

Messenger:

Let Us Worship

Malachi 2:1-9



Malachi 2: 1-2:

The Lord Rebukes the Priests

1 "Now this commandment is for you priests:

2 "If you don't listen, and if you don't choose to give honor to my name," says the LORD of the Heavenly Armies, "then I'll curse both you and your blessings. I've even cursed them already, because none of you are taking it to heart.

1 Peter 2:9

As followers of Christ

But *you are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for possession, so that you might speak of the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

Matthew 5:14 and 5:16

14 You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven.

Malachi 2: 3-4:

3 Look! I'm rebuking your descendants because of you, and I'll spread waste on your faces, the waste of your festival sacrifices, and you will be carried off with it.

4 "You will know that I sent this commandment to you in order to continue my covenant with Levi," says the LORD of the Heavenly Armies.

Malachi 2: 5-7:

Reminder to live and teach the truth

5 "My covenant with him was for life and peace, and I gave the commandments to him so he would fear me. He did fear me as he stood in my presence.

6 True teachings were in his mouth, and falsehood was not found on his lips. He walked with me peacefully and righteously, and he turned many from sin.

7 For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, because he's the messenger of the LORD of the Heavenly Armies.

Malachi 2: 8-9:

Contempt for those with a wrong motive

8 "But you priests turned aside from the way, and by your teaching you caused many to stumble. You have violated the covenant of Levi," says the LORD of the Heavenly Armies.

9 "So I also made you despised, humiliating you before all of the people, because you aren't following my ways and are showing partiality when you teach."

Let us worship – Are our hearts tuned to God?

Questions that I asked myself as I was preparing:

- Why do I come to church?
- Do I expect God to interact with me today?
- Do I ask for prayer because it is what I'm supposed to do, do I expect God to answer?
- When I'm in trials of all kinds, do I ask what is God trying to teach me, or do I ask God to take it away?

Let us worship – Are our hearts tuned to God?

Questions that I asked myself as I was preparing - continued

- Is my relationship a walk of faith or of convenience?
- Do I seek God's direction before acting on my situation?
- Do I live my life understanding my place in God's family?
- Is my faith active today (a statement of worship, growth, action) or is it passive (a statement of convenience) of past activity but not current?

How do we keep it real?

