God is the awesome and excellent God, Max says. He deserves our very best.

1 Are You Giving God Your Best?

Malachi 1:11; Malachi 1:14

- Failed leadership is the theme of the book of Malachi, leading us to the one who would come, who would be the ultimate leader of God's people, Jesus Christ.
- People of Malachi's day were infected with a spirit of mediocrity. Service did not emanate from the heart.
- For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, my name will be great among the nations.
- When visitors come into our assembly, what do they think about our God by the nature of what we do here?
- The challenge, responsibility, and privilege of leading God's people to the very throne of the creator and Savior should be taken seriously.

2 Corporate Worship and My Participation

2 Corinthians 4:16–18

- The very nature of coming here involves a union, a participation with other people.
- Poor attitudes must first be managed. God does not want our gift while we have aught against our brother.
- We should not want to hinder anyone's approach to God. Instead, we are here to facilitate and help.
- We must not be focused so horizontally that we forget that what we are doing vertically is foremost in importance.
- Though the outer man is decaying, the inner man is being renewed day by day.
- You are contemplating the greater realities, the living God, the exalted King, a life-enhancing message.

3 How Corporate Worship Affects Other People

1 Corinthians 14:23–25; John 4:23–24

- We need to consider the total effect of what we're doing upon all the worshippers who are present.

- We're here to come to the very throne of God. It must foremost be about Him.
- Is this hindering or helping devotion and expression to God?
- He will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you.
- This certainly still should be a place where a visitor would determine God is among these people.
- True worship emanates from within. It's not a ritual. It's not simply going through the right acts and checking off a box.

4 What Is Accomplished When We Worship

Proverbs 14:26–27; Psalm 36:7–9

- We are nurturing and pursuing divine connection.
- We are suing for his favor and his supply of my need.
- We must consider how to stimulate one another unto love and good deeds.
- Let us not grow weary. For in due time we shall reap if we do not faint.
- The fear of the Lord is our strong confidence, and the children take refuge in him.
- They drink their fill of his abundance. They drink from the river of delights, the fountain of life.

THE CHALLENGE

Do you need to come out of iniquity and sin and have cleansing in the precious fountain of Jesus' blood, and then drink of his fountain all the rest of your days?

MY NOTES