



# MALACHI

## “True Worship”

August 1, 2010  
Malachi 1:6-14 (ESV)  
LG Study

### QUICK REVIEW

True worship expresses the greatness of God and inspires a God-centered passion.

### MY STORY

1. Some people think worship means singing, or performing rituals, or simply showing up for church. Prior to hearing this week's message, how would you have described what worship is?
2. Have you had what you would call profound worship experiences? If yes, describe what they have been like and what made them powerful for you.
3. Jewish ethicist and writer Abraham Heschel observed, “Awe, unlike fear, does not make us shrink from the awe-inspiring object, but on the contrary, draws us near to it.” Why would awe draw a person closer to the “awe-inspiring object”?



### DIGGING DEEPER

1. What was the underlying reason for their offering of unacceptable sacrifices to God (vv. 6-7, 12-13)? How did they view their priestly ministry? What should have been their proper response as priests of Israel? What does this tell us about their attitude towards God?
2. While offering blemished sacrifices, they also sought the favor of God. Why were their prayers not acceptable to God?
3. In verse 14, God turns to the individual Israelite who vows a proper sacrifice, yet offers a blemished one. What is the plight of such a person? Why? How do you reconcile this with Old Testament teaching that animal sacrifices in themselves do not actually make someone acceptable to God e.g. Psalm 51:16, Micah 6:6-7?

### TAKING IT HOME

1. As Pastor Michael pointed out last Sunday, the true litmus test of who God is to us is not what we say about God but how we worship God. Take a moment to reflect on the way you currently worship God—both on and beyond Sunday. What one adjustment or change would you like to make so that you can offer God the worship that He deserves?
2. Please share your Life Journal entry or devotional from this past week. Remember that no one can grow spiritually without actively engaging with the word of God.

\*\* LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at [www.ynccla.org](http://www.ynccla.org).

\*\* Today's message will be available on CD next week in the YNCC office. Previous weeks' sermons are also available on CD and viewable online at [www.ynccla.org/sermons](http://www.ynccla.org/sermons).

