

Honouring the Father

“For even hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps:

Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:

Who, when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, he threatened not; but committed himself to him that judgeth righteously”, 1 Peter 2:21-23.

I believe that there are four main attributes Jesus wants us to display in our earthly living, and all found in the last Book of the Old Testament.

1. Honouring the Father, Malachi 1:6.
2. Respecting God, Malachi 2:2.
3. Being God’ s Messenger, Malachi 3:1.
4. Godly Awe, Malachi 4:2.

From the above four points, three further points become obvious,

5. 1 and 2 are very Old Testament orientated.
6. 3 is very much New Testament Church Age orientated.
7. 4 points directly to the closing chapters of our Lord’ s Prophetic word.

Jesus, in the last seven words in our lead Scripture above, committed Himself to honouring the Father who judged the people through, and with, a Divine, but moral Law.

A lot of people, week by week throughout the year, go through the actions of a ‘religious observance’ . Physically they are present in the church, whilst the most important parts are missing, their hearts and minds.

Isaiah summed it up very neatly in chapter 43:22-26.

Verse 22 alludes to the prayerlessness of the people. Prayerfulness is a life lived that honouring God’ s closeness to you personally. Thus prayerlessness is not having God at your side as you proceed through life.

Verse 23 alludes to the people’ s unfaithfulness, and an unwillingness to acknowledge that God can supply all our needs.

Verse 25 God declares that He has the power to forgive sins. Jesus

also makes it clear, that for us to expect God to forgive us when we decide to front up and ask for forgiveness, we are to approach, and speak directly to those who have sinned against us, NOT THINK THE THOUGHT, OR JUST MUTTER A FEW WORDS INTO THE AIR. At that point mercy is not only promised, it is also GIVEN.

The prophet Malachi sums it up in just four words. "What a weariness this is". Malachi 1:13.

Let me just ask a couple of questions. And I do expect you to answer them truthfully!

Husbands. Have you told your wife with a sincere and loving voice? 'I LOVE YOU' . Wives. When your husband spoke those words, did they give you a beautiful, but deep feeling internally?

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Parents. When your children with a sincere and loving voice say. 'I LOVE YOU' , you feel deeply touched. Your Heavenly Father, when you say the words 'I LOVE YOU' , will also be deeply touched.

How recently was it that you felt God' s Love pulsating through your being? How much do we honour God? To orchestrate His Love flowing through us, God permitted a man, JESUS, to be nailed to a wooden Cross.

God gave His Son that He might reclaim more of His Children from a life and eternity of sin

There is no way in which we could ever physically pay God. There is but one way we can repay God, and it is spiritually. To do so is,

8. Honour God by proclaiming what He has done for us.
9. Honour God by proclaiming that He still has love for the next sinner we speak to.
10. Honour God, by permitting Him to walk beside us.
11. Honour God by praying to Him, AND LISTENING TO HIS ANSWERS.