Windows Of Heaven

Prepared by Nathan L Morrison for Sunday November 19th, 2017

Text: Mal. 3:10-12

### Intro

1. Mal. 3:10-12
	1. God challenges His unfaithful people of Israel to trust in Him, to be obedient in the tithe, and see if He will not open the “windows of Heaven” and bless them to overflowing!
	2. II Kings 7:2, 19: The phrase “windows in Heaven” is used here to refer to the blessing of food and sustenance.
	3. Ps. 78:23-25: From the “doors of Heaven” God gave the Israelites food in abundance.
	4. The Scriptures are full of instances of the “windows of Heaven” being opened, even if the term isn’t directly applied, and they are opened for blessing and judgment!
2. We will focus on the two most important times the “windows of Heaven” were opened, and one yet to come!

#### God Opened the Windows of Heaven and Sent Us a Savior

* 1. Jesus paid the great sacrifice for all mankind for all time! (Heb. 10:12; I Pet. 3:18)
		1. It was prophesied that He would come to bear our sins – Is. 53:4-5
		2. Jesus died for our sins so that we might have redemption – Eph. 1:7
			1. His blood was the purchase price of our redemption so He has “washed away” the sins of those who have obeyed the gospel: *Acts 22:16; I Pet. 1:18-19; Rev. 1:5*
		3. God could have sent Him as a full-grown man, but He wanted His Son to experience all that a human does---all the joys, grief’s, and troubles of life that He might sympathize with us.
		4. Heb. 4:15-16: That is exactly what happened! Tempted as all men, yet without sin!
	2. He was sent for 3 primary reasons:
		1. To show us what God is like – Jn. 10:30; 14:6-10
		2. To teach us how to live – Jn. 8:12, 31-32; I Pet. 2:21-23
		3. To save us – Lk. 19:10; Jn. 1:28-29; 3:16; I Pet. 2:24-25
	3. God opened the windows of Heaven and sent man the Savior to wash away sin!

#### God Opened the Windows of Heaven and Sent Us the Holy Spirit

* 1. Jesus promised that when He departed He would send the “Comforter,” the Holy Spirit!
		1. Jn. 14:26: God sent the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ name. (KJV: “Comforter”)
		2. Jn. 15:26-27: The “Helper” (NAS), the Spirit of Truth, has shown us our Savior because He testified of Christ in the written word.
		3. Jn. 16:13: The Spirit has revealed to the apostles “all the truth” in God’s word!
	2. The Holy Spirit has inspired and delivered the word of God to men that we may know God’s will for our lives!
		1. II Tim. 3:16-17: All Scripture is inspired by God (“God-breathed”).
		2. Jude 3: The faith has been once delivered to all the saints!
		3. II Pet. 1:20-21: All prophecy is from the Holy Spirit!
	3. Rom. 5:8: The Spirit convicts us of sin –In order to bring us to and keep us in Christ.
	4. Eph. 4:30: The Spirit puts God’s seal upon us – This seal implies 4 things:
		1. Ownership
		2. Relationship
		3. Protection
		4. Security
	5. Js. 1:5: He gives guidance in life’s choices, if we but ask for wisdom from God!
		1. So many times people choose the wisdom of man to solve their problems, when they need to turn to God! *(Is. 55:8-9; I Cor. 1:18-31)*
	6. He gives us comfort in sorrow—Through God’s word!
		1. Reminding us of God’s presence and love despite life’s trials – II Cor. 1:3-7
		2. Providing strength to go on – Acts 9:31; II Thess. 2:16-17
		3. Reminding us of the Scriptures to lift our fallen and crushed spirits in time of need – Rom. 8:18, 28; *I Thess. 4:16-18*
	7. God opened the windows of Heaven and sent the Holy Spirit to give man His word!

#### God Will Open the Windows of Heaven Again and Send Back His Son

* 1. Acts 1:9-11: He is now gone above to reign at God’s right hand (Col. 3:1) and wait till the time for His second coming (I Thess. 4:16-18) just as He promised! *(Jn. 14:1-3)*
	2. All of mankind will see the glory of God when Christ returns!
		1. Rom. 8:18; Rev. 1:7: “Every eye” will behold the “glory” that is beyond compare!
		2. He has promised to return and judge the world in righteousness!
			1. *Mt. 25:31-46; II Thess. 1:7-9; II Tim. 4:8; I Pet. 4:17*
	3. A complete contrast to the 1st time He came:
		1. The first time He came as a lowly babe *(Lk. 2:12);* this time He will come as a conquering King – *Mt. 25:31-46; II Thess. 1:7-9*
		2. The first time He came riding into Jerusalem on a donkey *(Lk. 19:30-40);* this time He will come on a white horse in the clouds – *Rev. 19:11-16*
		3. The first time He came as the sacrificial lamb *(Jn. 1:29; Acts 8:32);* this time He will come as the Lion of the tribe of Judah – *Rev. 5:5*
		4. The first time He had few friends and only a handful of followers *(Is. 53:3; Mk. 14:50);* this time He will come with all the hosts of Heaven – *II Thess. 1:7; Rev. 19:14*
		5. The first time He came to suffer *(Mt. 16:21; Lk. 24:24-26, 46-47);* this time He will come to bring judgment and salvation – *Mt. 25:34, 41, 46; Heb. 9:27-28*
	4. God will one day open the windows of Heaven again and send His Son to judge the wicked and reward the faithful! *(Mt. 25:31-46)*

## Conclusion

1. Studying about the Windows of Heaven reminds us to be grateful and praise God for:
	1. God sending His Son to redeem us from our sins!
	2. God sending the Holy Spirit to reveal His word and will for our lives!
	3. God sending His Son again to judge the world and grant eternal life to the faithful!
2. May we ever give God the glory, praise, and thanksgiving due Him for all He has done for us! (Ps. 96:1-3: “Tell of His glory among the nations, His wonderful deeds among all the peoples.”)
3. The “windows of Heaven” open to bless the faithful, and one day they will open to usher in eternity – where will you spend it?
4. If you are not a Christian, you need to be! Believe, repent and be baptized!
5. If a Christian struggling with sin in your life, repent and He will forgive you, as will we.
6. Whatever your requests, let them be made known ***NOW*** while we stand & sing!