



**Series:** Malachi – God’s Response to Fake Religion  
**Passage** Malachi 3:13-4:6  
**Title:** Remember and Rejoice the Coming of Jesus  
**Speaker:** Pastor JC Cooper– 8/4/2019

### Discussion Starter

What lessons can we learn from this sermon on how the Israelites lost their perspective by looking at the world around them? In what ways by our actions or our thoughts can we also be guilty of these harsh words against the LORD?

### What Good is it to Serve God? (Malachi 3:13-15)

- What was the core problem with the Israelites and their way of serving God? How were they deceived? Read Psalm 9:16-18, 37:28. Discuss the additional insights gained from these verses.
- How do we get to the place where current circumstances do not effect or change the proper worship of God?
- It costs something to keep God’s ordinances. What did the Israelites lose sight of and how does this relate to us in the Church today? What mindset should we have about our good works for the LORD as we live in our society today? Read Mark 8:34-36. Discuss the principal Jesus is laying out as an example for our Christian walk.

### The Righteous Follow Jesus in Reverent Fear and Worship (Malachi 4:1-6)

- Describe in your own words what Malachi 4:1 is describing? Who are included, who are excluded and what happens to them?
- What is the significance of leaving neither root nor branch? Read Matthew 25:31-34, 41. Discuss the parallels you see as it relates to Malachi’s message.
- What is the transition do you see taking place in Malachi 4:2? What does it mean to be a people who fear the Name of the LORD? How are they different from the people described in Malachi 4:1?
- How do we interpret the meaning of the “Sun of Righteousness”? What does this symbolize to us as Christians today?
- Describe what going out and growing fat like stall-fed calves meant in Malachi’s day? What symbolism are we to take from this metaphor in our lives today?
- Read Malachi 4:4-6. Why do you think Malachi ends with this set of warnings and promises?
- What parallels do you see between the book of Malachi and the gospel message?