

## **THE 'ONE PAGE' MALACHI**

### **AUTHOR:**

Malachi means 'my messenger'. It's not clear if Malachi wrote this himself or someone else 'scribed' it for him.

### **DATE:**

Approximately 450 BC

### **IN 10 WORDS OR LESS:**

God's people have become careless in their attitude towards Him.

### **DETAILS:**

Prophesying a century after the return from exile, Malachi chastises the Jews for offering 'crippled or diseased' sacrifices (1:8); for divorcing their wives to marry pagan women (2:11, 14); and for failing to pay tithes to the temple (3:8).

The Lord was angry with their attitude towards serving Him (3:14) but he promised to bless the obedient: 'But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings.' (4:2)

### **NOTABLE QUOTE:**

'Return to me and I will return to you says the Lord Almighty' (3:7)

### **UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL:**

Malachi, the last book of the Old Testament, contains the final word from God for some 400 years until the appearance of John the Baptist and Jesus the Messiah, as God speaks through the prophet: 'See, I will send my messenger who will prepare the way for me. Then suddenly, the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire will come.' (3:1)

### **SO WHAT:**

God doesn't want empty religious rituals – He wants people to worship Him 'in spirit and in truth.' (John 4:24)