

Malachi 3:14-15 (NLT)

[14] “You have said, ‘What’s the use of serving God? What have we gained by obeying his commands or by trying to show the Lord of Heaven’s Armies that we are sorry for our sins? [15] From now on we will call the arrogant blessed. For those who do evil get rich, and those who dare God to punish them suffer no harm.’”

Malachi 3:16 (NLT)

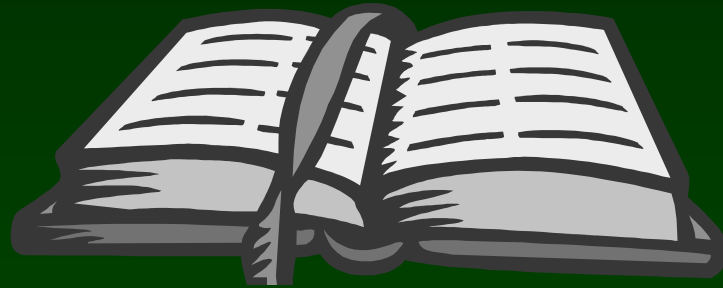
[16] Then those who feared the Lord spoke with each other, and the Lord listened to what they said. In his presence, a scroll of remembrance was written to record the names of those who feared him and always thought about the honor of his name.

Malachi 3:17-18 (NLT)

[17] “They will be my people,” says the Lord of Heaven’s Armies. “On the day when I act in judgment, they will be my own special treasure. I will spare them as a father spares an obedient child. [18] Then you will again see the difference between the righteous and the wicked, between those who serve God and those who do not.”

The FINAL Word !

Malachi 4:1-6



Galatians 4:4-5 (ESV)

But **when the FULLNESS of TIME had come**, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, [5] to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Matthew 7:23 (NIV)

Then I will tell them plainly,

I never knew you.

AWAY FROM ME,

you evildoers!'

Romans 10:9-10, 13 (ESV)

[9] ...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. [10] For **with the heart one believes and is justified,** and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ...[13] For “**everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.**”

When you stand before God:

Will it be as your JUDGE

or

as your Father?

1 Corinthians 9:24-25 (NLT)

Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? **So run to win!** [25] **All athletes are disciplined in their training.** They do it to win a prize that will fade away, but **we do it for an eternal prize.**

1 Corinthians 9:26-27 (NLT)

[26] So I run with purpose in every step. I am not just shadowboxing. [27]

I discipline my body like an athlete,
training it to do what it should.

Otherwise, I fear that after preaching
to others I myself might be
disqualified.

OBSERVATIONS:

- **Competing against the Forces of Evil**
- **Discipline ourselves FOR Godliness**
- **Run with Purpose**
- **Disqualified from the Rewards**
- **All of LIFE is the RACE**

1 Corinthians 6:12 (ESV)

“All things are lawful for me,”
but **NOT all things are helpful.**

“All things are lawful for me,”
but **I will NOT be enslaved by
anything.**

Romans 8:12-13 (NLT)

...dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. [13] For if you live by its dictates, you will die. **But if through the power of the Spirit you PUT TO DEATH** the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live.

Romans 8:15 (NLT)

[15] So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead,

you received God's Spirit

when he ADOPTED you

as HIS OWN children.

Now we call him, "Abba, Father."

Was John the Baptist Elijah?

➤ **John said he was NOT Elijah**

➤ **Prophecy about John**

Luke 1:17 (NIV) And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous--to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Was John the Baptist Elijah?

➤ Jesus said John was Elijah

Matt. 11:14 (NIV) And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come.

➤ **John the Baptist is already dead (Matt.14)**

Was John the Baptist Elijah?

- **Elijah and Moses appear on the Mount of Transfiguration (Matt. 17)**
- **Elijah WILL Come he WILL Restore**
Matt. 17:11 (ESV) He answered, “Elijah does come, and he will RESTORE all things.

Revelation 11:3,6 (NIV)

[3] And I will give power to **MY two witnesses**, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth." ...[6]

These men **have power to shut up the sky** so that it will not rain during the time they are prophesying; and they have power to **turn the waters into blood** and to strike the earth with **every kind of plague** as often as they want.

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18 (NASU)

[16] For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. [17] Then we who are alive and remain will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we shall always be with the Lord. [18] **Therefore comfort one another with these words.**

QUESTIONS

- 1. Why do we find it so hard to ACCEPT that Discipline is required for godliness?**
- 2. How can we make sure we Kill the MONSTER in the box?**
- 3. What encouragement do we receive from Prophecy?**
- 4. What challenge do we receive from Prophecy?**