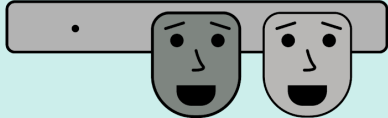


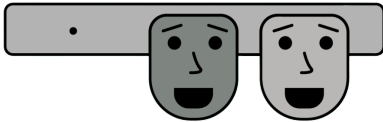
Impostor

a series in the book of Malachi



Devotional Guide

DAY ONE: Overview of Malachi



This week we will be starting a new series in the Old Testament book of Malachi. Malachi is a prophetic book so it is a very different genre from both Ecclesiastes and the Gospel of Luke that we have already studied this year. The prophets were messengers from God who reminded God's people of God's laws, warned them of coming judgements, and called them to repent and worship God rightly. Malachi was written after the Jewish people had been allowed to return to Jerusalem after their exile in Babylon (2 Kings 24). It was probably written around the time of the Nehemiah (a governor of Judah, you can find his story in the book of Nehemiah!). It will be helpful to get an overview of this book before digging in to study it in more detail.

1. Watch The Bible Project's 7 minute video on Malachi which can be found here:

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/malachi>

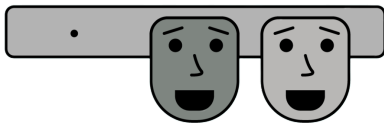
AND / OR

2. Read an overview of Malachi here:

<https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/introduction-to-malachi/>

Prayer: As you pray today, thank God for the 66 different biblical books which are inspired by the Holy Spirit and tell one cohesive story about Him! Ask Him to teach you as you study this prophetic book.

DAY TWO: The Author and Recipient

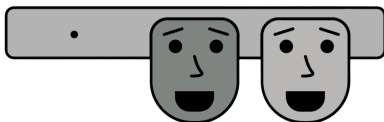


Read Malachi 1:1-5.

- According to verse 1, whose words are recorded in the book of Malachi and who is this oracle written to?
 - What role does the prophet Malachi play?
- What do we learn about Lord in these five verses?
 - Who does He love?
 - What is God called in verse 4?
 - How is God's authority and power evident in these verses?
 - Where is God great?

Prayer: As you pray today consider God's greatness and authority. Ask Him for a greater sense of humility and awe as you seek to know Him more fully.

DAY THREE: The Dispute



Read Malachi 1:1-5

- What does God claim in verse 2?
- What question do the recipients ask in response to this claim?
- How does the example of how God has dealt with Esau (known as the nation of Edom) show Israel/Jacob that they are loved?
 - To learn more about Jacob and Esau read Genesis 25:21-23 and Romans 9:10-15. How do these passages shed light on God's love and sovereign will?
- What should be Israel's response in light of God's love?
- **Reflect:** Have you ever questioned God's love for you? When you look back at your life, or consider what you know from the Bible, what evidence can you see that He really DOES love you even if you don't see it in this moment?

Prayer: Confess your doubts to God and ask Him to reveal truth to your heart today. Praise Him for His great love, shown most fully in Christ's death on the cross for you!