



## DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

*The God who refines is ... by Billy*

### READ MALACHI 3:1-6

- **T**he prophet Malachi was delivering a message of rebuke to God's priests because they were guilty of presenting third rate offerings to God. (1:7-8).
- God also rebuked the priest for his treachery against the wife of his youth in seeking to divorce her. (2:14).
- These priests were covering the altar with tears wondering why God hadn't answered their prayers or accepted their offerings.
- Now God's immediate purpose was not to reject such priests but to refine them.
- In so many ways we are also in need of much refining because of original sin.
- The main point is that the priests were complaining about a sense of separation from God but the genuineness of their longing for God would be tested.
- We sometimes pray for revival but are we ready for the refining process?
- Sin will have to be burned out by painful means. Stains will need to be washed away using an irritating agent.
- The only ones who can stand before Him are those who will cast themselves upon His mercy and plead the forgiveness of the cross.
- *"If You Lord should mark iniquities, O Lord who could stand? But there is forgiveness with You that You may be feared." (Psa.130:3-4)*

## Events /Notices

- ▶ Bible Study Group Friday 4th May @ 7pm

## Extra Services

*If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:*

### ▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3 - 7 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

### ▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

*Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11).*

### ▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (Hebrews 13:2).