

Know the Bible Now

A Visual Intro to the Bible

Summer Sermon Series

At Home / With Friends / On My Own Reflection Guide

Week 10: August 9/12

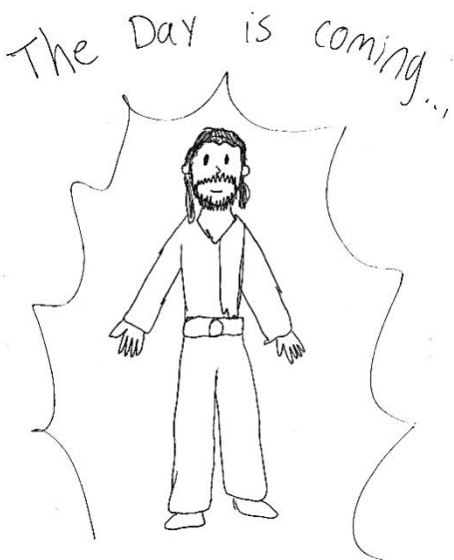
Waiting for God's Messenger – Malachi

Pages 202-203 in Know the Bible Now

Step 1: reread the story covered in the sermon

Step 2: read and discuss the following questions:

1. In this week's reading, the Lord says "Behold, I send My messenger, and he will prepare the way before Me" (Mal 3:1) and "I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord (4:5). To what New Testament figure is the Lord referring here? (Hint, see Matthew 17:11.)
2. The images of refiner's fire and fullers' soap are used in this text, and they are *not* gentle purification agents. What does this tell us about the state of God's people and the severity of dealing with sin?



continued on the back

3. Despite thousands of years of our disobedience and unfaithfulness, the Lord still makes the promise to all who will hear it “Return to me and I will return to you” (Mal 3:7). (See also Zechariah 1:3, James 4:8, John 6:37.) What does this tell us about God’s longsuffering and willingness to forgive?
4. Take a moment to reread Malachi 3:16-18. What insight do you gain from this? Does this bring you hope? Why?
5. How do you feel when you realize a promise has been kept? God makes promises to us and keeps them...not always in the timing that we’d like. For what promises are you still waiting?

Step 3: Read the Did You Know? questions on the page under the picture. How much of this information was new to you? What struck you and could impact your view of the world this week?

Step 4: Write down a phrase or thought from this story that will encourage you this week as a disciple (follower of Jesus).