

# **Malachi**

## **Chapter Two**

## Malachi 2:1-9

### Malachi 2:1-9,

[1] **And now, O ye priests, this commandment is for you.**

[2] **If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, I will even send a curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings: yea, I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.**

[3] **Behold, I will corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.**

[4] **And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.**

[5] **My covenant** was with him of life and peace; and I gave them to him for the fear wherewith he feared me, and was afraid before my name.

[6] **The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: he walked with me** in peace and equity, and **did turn many away from iniquity.**

[7] For the priest's lips should **keep knowledge**, and they should **seek the law** at his mouth: for **he is the messenger of the LORD** of hosts.

[8] **But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant** of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

[9] **Therefore have I also made you contemptible and base before all the people, according as ye have not kept my ways, but have been partial in the law.**

### The Messenger's Approach...Straightforward...Understandable

1. The message was intended for... (spiritual leadership)
2. **Very explicit**... *Clearly stated...No room for confusion.* (V.1)
3. **Malachi means**... "My messenger."
  - a. **He was ignored**...
4. They **refused** to heed his warnings... They even **argued** against him.

Not willing to accept the message  
from God's Messenger

### His Focus On The Covenants

- **Malachi 2:4** "...**covenant**...with Levi."
- **Malachi 2:5**, "My **covenant** was with him of life and peace..."
- **Malachi 2:8** "ye have corrupted the **covenant** of Levi..."
- **Malachi 2:10**, "...profaning the **covenant** of our fathers?"
- **Malachi 2:4**, "...the wife of thy **covenant**."

## The Context of The Covenants

### Numbers 25:1-13,

[1] And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to **commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab.**

[2] And they called the people unto the **sacrifices of their gods:** and the people did eat, and **bowed down to their gods.**

[3] And **Israel joined himself unto Baal-peor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel.**

[4] **And the LORD said unto Moses,** Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel.

[5] And **Moses said** unto the judges of Israel, **Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baal-peor.**

[6] And, behold, **one of the children of Israel** came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation.

[7] And when **Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron** the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, **and took a javelin** in his hand;

[8] And **he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel.**

[9] **And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand.**

[10] And **the LORD spake unto Moses,** saying,

[11] **Phinehas,** the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, **hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel,** while he was zealous for my sake among them, that **I consumed not the children of Israel** in my jealousy.

[12] Wherefore say, Behold, **I give unto him my covenant of peace:**

[13] And he shall have it, and his seed after him, **even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood;** because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel.

## Malachi's Message For The Leadership

### Malachi 2:1,

“And now, O ye priests, **this commandment is for you.**”

## Comparing The Leadership

1. **Phinehas**...turned way God's wrath from His people.
2. **Leadership in Malachi's day**...bringing God's wrath upon the nation.

## Losing of The Power of God

### The early church...

- a. ...feeding them to the lions.
- b. ...sawn asunder.
- c. ...burned at the stake.

The Power of God Was Obvious!

### Revivalists - 1800's...

- a. John Wesley and George Whitefield...put out of their churches
- b. John Bunyan is put in prison.

### Our day of Apostasy...

- a. **No real preaching!**
- a. **No real persecution!**
- b. **No real power of God!**

The Power of God Is Not With Us!

## Malachi's Message For The Leadership

Speaking To The Leadership!

### Malachi 2:2-4,

[2] If ye **will not hear**, and **if ye will not lay it to heart**, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, **I will** even send a curse upon you, and **I will** curse your blessings: yea, **I have cursed them already**, because ye do not lay it to heart.  
[3] Behold, **I will** corrupt your seed, and spread dung upon your faces, even the dung of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.  
[4] **And ye shall know** that I have sent this commandment unto you, that **my covenant** might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

## “Did Not Hear” Zechariah's Message

### Zechariah 1:4,

“Be ye not as your fathers, unto whom the former prophets have cried...but **they did not hear, nor hearken unto me**, saith the LORD.”

## “Will Not Hear”

### Zechariah 7:11,

“But they **refused to hearken**, and **pulled away the shoulder**, and **stopped their ears, that they should not hear.**”

Nehemiah’s Short Lived Revival  
**LIKE THEIR FORFATHERS!**

### Nehemiah 9:29,

“And testifiedst against them, that thou mightest bring them again unto thy law: **yet they dealt proudly**, and **hearkened not unto thy commandments**, but **sinned against thy judgments...and withdrew the shoulder**, and **hardened their neck**, and **would not hear.**”

## Our Action And God’s Reaction!

### Zechariah 7:13,

“Therefore it is come to pass, that as he cried, and **they would not hear**; so they cried, and **I would not hear**, saith the LORD of hosts.”

