

Sunday January 5th 2014
Malachi – God’s Messenger
Part Ten
Study Questions

- 1). How had the priests of Malachi’s day treated God as their Father?
 - a). What was the consequence of them having done this?
 - b). What is at stake here and who would be at the heart of it?
 - c). Within this context how should we see our own relationship with God? And which scripture did we look at?
 - d). What would it look like for us in the present to give honor and reverence to God? Which scripture did we look at?
 - e). What is at stake for us in this?

- 2). Read Malachi 2:11-12 – What is the abomination that has been committed and what does this look like in practice for Israel? Which scriptures did we look at?
 - a). Read Jeremiah 3:13-14 – What do these verses teach us about Israel’s relationship with God?

b). What are the 2 relationships through which rulership in the coming Kingdom is to take place?

c). Why are there 2 and how should we understand them in relation to each other?

d). So how had Israel treated her Husband? What is at stake here and who would be at the heart of it?

e). What part did Balaam play in Israel's harlotry and which scripture did we look at?

f). Did this harlotry on Israel's part begin with Balaam and if not then where do we find its origins? And which scripture did we look at?

g). So, who was Balaam and what is the significance of his role with respect to Israel?

h). Read Hebrews 3:13 – How would this verse explain Israel's actions?

i). What would they become hardened against?

j). What other NT scripture would give us further commentary on this?

k). Read 2 Peter 2:1 – What does this verse teach us and what would be significant about it?

l). Where is reference to Balaam found in the Revelation?

m). In view of what we have just been studying, what would this mean with respect to the 'Church'?

- n). How does this parallel that which we have seen of Israel and Balaam?
- o). How has this situation come about and who is at the heart of it?
- p). Where then is the greatest danger for Christians and even those in pursuit of the Kingdom to be found?
- q). What must our safeguard always be?
- r). Read James 4:4-5 – what do these verses teach us?
- s). What do we learn from Romans 12:2?
- t). Read 2 Corinthians 11:2-4 – How does Paul describe the Christians in Corinth? How did the serpent deceive Eve?
- u). What happened to those in Malachi's day who thought they could be involved with the pagan world and still serve the Lord?
- v). Is it possible for us to be involved in the present world system in ignorance? What should we expect if we do so? Which scripture did we look at in connection with this?
- 3). Read Malachi 2:13-16 – How does v13 continue the thought from v12?
- a). Why does the Lord not regard their offering anymore?
- b). What then is the consequence of their spiritual adultery?

c). What parallel do you see here with the way they treated God as their Father?

d). Where else do we find the phrase 'the wife of your youth' and what do these verses teach us?

e). What had spiritual adultery led to?

f). What does Malachi 2:14 teach us with respect to this?

g). Read 1 Thessalonians 4:3-7 – according to these verses what might one brother do to another brother?

h). How is the Lord described in these verses?

i). What does this mean for us on an individual level?

j). What again is at the heart of this?

k). Read v15 again – how should we understand this verse?

l). What do we find in Matthew 19:3-7 about this?

m). What is significant then about the husband and wife becoming one flesh?

n). What was the reason that Moses permitted a certificate of divorce?

o). From a scripture we read earlier, what is it that would cause their hearts to be hardened and what would their hearts be hardened against?

p). What does this mean for us?

