# Malachi 3:1-6 THE COMING OF THE LORD 1/1/12

Key Idea: *The purpose of Advent is not to play a game of pretend that Jesus is not born, but to expect and pray for the coming of the Lord—past, present, and future.*

## I. PAST & PRESENT: THE LORD CAME & CONTINUES TO COME

A. "**Behold I send my messenger**": **(v. 1a, cf. Mt. 11:7f)**

1. The context (2:17; 3:5): _____
2. The "malachi" would prepare the way: _____
3. My messenger and the Messenger of the Covenant are two _____ persons.

***Present***: Preparing the way today: _____

B. "**The Lord…will suddenly come to *his* temple**" **(v. 1b, cf. John 2:13f)**

1. The prophets expected that God _____ would come to his _____
   a. Who is fit to be the "messenger of the covenant"? _____
   b. When Yahweh says the *Adon* is coming to his Temple (3b) there is an implied _____ in the _____ .
   c. How often did the *Adon* come to his temple? _____
2. The Jews expected a _____ heir to _____ (Mt. 2:3f) but not a _____ one!

***Present:*** Where is the Lord's Temple today?

- The Temple in the New Covenant is the _____ (Eph.2:21; I Cor.3:16)
- The altar of the New Covenant Temple is _____ (Acts 2:1-4)
- And the Lord Jesus is _____ with her whenever she gathers (Mt.18:20; Jn 4:23; Lk. 24:30f)
- If this be so then _____ (Heb. 10:25)

C. "**But who can endure the day of his coming**? Answer: _____ **(v.2)**

1. That Day was / is a day of _____ (v.5a) with two purposes: _____
2. What /who gets burnt up? _____ (v.5b)

***Present***: Who gets burned up today? _____
The *Christophobes* are smarter than us _____

D. "**And He shall purify**" **(v.3)**

1. The divine Launder would purify the _____ (Mal.2:3,7; 3:3; Acts 6:7)
   a. What characterized them? _____
   b. Jesus' purification brought about a change in the _____ (Heb. 7:12)

***Present:*** Jesus' ongoing purification by Word & Spirit: (Rev. 2 & 3; Heb. 12:6)
(1) Of churches_____ (2) Of individuals _____

E. "**That they may offer to the LORD an offering in righteousness**" **(v.3b)**

1. The Levites had offered _____ offerings, but Jesus the Son offered _____ , the perfect _____ offering for our peace (Heb. 9:28; 10:14)
2. The *tribute* offering he brings is _____ (Mal.1:11; Rom. 15:16)

***Present:*** As a kingdom of priests, what do we offer up?
(1) _____ (Rom. 12:1) (2) _____ (Heb. 13:15)
(3) Intercessory _____ for the nations, esp. that they might _____ (I Tim. 2:1f; Rev. 22:17)

## II. FUTURE: THE LORD WILL COME AGAIN BODILY AT THE END

A. Our earnest desire is for _____ (Acts 1:11; Rev. 22:20)