

Going Through the Motions  
Malachi...The Sarcastic Messenger  
Malachi 1:6-10

Introduction – When we lose our passion/heart for something, even important matters of life become trivial.

I. The interrogation – v.6a

- God has chosen and preserved Israel
- Where is the reciprocal honor/fear?
- Matthew 22:36-40

II. The priest's dispute – v. 6b

- Following the priest's evil example
- Rather than admit and confess their sin, they ask for evidence

III. The demonstration of formalism – vv.7-9

- Polluted sacrifices: blind, lame and sick
- Specifically prohibited – Deuteronomy 15:21
- His sacrifices are despicable; offering God the leftovers of life
- Will God really answer your prayer?

IV. The dutiful drudgery – v.10

- Formalism – outward conformity without inward motivation
- God refuses to honor their insincerity

Conclusion – God is always ready to accept true sacrifice offered with a pure heart revealing dependence upon Him.