

# John 17:23 (NKJV)



**<sup>23</sup> I in them, and You in Me; that they may be made perfect in one, and that the world may know that You have sent Me, and have loved them as You have loved Me.**

I love you



Do you love me?

**FEBRUARY 26, 2017**

# Malachi 3:1-3 (NKJV)



**<sup>1</sup> "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight. Behold, He is coming," Says the LORD of hosts.**

**<sup>2</sup> "But who can endure the day of His coming? And who can stand when He appears? For He is like a refiner's fire And like launderer's soap.**

**<sup>3</sup> He will sit as a refiner and a purifier of silver; He will purify the sons of Levi, And purge them as gold and silver, That they may offer to the LORD An offering in righteousness.**

# I. Who is the messenger?



# Isaiah 40:3 (NKJV)



**<sup>3</sup> The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
"Prepare the way of the LORD; Make straight  
in the desert A highway for our God.**

# Matthew 3:1-3 (NKJV)



**<sup>1</sup> In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea,  
<sup>2</sup> and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"**

**<sup>3</sup> For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying: "*The voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the LORD; Make His paths straight.'*"**

# II. His Message - Repentance



**“Repent for the kingdom of God  
is at hand.”**





# Matthew 3:5-8 (NLT)



**5 People from Jerusalem and from all of Judea and all over the Jordan Valley went out to see and hear John.**

**6 And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.**

**7 But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to watch him baptize, he denounced them. “You brood of snakes!” he exclaimed. “Who warned you to flee God’s coming wrath?”**

**8 Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God.**

**Repentance is vital if you want  
anything from God.**



# III. The Lord only comes to those who repent.



# Malachi 3:1 (NKJV)



**<sup>1</sup> "Behold, I send My messenger, And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple**

# **IV. Entrance into the Kingdom of God begins with Repentance.**



## 2 Chronicles 7:14 (NKJV)



**<sup>14</sup> if My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land.**

# Acts 3:19 (NKJV)



**<sup>19</sup> Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord,**

# V. The Levites are purified

