

# Where Is The God Of Justice?

COMPLACENCY  
**EXPOSED**

*A Study of the Book of Malachi*

 LifeWay  
Biblical Solutions for Life

**(Section 1)**

**Accusing God  
of Injustice  
for Allowing the  
Wicked to Prosper**



The Lord  
Will work;  
Just not the way  
They wanted!



They Accused God  
Of Injustice  
For Allowing the Wicked  
To Prosper



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Learning Activity

“You’re Making Me Tired”



Jeremiah 12:1

*“Why does the way of the wicked prosper?”*



**(Section 2)**

**God Defends  
His Justice  
And Makes  
A Promise**



*“See I am going to send My  
Messenger, and He will clear  
the way before Me.”*

Malachi 3:1





Could be Elijah (Isaiah 40:3-5)

It is John the Baptist

(Matthew 3:1-4; Mark 1:1-4;

Luke 3:1-6; John 1:6-8, 19-23)



The Messenger Of The  
Covenant is Jesus Christ.  
(Fulfilled Matthew 21:12-13  
when Jesus ran the sellers out  
of the Temple)



# 1 Thessalonians 5:2

*“For you yourselves know very well that the Day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night.”*



(Section 3)

# God's Promised Vindication Begins With The Purification of Israel



# YouTube

## Steve Green

### “The Refiner’s Fire”



# God's Purification Has Two Stages



# Stage 1

## On Earth (Sanctification)

He molds us into His image  
through trials, failures, pain  
and suffering.



# Proverbs 27:17

*“Iron sharpens iron,  
and one man sharpens  
another.”*





**Who can God use to purify you?**

Friends      Neighbors      Bosses

Co-Workers      Customers

Family      Spouse      Children

Parents



# Who can God use to purify you?

Pastor      Music Director

SS Teacher      Deacon

Antagonists      Enemies



God can use  
anyone or anything  
He chooses to refine you.  
Including Circumstances  
& Discipline



1. Sanctification

2. God refines us on the  
judgment seat of God.



# 1 Corinthians 3:11-15

It is Christ who lays a foundation in our lives which we built upon.



**Fire (God's judgment) will:**

Reveal the work.

Test the quality of the work

Survive – receive a reward

Burn up – escape from the fire



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How has God used:

Other people

Circumstances

Spiritual discipline

To Refine You?



(Section 4)

# God's Promised Vindication Culminates With The Judgment Of His People Israel





# Malachi 3:5

*God identifies some of the sins they are committing.*



God will be His Own Witness  
against them because they  
don't fear Him.  
But They Will.



For the believer  
It is fear of the Lord  
Which preserves us from  
judgment.  
(Philippians 1:6)



# Proverbs 6:16-19

## Six things God hates, Yea seven.



**(Section 5)**

**Conclusion:  
Christ As The  
Promised Messenger  
Of The Covenant**



It's not about them!

It's about us!



But there is good news!

Messenger — To carry God's  
Word to the people.

Covenant — To bring God's  
people to Himself.



# Jesus is the Messenger of the Covenant

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