## “Will Not Lay It To Heart”

Trans. **“Understanding” 10x**  
“To perceive the intended meaning and significance”

### Malachi 2:2,

[2] If ye will not hear, and **if ye will not lay it to heart**, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, **I will even send a curse upon you**, and **I will curse your blessings**: yea, **I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.**”

## “I Will”

### Malachi 2:2-4,

[2] If ye will not hear, and if ye will not lay it to heart, to give glory unto my name, saith the LORD of hosts, **I will** even send a **curse** upon you, and **I will** **curse** your blessings: yea, **I have** **cursed** them already, because ye do not lay it to heart.

[3] Behold, **I will** corrupt your seed, and spread **dung** upon your faces, even the **dung** of your solemn feasts; and one shall take you away with it.

[4] And ye shall know that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

28x - Bible

**Sacrificed animals still had excrement in their systems, and God said this should be burned outside the sanctuary (Exodus 29:14). Here, God says He will "rub their noses in it," ...and this will happen outside the sanctuary.**

## Challenge To Live Up To The Standard

### Malachi 2:5-7,

[5] My covenant was with him of life and peace; and **I gave them to him** for the fear wherewith he **feared** (“Reverence” 3x) me, and was **afraid** (“Dismayed” 28x) before my **name**.

[6] The law of **truth** was in his mouth, and **iniquity** was not found in his lips: he **walked with me** in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity.

[7] For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

### “Fear of God”

[5] My covenant was with him (Phinehas) of life and peace; and **I gave them to him for the fear** wherewith he **feared** me, and was **afraid** before my name.

**Romans 3:18**, “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”

## God’s Standard For Spiritual Leadership

[6] The law of (1) **truth** was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips: (2) **he walked with me** in peace and equity, and (3) **did turn many away from iniquity**.

## Guarding The Knowledge

[7] For the priest's lips should **keep** (“watchman” 8x) **knowledge**, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for **he is the messenger** of the LORD of hosts.

### **Ezekiel 22:26,**

*“Her priests have violated my law, and have profaned mine holy things: they have put no difference between the holy and profane, **neither have they shewed** (“declare” 6x) **difference** between the unclean and the clean... and I am profaned among them.”*

### **Ezekiel 44:23,**

*“And they shall **teach my people** the difference between the holy and profane, and cause them to discern between the unclean and the clean.”*

## Departing...Causing Many To Stumble

### Malachi 2:8,

“But (1) ye are **departed** out of the way; (2) ye **have caused many to stumble** at the law; (3) ye **have corrupted the covenant** of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.”

## Being Partial Brings Contempt

### Malachi 2:9,

“Therefore have I also **made you contemptible and base** before all the people, according as ye have **not kept my ways**, but have been **partial** in the law.”

## Three Covenants

1. Levitical Covenant - Vs.1-9.
2. National Covenant - Vs.10-12.
3. Family Covenant - Vs.13-16.

Not what they said...*what they didn't say!*

## Effecting The Family

### Malachi 2:10,

“Have we not all **one father**? hath not **one God** created us? why do we **deal treacherously** every man against **his brother**, by **profaning the covenant** of **our fathers**?”

## Observation - Interpretation - Application

1. Family - Israel.
2. National - Israel.
3. Family Israel.

## “Deal Treacherously”

- **Malachi 2:10**, - “...why do we deal **treacherously** every man against his **brother**,...”
- **Malachi 2:11**, - “**Judah** hath dealt **treacherously**...”
- **Malachi 2:14**, - “...the wife of thy youth, against whom thou hast dealt **treacherously**...”
- **Malachi 2:15**, - “...let none deal **treacherously** against the wife of his youth.”
- **Malachi 2:16**, - “...take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not **treacherously**.”

