
MALACHI- LESSON # 6

Mal 2:3 "Behold, I am going to rebuke your offspring, and I will spread refuse on your faces, the refuse of your feasts; and you will be taken away with it."

God is giving a warning:

- He told the Priests what they needed to do:
- Now he tells them what is going to happen if they do not
 - o Many view "following the Bible" as something we **SHOULD** do, but not something we **MUST** do.
- **Example:** Some say you SHOULD get baptized; but you do not have to
 - o Are there consequences if we do not? What are we missing out on?
 - o **Acts 2:38, 2 Peter 3:21, Romans 6:3-7**
- **The Truth is:**
 - o There are tremendous blessings for following Christ
 - o But if you choose not to: more than just not getting the benefits- there are serious ramifications that extend beyond even your own life.

TWO THINGS ARE GOING TO HAPPEN TO THE PRIESTS IN MALACHI:

- Rebuke their offspring (KJV- Corrupt your seed)
- Spread refuse on your faces- and be taken away with it

SPREAD REFUSE ON YOUR FACES

- **Deuteronomy 23:12-** Outside the camp, dig a hole in the ground, cover it up
 - o It does not belong in the camp, because God walks in the midst of the camp and it is holy.
- Outside the Camp: **Numbers 5:1-4, Numbers 15:35-36**
- *The Refuse from their feasts-* **Leviticus 3:3-5, Leviticus 4:11-12**
- **Exodus 29:14-** *But the flesh of the bull and its hide and its refuse, you shall burn with fire outside the camp...*
 - o God is warning the Priests that they are in danger of being put out and cut off from Him.

REBUKE YOUR OFFSPRING

- God is not going to bless their offspring
- The priests offspring become the next priests
- **Important to understand how far our influence will reach**

Mal 2:4 "Then you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that My covenant may continue with Levi," says the LORD of hosts.

Levites were special to God- they had a history of standing w/ the Lord

- Notable Levites:
 - o Moses, Aaron, Samuel, Ezekiel, Ezra, Jeremiah, Zacharias, Barnabas
- God wants His covenant with Levi to continue
 - o He does not want them outside of the camp or out of His service
 - o He also does not want them to continue in the state they are in

THEY HAVE ONLY TWO OPTIONS

- **Malachi 2:2**
 - o They can listen, take it to heart, and give honor to His name
- **Malachi 2:3**
 - o God rebukes their offspring and spreads refuse on their face (taking them away)

COVENANT VS CONTRACT

God wants to continue covenant that He made with Levi

- Covenant: Agreement between 2 parties involves promises/vows
- **Covenant is NOT a contract**
 - o Covenant based on Character
 - o Contract based on Conditions
- Covenant is entered into because of trust
- Contract is entered into because of a lack of trust

What can destroy a covenant? Consider marriage? Consider Christianity (Romans 8:25)

- Is it circumstances?
- Or is it character?

God tells them that their Covenant is in danger:

- Is the problem bad circumstances or bad character?