

# PURIFIER

Malachi 3:1-5

In the passage, the messenger mentioned is John the Baptist. John fulfilled the prophecy that one would be sent to “prepare the way of the Lord”. Before Jesus began His adult ministry on earth, John the Baptist went throughout the land preaching of the coming Messiah. He was preparing the hearts of the people to receive the message of Jesus.

Look at verse 3. This passage tells us that Jesus would come to purify as a “refiner’s fire” or “launderer’s soap”.

If we want to be like Christ, He must put us through His refiner’s fire in order to be used for Him. In case you haven’t noticed...life is not easy. God never promised us it would be. It is the struggles and trials in our lives that God uses to make us strong.

Before a clay pot can be used to hold anything, it must be put in a kiln and “fired”. Before gold and silver are useful, they must be put through a “refiner’s fire” to burn away the “trash”...to be purified. Our lives are the same way. God allows things to happen to us to make us useful for His work. We can never be used until the “trash” is burned away. We can never be vessels to contain God’s glory until we go through the “kiln” and made stronger.

The “launderer’s soap” reminds me of my mom when I was growing up. No matter how dirty her five children would get their clothes, Mom would always make them clean again. She would use plenty of detergent on the colored clothes and lots of bleach on the whites. She wanted us to look “spic and span”.

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## SIMPLE TRUTH

We all sin...we all need a purifier.  
We all need Jesus.

**Read 1 John 1:5-10**

Jesus is just like that. He wants to purify us. He wants our hearts and lives to be clean in His sight and before others.

Who is light? (verse 5) \_\_\_\_\_

The world and sin is darkness. If we say we have fellowship with God, yet we walk in darkness, what does verse 6 say we do?

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If we are willing to give our lives to Christ what will His blood shed on the cross do for us? (verse 7) \_\_\_\_\_

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What must we do in order for God to forgive us and purify us from our sin? (verse 9) \_\_\_\_\_

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You see, we all sin. We all need a purifier. We all need Jesus. We must admit our sin in order to be forgiven. It isn't over then. As we continue to fellowship with God and strive to be like Him, we continuously face trials and struggles in order to test our faith and make us more like Jesus. God wants us to have a pure heart. We must be willing to stand the trials in order to become more like him and to allow others to see His hand at work in our lives.

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SIMPLE PRAYER

**Take the time to pray for God to purify you. Ask Him to start a fire in you that no man could ever quench, to make you a stronger vessel and to reveal your weaknesses and your sin. Be willing to lay those things at His feet in order to be everything He wants you to be.**

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