

Week 12
78/287

Transforming Daily
“... a refiner’s fire ...”
Malachi 3:2

Malachi is clearly speaking of the second coming of Christ when he poses several rhetorical questions in this text. Who can endure and who can stand the day of Christ’s coming? No one can endure or stand when Christ appears except those who have been washed in the blood of the Lamb. But what about before the day of the Lord’s appearing, who will endure, who will stand? Again, the only ones who will live for Christ are those who are dead to sin.

The refining fires of God are experienced every day. We experience them every time an opportunity to sin arises. Will you steal that cash lying in the open, time unaccounted for except by you, or office materials that aren’t being used for office work, but for personal ends? Will you cheat on your expense account, IRS report, or on your spouse? Will you lie, deceive, perjure yourself or bare false witness? Will you covet something that isn’t yours? Will you lust after something you can’t or shouldn’t have? What about temperament and demeanor, is it becoming of the character of Christ? We are challenged, all of us, everyday in one or all of these areas, and sometimes all at once.

I watched a show once that asked the question, “What happens when a huge jaw breaker is microwaved?” You don’t have to be a rocket scientist to figure out what happened. What happened is exactly what happens when extreme heat and pressure is applied to anything, that is, what is on the inside will come out. The inside was hot and molten, and one of the observers who got sprayed and badly burned in the experiment later said that it still tasted like a jaw breaker.

How do you stand against the refining fire of God when applied to your life? Are there impurities that you are allowing Him to purge from your life? Remember, God either allows, assigns, arranges, or appoints the elements used as a refiner’s fire.