

**“The Furnace of Renewal: Malachi”**

**S.O.A.P. Bible Study**

**July 13, 2008**

**S=Scripture:** Malachi 4:6

**O=Observation:** After carefully reading this text, answer the following questions:  
Reading the context, what does verse 5 tell us about what will happen first before the day of the Lord comes? According to Luke 1:17, who tried to do this? Since the book begins with a call to honor God as your father, why might turning hearts toward fathers become a way to prepare for Jesus? By what words and what “tone” does the book of Malachi (and the Old Testament) close?

**A=Application:** How are you doing in honoring God and your earthly father? What does the breakdown of honor and respect in today’s society tell us about what God will do next? What step does God ask of you today in terms of how you relate to God as your father?

**P=Prayer:** Write out a prayer based on your meditation on this passage: