

No Fair! (Malachi 3-4)

Introduction: The words “no fair” from a boy

I. PEOPLE COMPLAIN TO GOD.

- A. Israelites complain “It is vain to serve God” (Mal. 3:14-15)
- B. We complain we are not blessed.

II. IS GOD REALLY BEING UNFAIR?

- A. No, God never changes his promises
 - 1. God’s way is higher than our way (Isaiah 55:8)
 - 2. “*Be still and know that I am God*” (Psalm 46:10)
- B. “Yes”
 - 1. The “fair” thing for God to do with us is to condemn us because of our sin (Ezekiel 18:29-30)
 - 2. Jesus died for us... this was not “fair”, it was mercy!

III. WE ARE GOD’S TREASURED POSSESSIONS

- A. God has the way of salvation for us because of his love and mercy (John 3:16)
- B. Through the Word and Sacrament, God leads us to repentance and gives us new life
- C. Our names are written in the Book of Remembrance (Mal. 3:16)
- D. Our Christian JOY is eternal reality, based on the true hope we have in Christ.

IV. ON JUDGMENT DAY EVERYTHING WILL BE PERFECTLY CLEAR

The distinction between the righteous and the wicked (Mal. 4:1-3)

Conclusion: An answer for complaining about God’s unfairness