

# Malachi 1:13

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it! and ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD.

## Analysis

**Ye said also, Behold, what a weariness is it! and ye have snuffed at it, saith the LORD of hosts; and ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick; thus ye brought an offering: should I accept this of your hand? saith the LORD.** The priests' verbal contempt continues: **Behold, what a weariness is it!** (הִנֵּה מַתְלָאָה, hinneh mattela'ah). The noun מַתְלָאָה (tela'ah) means weariness, hardship, burden. They viewed worship as tedious obligation rather than joyful privilege. **Ye have snuffed at it** (וְהִפְעַלְתֶּם אֶת־הַמְתַלָּאָה, vehippahtem oto)—the verb פָּעַל (napah) means to sniff disdainfully, snort at, treat with contempt. They literally snorted at God's altar.

Their actions matched their words: **ye brought that which was torn, and the lame, and the sick** (וְהִבְאַתֶּם גָּזָל וְאֶת־הַחֹלֶה, vahaveitem gazul ve'et-hapisseah ve'et-haholeh). גָּזָל (gazul, torn) refers to animals mauled by beasts—explicitly forbidden (Leviticus 22:8, Exodus 22:31). They brought the very worst animals, those already dying or dead. God's rhetorical question: **should I accept this of your hand?** (מִיְצָרָאָה אֶת־הַמְתַלָּאָה, ha'ertzeh otah miyyed khem). Obviously not.

This verse exposes a deadly spiritual condition: finding God wearisome. When worship becomes drudgery, something is fundamentally wrong. Either we've lost

sight of God's glory, or we never truly knew Him. By contrast, those who know God find Him inexhaustibly delightful (Psalm 16:11, 37:4, 43:4, Philippians 4:4).

## Historical Context

---

The priests' weariness with worship revealed hearts far from God. Their complaints paralleled Israel's grumbling in the wilderness when they grew tired of manna and longed for Egypt (Numbers 11:4-6, 21:5). Both demonstrated the same spiritual disease: treating God's provision with contempt. This attitude continues whenever believers view church attendance, prayer, Bible reading, or service as burdensome obligations rather than precious privileges. Jesus offered the remedy: "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon me...for my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matthew 11:28-30). Those who find Christianity wearisome have either never tasted true grace or have drifted from their first love (Revelation 2:4-5).

## Related Passages

---

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

---

1. What does it reveal about our spiritual health when we find worship, prayer, or Scripture reading wearisome?
2. How does genuine encounter with God's grace transform worship from drudgery into delight?
3. In what areas of Christian life might you be 'snuffing' or treating with contempt what should be precious privilege?

## Interlinear Text

---

אָמַרְתָּ	רְאֵתִי	מִתְלָאָה	וְהִפְחַתְתִּי	אָזְתִּי
Ye said	H2009	also Behold what a weariness	is it! and ye have snuffed	H853
	H559	H4972	H5301	
אָמַרְתָּ	רְאֵתִי	אָמַרְתָּ	וְהִבְאַתְתִּי	אָזְתִּי
Ye said	the LORD	of hosts	and ye brought	that which was torn
H559	H3068	H6635	H935	H1497
				H853
בְּמַנְצָבְתִּי	אָתָּה	וְהִבְאַתְתִּי	אָתָּה	בְּמַנְצָבְתִּי
and the lame	H853	and the sick	and ye brought	an offering
H6455		H2470	H935	H4503
אָמַרְתָּ	רְאֵתִי	מִתְכַּדְתָּ	וְהִבְאַתְתִּי	אָזְתִּי
should I accept	H853	this of your hand	Ye said	the LORD
H7521		H3027	H559	H3068

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Micah 6:3** (Parallel theme): O my people, what have I done unto thee? and wherein have I wearied thee? testify against me.

---

From KJV Study • [kjvstudy.org](http://kjvstudy.org)