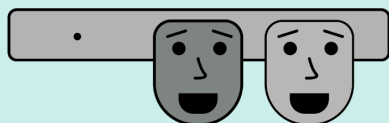
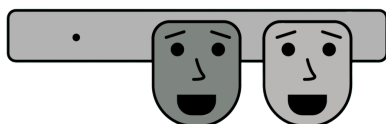


Impostor

a series in the book of Malachi



Devotional Guide

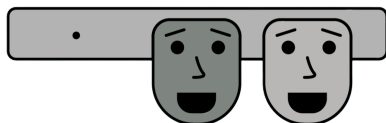


DAY ONE: The LORD addresses the courtroom

Read Mal 1:6-14 to familiarize yourself with this passage, and then focus on the first part of verse 6 (6a).

- Who is speaking in this text and how is he described? (what title is given to him?)
 - What do you think his title suggests about his power or position?
- Who is being spoken to in this text, and how are these people described?
 - What do you think it means to despise (ESV) or show contempt for (NIV) the name of the LORD?
- Who is being honored in this verse?
- Who is not being honored in this verse?

Pray in Confession and Supplication: In what ways do you not properly honor or fear the LORD? Ask God to help you search your heart attitudes and actions so that you can confess them.

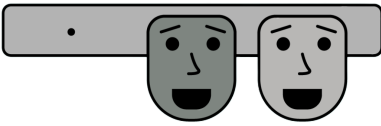


DAY TWO: The Charge

Read Malachi 1:1-5.

- The priests ask two questions in these verses. What are they?
- What are God's answers to these two questions?
- According to these verses, what does it look like for the LORD's table to be defiled?
- Read Leviticus 22:17-25. What did God expect the people and priests to offer?

Pray in Confession and Supplication: What kind of offering is required Christians (see Romans 12:1-2)? What would it look like to present yourself as a holy and acceptable, living sacrifice?

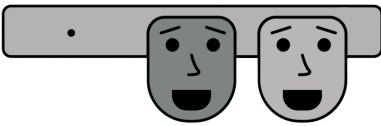


DAY THREE: A Comparison

Read Malachi 1:8b-9

- In this text, the LORD says that the priests would not dare treat human authorities with the disrespect that they show God. Which human authority does he identify?
- What is the nature of the LORD's question in 1:9? (Is this a real question or a rhetorical question?)
- What answer do you think is implied, when the LORD asks this question?

Pray in Confession and Supplication: Are you more concerned about honoring and pleasing earthly authorities, or the LORD? Ask God to help correct your thoughts and your actions.

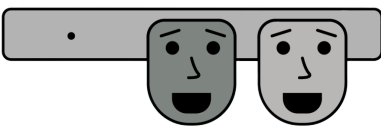


DAY FOUR: A Drastic Solution

Read Malachi 1:10-12

- What solution does God propose in verse 10?
 - Can you imagine if God said to Northview, "Oh that you would shut your doors, I have no pleasure in your worship!" OUCH
 - Read 1 Corinthians 11:17-18, and Revelation 2:4-5, 2:14-16, 2:20-21, 3:1-3, 3:15-18. What actions cause God to disapprove of churches in these verses?
- In 1:11, what does God say will happen despite the failure of His people?

Pray in Adoration: Reflect on the greatness of God's name! Who is He according to the scriptures? How can you praise Him for His character and His actions today?



DAY FIVE: God confronts the underlying attitudes

Read Malachi 1:13-14

- What is the underlying attitude of the people towards God according to verse 13?
- What does God call those who give Him an unworthy sacrifice in verse 14?
- What does the LORD affirm about who He is in verse 14?
- What are the implications of who He is? What will happen among the nations?

Pray in Confession and Adoration! Are there times that you have felt it is a 'burden' or 'weariness' to serve the LORD? Praise His name in order to remember that He is a great King!!!