### Malachi

## Chapter 4

1‘Look! The Day is about to arrive  
 When they’ll be consumed in an oven…  
 I’ll blaze against their arrogance and evil…  
 In that day, they’ll be burned up like stubble,’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah of Armies…  
  
 ‘No way will a branch or a root still remain!  
  
 2‘But upon those who still fear My Name,  
 The sun of righteousness will shine,  
 And healing [will follow on] its wings.  
 Then you’ll come here and leap like young calves  
 That have been spared from the stock pens.  
  
 3‘And on the lawless, you’ll trample…  
 They’ll be like ashes under your feet  
 In the Day that I’ve prepared,’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah the Almighty.  
  
 4‘Remember the Laws of My servant Moses…  
 Those that I gave him in that dry place,  
 As well as the orders and decisions  
 That I gave to IsraEl through him!  
  
 5‘{Look!} I’ll send EliJah, the Prophet  
 Before the Great Day of the Lord.  
 6He’ll restore the hearts of fathers to sons,  
 And the hearts of men to their neighbors…  
 So I won’t have to strike the whole land.’

# Matthew

Matthew is an historical account of Jesus’ life.  
  
Matthew is known as a ‘Gospel’ (meaning ‘Good News’). It is traditionally understood to have been compiled and written by Jesus’ Apostle Matthew around the year 42 CE (9 years after Jesus’ death).  
  
According to ancient sources, Matthew was the first Gospel written (modern scholars believe that the Gospel of Mark was first), and it was originally written in the ‘language of the Hebrews,’ which at the time would be Aramaic – not the language of the Greeks.  
  
Ancient sources further report that the first translation of Matthew into Greek was lost, so it had to be translated again sometime in the early 2nd century CE. If true, then the Greek text of Matthew that we have today was actually a 2nd century translation, and the surviving Aramaic version may be closer to the original.  
  
  
Differences  
  
Since Matthew was (according to the Early Christians) the first Gospel, it allowed more time for corruptions to creep in to the text while Christians were still a small community. Indeed, it seems to us that Matthew has been corrupted more than any other Gospel.  
  
Since we’re aware of this fact, you’ll see many differences between our translation of Matthew and others – as we’ve tried to identify and fix these corruptions. Don’t worry though, as we’ve added many links to translator notes, commentaries, Wikipedia, and other sources where you can learn more.  
  
  
The Poetry of Jesus  
  
Many of Jesus’ sermons and parables were given as poetry. This was common at the time because most people were illiterate, and there were no ways to electronically record speeches. Most communication was via word of mouth, and poetry and songs were the easiest things to remember and to repeat.  
  
This poetic cadence is clearly seen by translators, but most Bibles have chosen not to translate it as poetry. Why not? Perhaps it’s because it requires more effort, and because many Bible readers aren’t interested in the beauty of his words, but in the contents.  
  
However, Jesus made much effort to speak and teach beautifully, so it’s only proper that we also put in much effort to convey this to modern readers. So, we’ve attempted to translate Jesus’ words just as he spoke them – poetically – but not to the point of sacrificing accuracy.