04 – Malachi 2:17-3:18 – Ready for justice

Why do you bother with God?

Questioning if God even cares

- **Mal 2:17**

So what does God say?

Malachi 3:1 … God is planning to turn up…. in his temple.

Mal 3:17 … day that he acts.

Mal 3:2... who will be able to endure the day of his coming?

verse 5 … will put them on trial…

v 6 … they have ALWAYS been recipients of God's grace and mercy

Is it futile to serve God?

verse 15… what do we gain by serving God?

verse 16… people in Malachi's time heard God's warning and decided to change

… names written down to be with God for all eternity.

For us today

Firstly … why God does not act when we want him to?

2 Peter 3:8-9 "*But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: with the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. 9 The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. Instead he is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance."*

Secondly, judgement will land on all people

Thirdly … the heart of God.

Fourthly… the sort of living that God wants from his people.

verse 5 …

Could God accuse us of the same today?

A few questions

1) **… do we consult the star signs?**

2) **Adultery and porn… did you try and make an excuse in your mind?**

3) **Do you under pay?**

4) **How might we deprive vulnerable people of justice?**

Salvation by Grace

Ephesians 2:8-10, "*For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – 9 not by works, so that no one can boast. 10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

… trust him in all things.

Verse 8-12 … they withhold tithes

"Does our generosity and willingness to share reflect today that we trust God in all things?"

<u>One final thing</u>