Who, Me?
Malachi 1:1-5

Introduction:
A. Israel after return from Babylon had become corrupt.
   1. God through Malachi, a prophet in Nehemiah’s day, rebukes Israel.
   2. Israel acts like a spoiled brat in her response to God.
      b. Like a smart-aleck back talking child.
B. Israel raised several objections to the Lord’s statements.

Discussion:
I. “Wherein Has Thou Loved Us?” (1:2)
   A. They forgot God’s special favors to Israel. (vv. 2-5)
   B. We sometimes forget God’s blessings.
      1. His providential care, our prosperity, freedom, etc.
      2. His spiritual blessings: forgiveness, fellowship, etc.
II. “Wherein Have We Despised Thy Name? (1:6)
   A. They had offered unacceptable sacrifices. (vv. 7-11).
      1. Unauthorized worship is vain (Matt. 15:9; Lev. 10:1-5)
      2. Unworthy manner makes worship vain (1 Cor. 11:29)
   B. They sneered at acceptable worship (vv. 13-14 see also NIV).
      1. Consider it too much trouble - what a weariness.
      2. Consider it too dull - what a weariness.
      3. Consider it too “legalistic” - what a weariness.
III. “Wherefore?” (2:11-14).
   A. They had divorced “wives of youth” -- “Wherefore” or “so what” (2:11-16).
   B. We have a mounting divorce and remarriage problem. (Mt. 5:32, 19:9).
      1. The parties say, “Wherefore?”
      2. Preachers say, “Wherefore?”
      3. Churches say, “Wherefore?”
IV. “Wherein Have We Wearied Him?” (2:17).
   A. They claimed God must have favored their evil or else would have already judged them.
   B. We sometimes think that God favors us because He does not stop us immediately.
V. “Wherein Shall We Return?” (3:7).
   A. They had gone away from God’s ordinances - refused to recognize it.
   B. We can drift away. (Heb. 2:1-4)
   C. We must return to the Lord, if we want him to return to us.
VI. “Wherein Have We Robbed Thee?” (3:8).
   A. They had withheld tithes and offerings.
   B. We may rob God by withholding contributions. (1 Cor. 16:2)

Conclusion:
A. Are you saying, “Who, me?” or “wherein?” or “Wherefore?”
B. Are you saying “Wherein do I need pardon?” or “Wherefore” to the fact you haven’t obeyed the gospel?