

# **A Preachers Burden-6/18/17**

## **Almighty Intelligence V *Artificial Intelligence***

### **Malachi 1:1-5**

#### **1 The *oracle* of the word of the Lord to Israel by Malachi.**

##### **The Lord's Love for Israel**

2 "I have loved you," says the Lord. But you say, "How have you loved us?" "Is not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the Lord. "Yet I have loved Jacob 3 but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert." 4 If Edom says, "We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins," the Lord of hosts says, "They may build, but I will tear down, and they will be called 'the wicked country,' and 'the people with whom the Lord is angry forever.'" 5 Your own eyes shall see this, and you shall say, "Great is the Lord beyond the border of Israel!"

### **The Word versus Complacency/Apathy**

Malachi spoke clearly to a people who walked half-heartedly before the Lord  
Proverbs 26:16 describes their lazy and apathetic attitude  
The sluggard is wiser in his own eyes than seven men who can answer sensibly.

### **The Word versus Error**

The first of 7 exchanges between Malachi and the people  
(Malachi uses "pseudo-dialogue" to get his point across like his contemporary Socrates)

I have loved you...how have you loved us? Jacob Loved versus Esau Hated  
(Relying on perceived circumstances rather than viewing objective reality)

King Herod, an ancestor of Esau, tried to kill Jesus by slaughtering all boys under the age of 2

Questions less than 500 years after Malachi from Jesus

"Who do people say that the son of man is?" "Who do you say that I am?" Matt.16: 13-15

### **Malachi 3:16-4:6**

Proclaimed God's promise of rewards to the righteous and punishments to the unrighteous

### **Result of Preaching God's Word**

#### **Malachi 3:16**

Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed his name.

#### **Revelation 20:15**

And if anyone's name was not found in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Malachi's testimony has turned people to God through the centuries.

**Will we abide in the Reality of the Almighty Intelligence?**