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**VIDEO LECTURE MODULE:**

**BIBLE FOR  
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

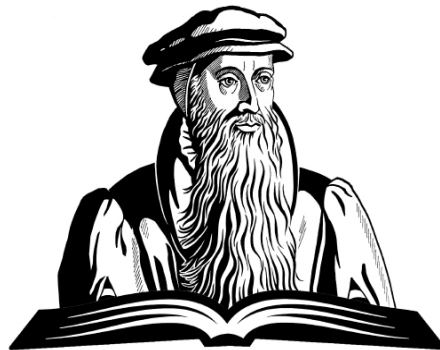
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**Old Testament**

**Lesson 113**

**Malachi—The Last Old Testament Prophet**

Lecture Presenter: Dr. Daniel Sweetman



**The John Knox Institute**  
of Higher Education

*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

**John Knox Institute of Higher Education**

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Dr. Daniel Sweetman is an instructor at Grace Christian Academy in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.  
[www.gcagr.org](http://www.gcagr.org)

# Module

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## BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

### Old Testament

#### 113 LESSONS

*77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge*

*36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman*

01. The Bible: The Word of God
02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God
03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation
04. A Gracious Promise
05. Cain and Abel
06. Only Noah Found Grace
07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape
08. The Noahic Covenant
09. The Tower of Babel
10. Abram: Called by God
11. Abram Intercedes for Lot
12. Melchizadek
13. Righteous by Faith
14. Two Sons
15. Lessons from Lot's Life
16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God
17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision
18. Isaac and Rebekah
19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau
20. Jacob the Deceiver
21. God Preserves Jacob
22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el
23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated
24. An Eye upon God
25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison
26. Joseph and His Brethren
27. Jacob Comes to Joseph
28. God Heard Their Cry
29. Moses and the Burning Bush
30. Let My People God
31. Deliverance
32. God's Patience with a Complaining People
33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness
34. The Lord Dwells Among His People
35. A Priest for the People
36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People
37. Worshiping God Rightly
38. Walk Not According to the World
39. Hearts of Ingratitude
40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming
41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up
42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath
43. Cities of Refuge
44. A New Generation
45. Moses' Last Days
46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled
47. A Promise to Rahab
48. The Rise of Judges
49. Gideon—God with Him
50. Samson

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
101. Joel and the Day of the LORD
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
- 113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet**

## Lesson 113

# Malachi—The Last Old Testament Prophet

Malachi, chapters 1 through 4

### Memory Verse

*“For I am the LORD, I change not;  
therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”*

—Malachi 3:6

### The Time of Malachi

The last book of the Old Testament is the prophecy of Malachi. We know that the minor prophets are not in exact chronological order. Although we are not told directly when Malachi wrote his book, a careful reading gives us the sense that Malachi is indeed the last prophet, and that a long period of silence is to follow.

When the Jews first returned from Babylon, there was great joy and zeal. Stirred up by the Spirit of God, led by Joshua and Zerubbabel, and encouraged by the prophets Haggai and Zechariah, the temple was rebuilt, and the worship of the Lord resumed. In the book of Malachi, we notice that much of the love for God and his service had ebbed away. A lot of Jews were going through the motions of worship, but their heart was not in it. A selfish and demanding spirit was filling their hearts. Over and over we hear the Jews grumbling and questioning God. “Wherein hast Thou loved us?” (Malachi 1:2) “Wherein have we despised Thy name?” (1:6) “Behold, what a weariness it is!” (1:13) “Wherein have we robbed thee?” (3:8) “It is vain to serve God: and what profit is it?” (3:14) Their hearts were no longer lifted up to God, but were filled with the things of this world.

### The Message of Malachi

The name Malachi means “my messenger.” Malachi was sent by the Lord to make one thing clear. “I have loved you, saith the LORD” (1:2). How else could they explain their very existence? Where were the children of Esau? Where were the other powerful nations of the past? (1:3, 4) However, the people of Judah had to remember something else! They would only enjoy the blessings of the God who loved them if they loved and feared him in return. “If I be a father, where is my honour?” (1:6) There was very much amiss in the lives of the Jews. They were no longer paying tithes to the Lord. “Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse...and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it” (3:10). Men were deserting and divorcing the wives of their youth and marrying heathen girls. “The LORD has been witness between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt treacherously” (2:14). Daring and bold sinners were admired and looked up to. “And now we call the proud happy; yea, they that work wickedness are set up”

(3:15). Even the priests who led the worship services were becoming indifferent and irreverent. In the name of the Lord, Malachi sharply rebuked the priests. He pointed out the polluted bread on God's altar (1:7), and the lame, blind and sick animals which are being sacrificed (1:8-14). Their worship was formal, without love and reverence, causing "many to stumble at the law" (2:8): to forsake the worship of the Lord altogether.

We read stern warnings in the book of Malachi. Seven times we read of a curse which God would send upon the priests and the people. What a shock it must have been to the self-satisfied Jews to hear from Malachi that God would forsake them and bless the Gentiles instead! "For from the rising of the sun even unto the going down of the same my name shall be great among the Gentiles; and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering" (1:11). Malachi warns that all their sins will be remembered at the day of judgment. "For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts" (4:1).

Were there any who took God's warnings to heart? Certainly! God would bless the preaching of Malachi, filling hearts of sinners with repentance and love. To these, Malachi may speak with great tenderness: "They shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels" (3:17). Malachi may tell them: "Unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings" (4:2). Be patient, the Saviour shall come! "The Lord, whom you seek... even the messenger of the covenant whom you delight in: behold, he shall come!" (3:1) "Even so, come, Lord Jesus" (Revelation 22:20).

### **Review Questions**

1. What does Malachi's name mean?
  - a. The last prophet
  - b. My messenger
  - c. God remembers
  - d. Comforter
  
2. What is the first thing God tells the Jews?
  - a. Ye had wearied the Lord with your words.
  - b. I will curse your blessings.
  - c. I have loved you.
  
3. When the Lord said, "Let none deal treacherously against the wife of his youth," he warned the people to keep the \_\_\_\_\_ commandment.
  - a. Fifth
  - b. Seventh
  - c. Tenth

4. For whom would a book of remembrance be written? (3:16)
  - a. For those who offered blind and lame animals
  - b. For those who spoke stout words against the Lord
  - c. For them that feared the Lord and thought upon his name
  
5. What did God's people have to remember as they waited for Christ? (Malachi 4)
  - a. To speak often one to another
  - b. To beseech the Lord to be gracious
  - c. To remember the Law of Moses
  
6. Who will turn the hearts of the fathers to the children? (4:5-6, Luke 1:17)
  - a. John the Baptist
  - b. The Lord Jesus
  - c. Peter

7. List the twelve Minor Prophets in order and write one fact about each one.

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**Discussion Questions**

1. In chapter 3:1, we read the word messenger twice. Is the text speaking about one person or two people? What does the Lord Jesus say in Matthew 11:10?

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2. In Malachi 4:5, the Lord promised that He would send Elijah the prophet before Christ would come. The scribes taught the people that this would literally happen.

What did John the Baptist say about this in John 1:21?

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What did the Lord Jesus say about this in Matthew 17:10-13?

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3. Why is the Lord Jesus compared to the sun in chapter 4:2? Where else in the Bible is He compared to the sun?