

The Arrogant and the Humble
Malachi 3:13-18
Sermon Discussion Questions
August 9, 2020

1. Pastor Tom started today's message with a reflection on how things in our world often don't seem right and as they should be. From the COVID-19 pandemic to racial injustice, cancer, lack of employment and etc., life and our world has been flipped upside down. What has been your response during this time? How have you responded to those close to you as you've discussed life and world events?
2. In Malachi 3:13, God accused Israel of speaking arrogantly against him. Specifically, they were speaking harsh, violent and rude words towards God. Discuss a time where you honestly responded arrogantly towards God. How did that make you feel in the moment? Did you feel justified in what you said and felt? How should you have responded in that moment? Have you repented for the harsh and rude words you spoke towards God?
3. As a group, **read Psalm 73**. Those who were arrogant in Israel had three complaints towards God: It's futile to serve God (a waste of time), what do we gain by carrying out his commands (what's in it for us), and calling the arrogant blessed. Related to the last complaint, Israel called others arrogant and it appeared they were being blessed in their disobedience. Pastor Tom suggested that we often do this and lose sight of God's eternal perspective in favor of worldly perspective. Have you ever had the same thoughts as Israel when looking at those who are not in relationship with God? How does Psalm 73 encourage you to look beyond our worldly perspective towards something more?
4. Pastor Tom provided three characteristics of the humble from Malachi 3:16-17. The humble fear the Lord, edify one another and they honor God's name. The humble exhibited these characteristics during the same circumstances those who chose to behave arrogantly lived in.

Thinking of the world we live in today and past interactions with others, which of three characteristics have you shown/demonstrated faithfully? Which of three are a struggle for you? If any are a struggle, why do you believe this is so?

5. As children of God, we should be humble over being arrogant, no matter how much our world appears to be unfair. This means that we fear God, edify one another and honor God. And in return, there are promises from God to remember, claim and spare us.

Spend some time in silence confessing and repenting for the moments over the last few months where you acted arrogantly.

Come back together in prayer thanking God for the gift of grace and forgiveness as well as praying for Calvary Church that we would be a body that seeks to live humbly during challenging times.