

Malachi 2

Chapter 2 of 4 · 17 Verses · Authorized King James Version

Warning to the Priests

- 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.
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- 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.

Judah's Unfaithfulness

- 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?
- 11** Judah hath dealt treacherously, and an abomination is committed in Israel and in Jerusalem; for Judah hath profaned the holiness of the LORD which he loved, and hath married the daughter of a strange god.
- 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.
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- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
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- 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?

HEBREW & GREEK WORD STUDIES

Altar — מזבח (Mizbeach)

Altar, place of sacrifice

The Hebrew **mizbeach** (מִזְבֵּחַ) means altar—from the root 'to slaughter.' Altars were places where sacrifices were offered to God, pointing forward to Christ's ultimate sacrifice.

Covenant — ברית (Berit)

Covenant, treaty

The Hebrew **berit** (בְּרִית) denotes a covenant—a binding agreement, often ratified by blood sacrifice. God's covenants (Abrahamic, Mosaic, Davidic) structure redemptive history, culminating in the New Covenant.

Glory — כבוד (Kavod)

Glory, weight, honor

The Hebrew **kavod** (כָּבוֹד) literally means 'weight' or 'heaviness,' metaphorically denoting glory, honor, or majesty. God's glory (Shekinah) filled the tabernacle (Exodus 40:34) and temple (1 Kings 8:11).

God — אֱלֹהִים (Elohim)

God (plural of majesty)

The Hebrew **Elohim** (אֱלֹהִים) is a plural form denoting majesty and fullness of deity. Though grammatically plural, it takes singular verbs when referring to the one true God, suggesting the Trinity's plurality within unity.

Judgment — מִשְׁפָּט (Mishpat)

Judgment, justice

The Hebrew **mishpat** (מִשְׁפָּט) means judgment or justice—God's righteous decisions and ordinances. God is the Judge of all the earth who 'shall do right' (Genesis 18:25), executing perfect justice.

Law — תּוֹרָה (Torah)

Law, instruction

The Hebrew **Torah** (תּוֹרָה) means law or instruction—God's revealed will for His people. The Law includes moral, civil, and ceremonial commandments, revealing God's character and humanity's need for a Savior.

Lord — יְהוָה / אֲדֹנָי (YHWH / Adonai)

The LORD / Lord

When 'LORD' appears in small capitals, it represents the Tetragrammaton **YHWH** (יְהוָה), God's personal covenant name meaning 'I AM.' When 'Lord' appears normally, it's **Adonai** (אֲדֹנָי), meaning 'my Lord,' emphasizing sovereignty.

Love — אַהֲבָה / חֶסֶד (Ahavah / Chesed)

Love / Loyal-love

Hebrew uses **ahavah** (אַהֲבָה) for love generally, but the covenant term **chesed** (חֶסֶד) describes God's steadfast, loyal love—faithful covenant commitment beyond mere emotion.

Priest — כֹּהֵן (Kohen)

Priest

The Hebrew **kohen** (כֹּהֵן) denotes a priest—one who mediates between God and people through sacrifices and intercession. Aaron and his descendants served as Israel's priests, foreshadowing Christ the Great High Priest.

Spirit — רוּחַ (Ruach)

Spirit, wind, breath

The Hebrew **ruach** (רוּחַ) means spirit, wind, or breath—invisible but powerful. It describes both the Holy Spirit and the human spirit. God's Spirit gives life and empowers His people.

Truth — אמת (Emet)

Truth, faithfulness

The Hebrew **emet** (אמת) means truth or faithfulness—reliability and conformity to reality. God is true (emet), utterly faithful to His word and character.

CROSS REFERENCES

Malachi 2:1 **Parallel theme:** Malachi 1:6; Jeremiah 13:13; Hosea 5:1

Malachi 2:2 **Glory:** Luke 17:18; 1 Peter 4:11; Revelation 14:7; 16:9. **Parallel theme:** Psalms 69:22; Ezekiel 3:7. **Curse:** Malachi 3:9

Malachi 2:3

Parallel theme: Malachi 2:9; Exodus 29:14; 1 Kings 14:10; Joel 1:17; Nahum 3:6

Malachi 2:4 **Parallel theme:** Numbers 3:12; Matthew 3:12; John 15:2. **References Lord:** Ezekiel 38:23. **Word:** Jeremiah 28:9

Malachi 2:5 **Covenant:** Ezekiel 34:25; 37:26. **Parallel theme:** Numbers 3:45; 8:15

Malachi 2:6 **Parallel theme:** Genesis 6:9; 17:1; Psalms 37:30; Daniel 12:3; Luke 20:21; Revelation 14:5. **Word:** Jeremiah 23:22; Luke 1:6. **Sin:** Acts 26:18. **Truth:** Matthew 22:16

Malachi 2:7 **References Lord:** Leviticus 10:11; 2 Chronicles 30:22; Jeremiah 15:19. **Word:** Deuteronomy 21:5; Ezra 7:10; Isaiah 44:26; Jeremiah 18:18. **Parallel theme:** Acts 16:17; 2 Corinthians 5:20; 1 Thessalonians 4:8

Malachi 2:8

Covenant: Malachi 2:5; Nehemiah 13:29. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 30:11; Jeremiah 18:15; Ezekiel 44:10. **References Lord:** 1 Samuel 2:17; Jeremiah 17:5

Malachi 2:9

Parallel theme: Deuteronomy 1:17; 1 Samuel 2:30; 1 Kings 22:28; Ezekiel 13:21; Luke 10:29; 11:42; Galatians 2:6. **Word:** Malachi 2:8

Malachi 2:10

Creation: Psalms 100:3; Isaiah 43:1; 43:7; 44:2. **References God:** Malachi 2:11; 1 Corinthians 8:6; Ephesians 4:6. **Parallel theme:** Isaiah 63:16; 64:8; Acts 7:26

Malachi 2:11 **Parallel theme:** Revelation 21:8

Malachi 2:13 **Sacrifice:** Jeremiah 14:12

Malachi 2:14 **References Lord:** Isaiah 54:6; Jeremiah 8:12. **Parallel theme:** Malachi 2:15; Proverbs 30:20; Ecclesiastes 9:9. **Witness:** Malachi 3:5; Genesis 31:50; Jeremiah 42:5. **Covenant:** Proverbs 2:17; Ezekiel 16:8

Malachi 2:15 **Parallel theme:** Malachi 2:14; Proverbs 6:25; 7:25; Jeremiah 2:21; Matthew 15:19; 1 Corinthians 7:14; 2 Corinthians 6:18; Ephesians 6:4; Titus 1:6. **Spirit:** Job 27:3

Malachi 2:16 **Parallel theme:** Proverbs 28:13; Isaiah 59:6; Luke 16:18. **References Lord:** Isaiah 50:1

Malachi 2:17 **Parallel theme:** Job 34:17; Isaiah 1:14; 43:24; Amos 2:13. **Evil:** Ecclesiastes 8:11; Zephaniah 1:12. **Judgment:** Job 36:17; Isaiah 30:18. **References God:** Isaiah 7:13.

References Lord: Jeremiah 15:6

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