

**MALACHI**

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Malachi by T. T. Perowne

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**T. T. PEROWNE**

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**The Cambridge Bible for Schools  
and Colleges.**

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# The Cambridge Bible for Schools and Colleges.

GENERAL EDITOR:—J. J. S. PEROWNE, D.D.  
DEAN OF PETERBOROUGH.

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## MALACHI,

*WITH NOTES AND INTRODUCTION*

BY

THE VEN. T. T. PEROWNE, B.D.

ARCHDEACON OF NORWICH;  
LATE FELLOW OF CORPUS CHRISTI COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE.

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PREFACE  
BY THE GENERAL EDITOR.

THE General Editor of *The Cambridge Bible for Schools* thinks it right to say that he does not hold himself responsible either for the interpretation of particular passages which the Editors of the several Books have adopted, or for any opinion on points of doctrine that may have been expressed. In the New Testament more especially questions arise of the deepest theological import, on which the ablest and most conscientious interpreters have differed and always will differ. His aim has been in all such cases to leave each Contributor to the unfettered exercise of his own judgment, only taking care that mere controversy should as far as possible be avoided. He has contented himself chiefly with a careful revision of the notes, with pointing out omissions, with suggesting occasionally a reconsideration of some question, or a fuller treatment of difficult passages, and the like.

Beyond this he has not attempted to interfere, feeling it better that each commentary should have its own individual character, and being convinced that freshness and variety of treatment are more than a compensation for any lack of uniformity in the Series.

DEANERY, PETERBOROUGH.

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\* \* The Text adopted in this Edition is that of Dr Scrivener's *Cambridge Paragraph Bible*. A few variations from the ordinary Text, chiefly in the spelling of certain words, and in the use of italics, will be noticed. For the principles adopted by Dr Scrivener as regards the printing of the Text see his Introduction to the *Paragraph Bible*, published by the Cambridge University Press.

# INTRODUCTION.

## CHAPTER I.

### THE PROPHET AND HIS OFFICE.

OF the latest of the Old Testament Prophets we know nothing, beyond such insight into his character as the study of his Book affords us. Even his name is of doubtful import. The simplest and most natural view, which regards Malachi as his personal appellation, is indeed the most probable. But from the meaning of the word, "my angel", or "my messenger", as Jerome renders it, and from the prominence given in this Book to the idea of "the Messenger of Jehovah", some critics have concluded that Malachi is the official title, either of some unknown man or even of an angel<sup>1</sup>, by whom these prophecies were delivered, or of Ezra, according to an ancient Jewish tradition<sup>2</sup>, whose personal identity is thus, in a manner, lost in the office which he bears. Accepting Malachi, however, as properly the name of the prophet, we may not improbably regard it as an abbreviated form of Malachiah<sup>3</sup>, "the messenger of Jehovah", just as Abi is, we know, the equivalent of Abiah<sup>4</sup>, and Uri<sup>5</sup> has been thought to be an abbreviation of Uriah.

<sup>1</sup> "Malachy, which is called the angel of the Lord," 2 Esdras i. 40. ἐν χειρὶ ἀγγέλου αὐτοῦ, Mal. i. 1 LXX.

<sup>2</sup> "Malachi autem Hebræi Ezram æstimant sacerdotem," Jerome. The Targum also identifies him with Ezra.

<sup>3</sup> The LXX. have Μαλαχίας as the title of his Book.

<sup>4</sup> 2 Kings xviii. 2 with 2 Chron. xxix. 1.

<sup>5</sup> Exod. xxxi. 2; Ezra x. 24.