

Week of November 1, 2009  
Randall L. Adkisson, Ph.D.

## Monday

Mal. 1:8 "But when you present the blind for sacrifice, is it not evil? ...Why not offer it to your governor? Would he be pleased with you? Or would he receive you kindly?" says the LORD of hosts."

Halfhearted worship is an easy trap to fall into. No longer do we bring a blind offering or lame lamb, instead we bring no offering half-hearted singing, sleepy eyes, and inattentive ears. We expect God to be pleased with what no professor, guest in our home, or even a dear friend would put up with. Worship takes sincerity of heart and attention of mind. It calls for preparation before you enter and participation once inside. God is amazed when we fail to grasp such a simple but important fact of spiritual life. Will you offer to God what is unworthy for man?

## Tuesday

Mal. 1:11 "For from the rising of the sun even to its setting, *My name will be great among the nations*, and in every place incense is going to be offered to My name, and a grain offering that is pure; for My name will be great..."

One day all peoples everywhere will bow to worship Jesus as Lord. In that day, worship will not be voluntary but compulsory. "Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess..." But you and I are not of this group, we are privileged to worship Jesus now – as family, as friend, as Savior. We bow our knee in gratitude because of His grace. We worship, declaring Him Lord because of His salvation. Oh, the marvelous privilege that is ours today. We should not, cannot, must not wait to worship!

## Wednesday

Mal. 2:7 "For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts."

Even in the Old Testament the highest function of the man of God was the preaching of the word of God. We no longer need a priest to offer sacrifice for us. Jesus paid it all. But God still calls preachers *and gives them as gifts* to His church (Eph. 4:1). What is the primary responsibility? What is this man of God's primary duty? To teach the word with clarity, for he is the messenger of the Lord. What is the responsibility of the Lord's people? To seek instruction and be obedient to the word. Pray for your preacher. Pray for your ears. Pray for all who preach the word.

## Thursday

Mal. 2:13-14 You cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with groaning, because He no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand. Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth.

Your faith is an everyday matter, not merely a Sunday thing. This is so often missed or neglected. Worship that does not change you, effect your most basic relationships and actions, change your attitude and rule your daily living *is not worship at all!* God will not turn a favorable ear to those who sing like angels but live like demons. Real worship impacts your home, your work, your whole life.

## Friday

Mal. 4:2 "But you who fear My name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves ...

There is coming a day when God sets everything right. When judgment will fall upon the wicked and joy will fill the lives of the righteous. There is coming a day when sin will no longer hold sway, when temptation will no longer hold power. There is coming a day when death will not be feared and tears will be wiped away. There is coming a day when the sheep are separated from the goat, the wheat from the chaff. Our worship gives us a glimpse of that day. In that day we will fully worship, worship with the saints, worship with the angels.