

Connecting Church and Home

Quarter 2, Week 12 :: The Coming Prophet

Treasure Story: Malachi 4

The “Day of the Lord” is coming. This was the message that God gave Malachi to deliver to the people of Israel. God wanted them to be warned that this will be a day of judgment and reward. For those who have done evil, they will be destroyed along with all their evil deeds. The righteous, however, will enjoy this day as a day of healing and restoration. All the promises that God has made to the righteous about eternal life, peace, and joy will come on the Day of the Lord. Malachi’s message also alluded to a coming prophet who will prepare the way for the Messiah. Despite the harsh fate that is promised to the wicked, those who eagerly await the return of the Messiah can look to Malachi 4 and find great comfort.

Connect

“The most tremendous judgment of God in this world is the hardening of the hearts of men.”
– John Owen

There are wicked people in this world who will never repent and who will meet their destruction on the Day of the Lord. If you have trusted in Christ, however, you now have the blessing of being able to look forward to the Day of the Lord as a day of healing and reunion. The Day of the Lord should comfort us, but it should also challenge us to, like Malachi, point the way to the Messiah. Here are a few suggestions on how you can prepare your family for the Day of the Lord:

- **Who Needs to Hear:** Talk with your family about friends and family you know who most likely do not know Christ as Lord and Savior. Discuss ways that your family can be more deliberate about sharing the good news of the Gospel with them. Also spend time praying for them and for the Lord to soften their hearts to see their need for Christ.
- **The Best Is Yet To Come:** Encourage your children to consider the fact that this world is not their home. Help them get excited about how the Lord has so much more in store for those who love Him. Encourage them to understand that no matter how disappointing things can be in this life, that this is not ultimate. God created us to desire more, and He plans to fulfill that desire on the Day of the Lord.

My Mission As Parent

- Do you consider the fact that this world is passing away and that one day it will be renewed?
- Does the Day of the Lord cause you to have a sense of urgency in how you share Christ with others?
- Do you eagerly anticipate the coming of the Lord and all the healing and restoration that will occur on that day?

Prayer Points

- Ask the Lord to help you and your children remember that the Day of the Lord is coming.
- Pray that the Lord will help you be faithful witnesses for Him to all those who don't yet know Him.
- Praise the Lord for the hope and comfort that we have in anticipating His return.