

RETURN TO ME

ARE YOU INSULTING GOD?

Malachi 1:6-14 Jeff Schreve

Has your worship become insulting to the King of kings?

1. Worship becomes insulting when it gives God the scraps.

A. God will never be pleased with the scraps.

"Oh that there were one among you who would shut the gates, that you might not uselessly kindle fire on My altar! I am not pleased with you," says the LORD of hosts, "nor will I accept an offering from you." Malachi 1:10

1. They are completely unacceptable.

"Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you?" Malachi 1:8

2. They are utterly detestable.

"... and you bring what was taken by robbery [to flay, to strip, to tear] and what is lame or sick; so you bring the offering! Should I receive that from your hand?" says the LORD." Malachi 1:13

And you shall be holy men to Me, therefore you shall not eat any flesh torn to pieces in the field; you shall throw it to the dogs." Exodus 22:31

B. God will never be persuaded by the scraps.

"Go ahead, beg God to be merciful to you! But when you bring that kind of offering, why should He show you any favor at all?" Malachi 1:9 NLT

2. Worship becomes insulting when it leaves out the heart.

"THIS PEOPLE HONORS ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEART IS FAR AWAY FROM ME. BUT IN VAIN DO THEY WORSHIP ME, TEACHING AS DOCTRINES THE PRECEPTS OF MEN." Matthew 15:8-9

A. Worship without heart is useless worship.

B. Worship without heart is lukewarm worship.

"I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot; I would that you were cold or hot. So because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I will spit you out of My mouth." Revelation 3:15-16

3. Worship becomes insulting when it loses sight of God.

A. God is a loving Father.

B. God is a great King.

"But cursed be the swindler who has a male in his flock and vows it, but sacrifices a blemished animal to the Lord, for I am a great King," says the LORD of hosts, "and My name is feared among the nations." Malachi 1:14

*For the LORD is a great God, And a great King above all gods,
In whose hand are the depths of the earth; The peaks of the
mountains are His also. Psalm 95:3-4*

*Let all the earth fear the LORD; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe
of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.
Psalm 33:8-9*

C. God is deserving of your very best.

*He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning,
the first-born from the dead; so that He Himself might come to
have first place in everything. Colossians 1:18*

Would God say YOUR worship is insulting or honoring?