

Giving Our Best
Malachi 1:6-14

Review:

1. As a kingdom of priests, Christians are called to offer spiritual sacrifices to Jesus
2. The way that we live either brings honor or dishonor to Jesus, and either draws other people to Him or drives them away
3. We owe God all our love and devotion, all that we are and all that we have

Reflect:

1. What relationships or things or activities do you find more interesting than your relationship with God?
2. What steps can you take to direct more of your time, attention, and devotion to God this week?

Go further: Read I Peter 2:1-12

1. In verse 1, what five things does Peter urge us to lay aside?
2. What does Peter tell us that we should desire and why?
3. In verse 3, what does Peter hope that his readers have tasted?
4. In verse 4, Peter compares Jesus to a living stone. What does he call us to do with respect to Jesus? How does Peter describe the relationship of “men” and God to this living stone?
5. In verse 5, Peter calls his readers “living stones.” Into what does he say they are being built?
6. In verse 5, Peter says that his readers are members of a priesthood. How does he describe them, and what does he say about the sacrifices they are called to offer?
7. In verse 6, Peter quotes from Isaiah 28:16. What does he say the Lord has laid in Zion? How does he describe this stone?
8. What does the Lord insist will happen to those believe on this stone?
9. In verse 7, how does Peter describe the way believers look at Jesus?
10. In verse 7, Peter quotes from Psalm 118:22. How does he say the disobedient will react to Jesus?
11. In verse 8, Peter quotes from Isaiah 8:14. What effect does Isaiah say that Jesus will have on unbelievers? Why does Peter say that unbelievers will stumble over Jesus?
12. In what four ways does Peter describe his readers in verse 9?
13. What are the Lord’s people called to do? What has God done for us?
14. In verse 10, in what two ways does Peter describe his readers’ previous condition?
15. In what two ways does Peter describe his readers’ present condition?

Summary and Application:

1. How does tasting the Lord’s grace (verse 3), and focusing on what God has done for you (verses 9 and 10) increase your desire to praise the Lord?
2. How would you describe the “spiritual sacrifices” you have been offering to God this week? What changes do you think you need to make for your sacrifices to be more acceptable to God (verse 5)?