

The Final Word before Deafening Silence

Malachi 4:4-6

(August 4, 2013)

Deut. 33: 26-29; Josh 24:15, 27; Ecc. 12:12-14

What were God's last words to Israel?

1) Remember God's Word 4:4

- Deut. 34:10-12; 8:11-20
- Horeb [Ex. 3:1; Deut 5:2; Ps. 106:19; Heb. 12:18-21]

2) Follow God's teachers 4:5

- Elijah had spirit and power, which came in the person of John the Baptist.
 - i) Both wore similar clothes 2 King 1:8; Mat. 3:4
 - ii) Both confronted spiritual leaders in sin 1 King 18:21; Matt. 3:7
 - iii) Both confronted kings 1 King 18:18; Mark 6:17-18

3) Mold your family heart 4:6

4) Avoid the curse

- Matt. 5:3f; Rev. 22:14, 17, 18-19, 21.

God's final word to you is grace!

- The next sound you'll hear from God is the trumpet call 1 Cor. 15:52; 1 Thes. 4:16
- Last Words of Jesus on earth Matt. 28:19-20; Acts 1:8
- Grace teaches us to deny ungodliness Titus 2:11-14

Message Based Discussion Questions

- 1) Why are last words important? Do you know of any last words given by people?

Digging Deeper:

- 2) What historical persons are mentioned in Malachi 4:4-5? _____ . Who is mentioned in Rev. 11:6? Do 1 Kings 17:1 and James 5:17 help?
- 3) What single word is often associated with the Day of the Lord? (Is. 2:12; 13:6,9; Jer. 46:10; Joel 2:1-31; 3:14-16; Amos 5:18-20; 1 Cor. 5:5; 2 Pet. 3:10)? _____. What are other descriptions? Why are these descriptions given? Is God not supposed to be a God of love?
- 4) Malachi 4:6 ends with the word _____. What does it tell you? Does God desire to curse His people? Why or why not?

Making the message practical to life:

- 5) What do you want your last words to be?
- 6) What do you see that we need to do in order to restore the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers?
- 7) What are you doing to prepare for the coming of the Lord?