

TAKING THE LORD AND OUR SPOUSE SERIOUSLY Pt. 2

(Malachi 2:13-16)

V. GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE PRIESTS REGARDING HIS WORD (2:1-9)

VI. GOD'S MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE REGARDING HIS INSTITUTION OF MARRIAGE (2:10-16)

A. Malachi's Charge of Unfaithfulness and Disobedience (2:10)

B. Divorce and Remarriage Outside the Will of God (2:11-12)

C. Malachi's Second Charge Against the People (2:13-16)

1. The people evidently could not figure out why God was withholding blessing from them, so Malachi gave them the reasons.

a. The weeping and wailing of the men who (after divorcing their Israelite wives to marry pagans) _____ with the _____ to _____ their animal sacrifices. (v. 13a)

b. Yahweh was unwilling to accept their _____ offerings, due to their blatant _____ of adultery and idolatry, nor was He willing to bless them. (v. 13b)

* How important is it in understanding the doctrine of sin and fellowship with the Lord?

2. These sinful Jews debated with the Lord's evaluation of them...

a. Question: "*For what _____ do You _____ our sacrifices?*" (v. 14a)

b. Answer: "*Because I the Lord God have been a witness of how you men _____ the wives of your _____.*" (v. 14b)

3. Marriage is to be regarded with the highest _____ since it is a _____ in God's eyes. (v. 14c. cf. Prov. 2:17; Ezek. 16:8; Hos. 2:16-20)
4. Malachi took all of them back to the beginning, to Genesis 2:24, where God had said, *"Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be _____ to his wife, and they shall become _____."* (v. 15a, cf. Gen. 2:22-24)
5. One of the primary purposes for marriage is to _____ godly _____. (v. 15b, cf. Gen. 1:28; 9:7)

* What are some other purposes (and benefits) of marriage?

6. Yahweh's perspective on divorce is that He _____. (v. 16)

* Is all divorce and remarriage sinful? (Matt. 19:3-10; 1 Cor. 7:12-16)

* What can you learn from the sins in Malachi's day?