

## Malachi Chapter 2

“And now, you priests, this warning is for you. <sup>2</sup>If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me.

The priests were to bless the people. Num. 6:23-27. <sup>23</sup>“Tell Aaron and his sons, ‘This is how you are to bless the Israelites. Say to them:

<sup>24</sup> ‘ ‘ “The Lord bless you and keep you; <sup>25</sup> the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; <sup>26</sup> the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” ’

<sup>27</sup> “So they will put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.”

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<sup>3</sup>“Because of you I will rebuke your descendants; I will smear on your faces the dung from your festival sacrifices, and you will be carried off with it.

Nahum 3:6. <sup>6</sup> I will pelt you with filth, I will treat you with contempt and make you a spectacle.

Ex. 29:14. <sup>13</sup> Then take all the fat on the internal organs, the long lobe of the liver, and both kidneys with the fat on them, and burn them on the altar. <sup>14</sup> But burn the bull’s flesh and its hide and its intestines outside the camp. It is a sin offering

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<sup>4</sup>And you will know that I have sent you this warning so that my covenant with Levi may continue,” says the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>“My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. <sup>6</sup>True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin.

Phineas was Aaron’s grandson: Num 25:8. He drove the spear into both of them, right through the Israelite man and into the woman’s stomach. Then the plague against the Israelites was stopped; <sup>9</sup> but those who died in the plague numbered 24,000.

<sup>10</sup> The Lord said to Moses, <sup>11</sup> “Phinehas son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron, the priest, has turned my anger away from the Israelites. Since he was as zealous for my honor among them as I am, I did not put an end to them in my zeal. <sup>12</sup> Therefore tell him I am making my covenant of peace with him. <sup>13</sup> He and his descendants will have a covenant of a lasting priesthood, because he was zealous for the honor of his God and made atonement for the Israelites.”

Peace and uprightness: Ps. 37:37. <sup>37</sup> Mark the perfect *man*, and behold the upright: For the end of *that man is peace*.

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<sup>7</sup>“For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, because he is the messenger of the Lord Almighty and people seek instruction from his mouth.

Normally priest or prophet, Iso refers to John the Baptist.

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<sup>8</sup>But you have turned from the way and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; you have violated the covenant with Levi,” says the Lord Almighty. <sup>9</sup>“So I have caused you to be despised and humiliated before all the people, because you have not followed my ways but have shown partiality in matters of the law.”

Intermarrying, unfaithful teaching,

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### **Breaking Covenant Through Divorce**

<sup>10</sup>Do we not all have one Father? Did not one God create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our ancestors by being unfaithful to one another?

<sup>11</sup>Judah has been unfaithful. A detestable thing has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem: Judah has desecrated the sanctuary the Lord loves by marrying women who worship a foreign god. <sup>12</sup>As for the man who does this, whoever he may be, may the Lord remove him from the tents of Jacob —even though he brings an offering to the Lord Almighty.

<sup>13</sup>Another thing you do: You flood the Lord's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer looks with favor on your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. <sup>14</sup>You ask, "Why?" It is because the Lord is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.

Prov 2:16 <sup>16</sup>Wisdom will save you also from the adulterous woman, from the wayward woman with her seductive words, <sup>17</sup> who has left the partner of her youth and ignored the covenant she made before God. <sup>18</sup> Surely her house leads down to death and her paths to the spirits of the dead. <sup>19</sup>None who go to her return or attain the paths of life.

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<sup>15</sup>Has not the one God made you?

Ge 2:23. <sup>23</sup>The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man." <sup>24</sup>That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh.

You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. <sup>9</sup> So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth.

1Cor7:14. <sup>14</sup>For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband. Otherwise your children would be unclean, but as it is, they are holy.

Sanctified through his wife, sanctify to her believing husband, these words of Paul are among those that are hard to understand Paul here affirms that within the marriage relationship unbelieving marriage partners in some sense participate with their believing spouse and the quality of being consecrated to God's service at least to the effect that the children born of their union are holy or consecrated to God's service some believe that such children are called holy because they are included with their parents in the new covenant in Christ just as the children of Abraham were included in the covenant with their father who and so we're circumcised.

May also be in reference to Abraham and Sarah when Abraham married Hagar.

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<sup>16</sup>"The man who hates and divorces his wife," says the Lord, the God of Israel, "does violence to the one he should protect," <sup>17</sup> says the Lord Almighty.

So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful.

### **Breaking Covenant Through Injustice**

<sup>17</sup>You have wearied the Lord with your words.

“How have we wearied him?” you ask.

By saying, “All who do evil are good in the eyes of the Lord, and he is pleased with them” or “Where is the God of justice?”

Isa. 43:24. <sup>24</sup> You have not bought any fragrant calamus for me, or lavished on me the fat of your sacrifices. But you have burdened me with your sins and wearied me with your offenses.

Isa 5:18. <sup>18</sup> Woe to those who draw sin along with cords of deceit, and wickedness as with cart ropes, <sup>19</sup> to those who say, “Let God hurry; let him hasten his work so we may see it. The plan of the Holy One of Israel— let it approach, let it come into view, so we may know it.” <sup>20</sup> Woe to those who call evil good and good evil, who put darkness for light and light for darkness, who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter. <sup>21</sup> Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes and clever in their own sight. <sup>22</sup> Woe to those who are heroes at drinking wine and champions at mixing drinks, <sup>23</sup> who acquit the guilty for a bribe, but deny justice to the innocent.