

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: June 4, 2017
Malachi 2:17-3:5

1. What does God say that the Israelites or priests have done, according to 2:17? _____

2. How had the Israelites wearied the Lord, according to 2:17?
 - a. By suggesting that God would be pleased with a person who does evil.
 - b. By calling those who do evil good.
 - c. By suggesting that God is not a God of justice.
 - d. All of the Above.

3. Are there still people who weary the Lord in this way today? Yes_____ No_____ Explain.

4. Is God a different God in the New Testament than he was in the Old Testament?
 - a. Yes, because now he is ok with us doing evil because Jesus came to forgive us.
 - b. No, 3:1 refers to the “messenger who will prepare the way before” the Lord. This is John the Baptist and he came preaching “Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near” (See Matthew 3:2).
 - c. No, 3:1 says that suddenly the Lord they are seeking will come to the temple. Jesus also came preaching “Repent for the kingdom of heaven has come near (See Matthew 4:17).
 - d. No, Jesus said that he did not come to abolish the law, but to fulfill it (See Matthew 5:17-20).

5. What does it mean to repent?
 - a. Say I’m sorry but keep doing the things that I know I shouldn’t.
 - b. Change my way of thinking.
 - c. Change my way of living.

6. What does the Lord do when he comes, according to 3:2?
 - a. He will be like a refiner’s fire.
 - b. He will be like a launderer’s soap.
 - c. He will purify the Levites.
 - d. Purification does not come without pain, so essentially it appears that he will bring the pain!

7. How are things different after the Lord comes?
 - a. Not much will really change. We’re all just sinners, after all.
 - b. The Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness.
 - c. The offerings of Judah and Jerusalem (representing God’s people) will be acceptable to the Lord.

8. Have you allowed the Lord to come and purify you? _____

metanoéō (from [3326](#) /*metá*, "changed after being with" and [3539](#) /*noiéō*, "think") – properly, "think differently after," "after a change of *mind*"; to *repent* (literally, "*think differently afterwards*").

When the Lord comes, he will perform two complementary works: he will purify some sinners (2–4) and judge others (5). The images used for that purifying work, the *refiner's fire* and the *launderer's* (or fuller's) *soap*, stress both its thoroughness and its severity. The heat of the refiner's fire was intense in order to separate the dross from the molten pure metal (Is. 48:10; Ezk. 22:18–22; 1 Pet. 1:7; *cf.* also Mt. 3:11). Similarly, the ancient launderer washed clothes using a strong lye soap, after which the clothes would be placed on rocks and beaten with sticks. If modern sinners prefer their Lord's cleansing work to his judgment, here is the price that must be paid (*cf.* Heb. 12:7–11).¹

9.

cf. compare

¹Carson, D. A.: *New Bible Commentary : 21st Century Edition*. 4th ed. Leicester, England; Downers Grove, Ill., USA : Inter-Varsity Press, 1994, S. Mal 2:17