

---

## MALACHI- LESSON # 10

***Mal 2:12 "As for the man who does this, may the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob everyone who awakes and answers, or who presents an offering to the LORD of hosts."***

### **KJV- "THE AWAKE AND THE AWARE"**

- Everyone who awakes and answers (NASB)
- The Master and the Scholar (KJV)
- Whoever he may be (NIV)
- The man who does this, being awake and aware (NKJV)
- Anyone awaking, testifying, and making an offering (CEB- common English)
- He that calls and him that answers (DARBY)
- Any to witness or answer (NRSV- new revised standard)
- The tempter and the tempted (YLT)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (ESV)

### **It is a proverb, a saying that means "all that comprise a whole"**

- Idea is: the one who wakes, and the one who gives heed or pays attention
- In other words: God is going to cut off
  - o Masters/Scholars: the ones who are teaching, and the ones following
  - o The guard who is watching- and the ones who answer when aroused
  - o Those who are active in the sin- those who encourage/enable the sin

***Mal 2:13 "This is another thing you do: you cover the altar of the LORD with tears, with weeping and with groaning, because He no longer regards the offering or accepts it with favor from your hand."***

### **Let's Look at their resume here in Malachi:**

- 1:6- no honor, no respect
- 1:6- Despise the name of the Lord
- 1:7- Presenting defiled food on the altar
- 1:7- Saying the table of the Lord is to be despised
- 1:8- Regarding earthly authority with more respect than God's authority
- 1:10- Uselessly kindling fire on the altar
- 1:12- Profaning the name of the Lord
- 1:13- Complaining about their service to the Lord
- 1:13- Presenting stolen offerings to the Lord
- 1:14- Swindling the Lord, vowing one thing and offering another
- 2:8- Turned aside from the way
- 2:8- caused many to stumble by the instruction
- 2:8- Corrupted the covenant of Levi
- 2:9- Showing partiality
- 2:11- Profane the holiness of the Lord
- 2:11- Marrying idol worshipers

## Now what are they doing?

- They are weeping and groaning because God is not showing them favor.
- We should NEVER expect God to bless us in our sin.

***Mal 2:14 "Yet you say, 'For what reason?' Because the LORD has been a witness between you and the wife of your youth, against whom you have dealt treacherously, though she is your companion and your wife by covenant.***

## "For what reason?"

- Notice that for every accusation; the people respond by pleading ignorance.
- There are two answers to this question: a Broad answer and a specific answer

### **The Broad answer is: Because the Lord has been a witness**

- The Lord is a witness to everything you do or think, and the motivation behind it. You cannot fool the Lord.
  - o You can fool yourself- **James 1:22**
  - o You can fool those watching- **Matthew 23:25-28**
- But the Lord is a witness to both the production and back stage (**1 Cor. 4:5**)

### **The Specific Answer is: The Lord is aware of what was going on at home**

- A witness between the priest, and the wife of his youth

***Mal 2:15 "But not one has done so who has a remnant of the Spirit. And what did that one do while he was seeking a godly offspring? Take heed then to your spirit, and let no one deal treacherously against the wife of your youth.***

- No Spiritual man would ever get rid of a godly woman and parry a pagan, idol-worshiper instead.
- Anyone who desires spiritual offspring would not have put away a godly mother to have his children raised by a pagan, idol worshiper instead.
  - o The Priesthood is currently corrupted
    - The next generation of Priests comes from their children
    - God is looking for Godly offspring from them.
- It is likely that this is referring to Abraham as "that one"
  - o While seeking a godly offspring- he took a foreign woman (**Gen 16:2**)
  - o This did not result in godly offspring

**Mal 2:16** *"For I hate divorce," says the LORD, the God of Israel, "and him who covers his garment with wrong," says the LORD of hosts. "So take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously."*

**TAKE HEED:**

- **Malachi is a warning; not a final judgment**
  - Obadiah: was a final judgment, Edom was offered no redemption
  - God is giving His people in Malachi a chance to do the right thing

**God hates what they are doing with their wives:**

- What else does he hate?
  - *Him who covers his garment with wrong*
- Word for "wrong"= violence
  - Idea is: their violence cannot be hidden- they are wearing it
  - Again- there is no escaping God's witness

**Mal 2:17** *You have wearied the LORD with your words. Yet you say, "How have we wearied Him?" In that you say, "Everyone who does evil is good in the sight of the LORD, and He delights in them," or, "Where is the God of justice?"*

- The Priests have determined their own theology:
  - God delights in everyone in their sin (God is happy with them)
  - OR- There is no justice from God (In other words, if it is so wrong, where is the punishment?)
- Either way- it allows everyone to remain in their sin; and this has wearied the Lord.

Bottom line is this: God is trying to get them to change things that they do not want to change; and that is the hardest struggle we will deal with in our own lives and in our congregations. It is hard to change things, when we don't want to change it; and we are more likely to come up with perverse reasoning's of justification than we are to just do the right thing.