

WHAT'S UP?

Malachi 3:13-18

**Malachi provides two perspectives on what's up with God.
- Let's look and learn from what he reveals.**

I. THE WORDS OF THE ARROGANT (13-15)

- What's up with God?

A. THEIR ACCUSATION: God is disappointing (13)

1. Arrogant words
2. Against God
3. Callously challenging God's charges

B. THEIR COMPLAINT: Godliness is useless (14)

1. There is no purpose in service
2. There is no profit in obedience or repentance
 - a. Note that their "profit" motive is selfish
 - b. Consider that their obedience is suspect
 - c. Observe that their mourning appears insincere

C. THEIR CONCLUSION: God is passive (15)

1. The proud are prospering ... and God is doing nothing!
2. The wicked are strengthening ... and God is doing nothing!
3. Those who scrutinize God are getting away with it ... and God is doing nothing!

II. THE RECOGNITION OF THE REVERENT (16-18)

- What's up with God?

A. THEIR WORSHIP (16)

1. They honor God
 - a. They fear the Lord
 - b. They esteem God's name
2. They speak to one another - See Hebrews 3:12-13

B. THEIR BLESSING (16-17)

1. They are specifically honored by God (16)
 - A book of remembrance was written
2. They are highly valued by God (17a)
3. They are spared from danger and destruction (17 b)

C. THEIR UNDERSTANDING (18)

- They would clearly see ...

1. The distinction between the upright and the transgressor
 - Recognizing an obvious difference between the true-believer and the make-believer
2. The difference between the one who yields to God and the one who doesn't

CONCLUSION:

This passage indicates two distinct responses to God:

1. From the arrogant: “Whoa!”

- a. God is not doing right!
- b. God is not treating me right!
- c. God is not treating His enemies right!

2. From the reverent: “Wow!”

- a. God is worthy
- b. God is thoughtful
- c. God is discerning

What's up?

- 1. How do you see God?**
- 2. Do you view Him arrogantly or reverently?**