“Guilty of or involving betrayal.” - “Profaning the covenant”

## Israel - Wife of Jehovah - Committing Adultery Against Jehovah

### Malachi 2:11,

“**Judah** hath dealt treacherously, and **an abomination is committed in Israel** and in **Jerusalem**; for **Judah** hath **profaned** (pollute 23x) **the holiness of the LORD** which he loved, **and hath married the daughter of a strange god.**”

## The Covenant

### Exodus 34:10-16,

[10] And he said, **Behold, I make a covenant**: before all thy people I will do marvels, such as have not been done in all the earth, nor in any nation: and all the people among which thou art shall see the work of the LORD: for it is a terrible thing that I will do with thee.

[11] **Observe thou that which I command thee this day**: behold, I drive out before thee the Amorite, and the Canaanite, and the Hittite, and the Perizzite, and the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

[12] **Take heed to thyself, lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land whither thou goest, lest it be for a snare in the midst of thee**:

[13] But ye shall destroy their altars, break their images, and cut down their groves:

[14] For thou shalt **worship no other god**: for the LORD, whose name is Jealous, is a jealous God:

[15] **Lest thou make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land, and they go a whoring after their gods, and do sacrifice unto their gods, and one call thee, and thou eat of his sacrifice**;

[16] **And thou take of their daughters unto thy sons, and their daughters go a whoring after their gods, and make thy sons go a whoring after their gods.**

NOT RACIAL - IT WAS RELIGIONS

## Ezra's Response

### Ezra 9:1-4,

[1] Now when these things were done, the princes came to me, saying, **The people of Israel, and the priests, and the Levites, have not separated themselves from the people** of the lands, **doing according to their abominations**, even of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Jebusites, the Ammonites, the Moabites, the Egyptians, and the Amorites.

[2] For **they have taken of their daughters for themselves, and for their sons: so that the holy seed have mingled themselves with the people of those lands: yea, the hand of the princes and rulers hath been chief in this trespass.**

[3] And when I heard this thing, I rent my garment and my mantle, and plucked off the hair of my head and of my beard, and sat down astonished.

[4] Then were assembled unto me every one that trembled at the words of the God of Israel, because of the transgression of those that had been carried away; and I sat astonished until the evening sacrifice.

## Nehemiah's Response

### Nehemiah 13:23-25,

[23] In those days also saw I Jews that had married wives of Ashdod, of Ammon, and of Moab:

[24] And their children spake half in the speech of Ashdod, and could not speak in the Jews' language, but according to the language of each people.

[25] And I contended with them, and cursed them, and smote certain of them, and plucked off their hair, and made them swear by God, saying, Ye shall not give your daughters unto their sons, nor take their daughters unto your sons, or for yourselves.

## The Lord's Response

### Malachi 2:12-13,

[12] The LORD will cut off the man that doeth this, the master and the scholar, out of the tabernacles of Jacob, and him that offereth an offering unto the LORD of hosts.

[13] And this have ye done again, **covering the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping, and with crying out, insomuch that he regardeth not the offering any more, or receiveth it with good will at your hand.**

## Leadership Response Today

Preaching “*smooth things*” only (Isaiah 30:10). The “*people love to have it so*” (Jeremiah 5:31). The focus on keeping the crowd and the cash coming in.

## “Yet Ye Say Wherefore?”

### Malachi 2:14,

[14] Yet ye say, **Wherefore?** **Because the LORD hath been witness** between thee and the wife of thy youth, against whom **thou hast dealt treacherously**: yet is she thy companion, and the wife of thy covenant.

## “That He Might Seek A Godly Seed”

### Malachi 2:15,

[15] **And did not he make one?** Yet had he the residue of the spirit. **And wherefore one?** **That he might seek a godly seed.** Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none **deal treacherously** against the wife of his youth.



**ISRAEL**  
**God's Witness To The World!**

**Genesis 28:14,**  
“In thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.”

**Isaiah 43:10,**  
“Ye are my witnesses, saith the LORD”

### Malachi 2:8,

“**But (1)** ye are **departed** out of the way; **(2)** ye **have caused many to stumble** at the law; **(3)** ye **have corrupted the covenant** of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.”

## “God Hates Divorce”

### Malachi 2:16,

[16] For the LORD, the God of Israel, saith that **he hateth putting away**: for one covereth violence with his garment, saith the LORD of hosts: **therefore take heed to your spirit, that ye deal not treacherously.**”

### Malachi 2:17,

**Ye have wearied the LORD with your words.** **Yet ye say,** Wherein have we wearied him? When ye say, **Every one that doeth evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and he delighteth in them; or, Where is the God of judgment?**