

THE Story

Lesson 32 Chapter 21 Rebuilding the Walls (Pt 2) p.301-304

1. We are introduced to Malachi ("my messenger") with a note at the bottom of page 301 to the top of page 302. What do we learn about Malachi?

2. Malachi's first message from God to his people on page 302, He challenged the people to give God their first and best, not their last and leftovers.

What are some ways we give God our leftovers rather than our first and our best?

Why is it so important that we give God the first and best of all we have?

What are some examples of how we can do this?

3. At the bottom of page 302, God identifies another problem God had with his people. Although they wept before the Lord, they found He would not regard their offerings. Why not?

What particular sin was coming between them and God and what "heart condition" underlay it?

4. In the middle section of page 303, before He identifies another problem He had with His people, God declares, "I the Lord do not change!" This has been defined as God's "immutability."

Look up these other passages that declare the same truth....Psalm 102:27;
Hebrews 1:12, 13:8; James 1:17.

Why should it be important to us that we serve a God who does not change?

5. What particular sin was coming between them and God and what "heart condition" underlay it?

6. What must we make our chief concern if we wish to obtain God's promised blessings? (Look up these other passages: Proverbs 3:9-10; Matthew 6:30-33; 16:25; Luke 6:38)

To think about...In what practical ways ought I to respond to this call?

7. From the bottom of page 303 to the top of page 304, God identifies another problem God had with his people. What particular sin was coming between them and God and what "heart condition" underlay it?

What's impressive about how some of the people responded?

8. On page 304 we have God's final words through His "messenger" before 400 years of silence. In what ways do they provide a fitting conclusion to the Old Testament?

In what ways do they prepare us for the coming of the Messiah?

9. As you review this portion of God's inspired Word, what truths do you learn about our humanity....sins to avoid & examples to follow

about our God... His promises to claim & His character to embrace