

Sunday January 12th 2014
Malachi – God’s Messenger
Part Eleven
Study Questions

1). What is the principal we have found in the Book of Malachi concerning the consequences of how an individual relates to God?

a). Which 2 relationships do we see this played out through in Malachi and which scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

b). There are 3 things that we noted with regards to the husband/wife relationship – Read Malachi 2:14 – what is the first of the 3 things we see here and what is significant about it?

Read Malachi 2:15 – What is the 2nd of the 3 things we see here?

Read Malachi 2:13 – What is the 3rd of the 3 things we see here? Where do we find this same thing only within a more general context of unfaithfulness?

What might we learn from this with respect to ourselves?

c). What should we learn for ourselves about becoming ‘one flesh’?

d). Whose responsibility is it to make sure that this happens and which scripture did we look at?

e). What are the consequences for the husband and wife not being 'one flesh'?

2). Read Matthew 5:27-28 – What was the expectation for the Jewish people and what was in view with regards to this?

a). In what way has this been amplified with respect to the 'Church' and why do you think this would be so?

b). Why do you think this would be a logical progression from the expectation placed on Israel?

c). What would looking at a woman to lust after her be a manifestation of and which kingdom would this put us in?

d). What do we learn in Matthew and Romans about this?

e). Read 1 Peter 2:9 – what should we learn from this?

3). Read Malachi 2:16 – How should we understand the word translated 'divorce' here? And how might we best describe what this looks like in practice?

a). What are the 2 ways we can understand the word translated 'garment'? Why do you think this cannot be a reference to our wedding garment?

b). What is it that the husband's actions covers his wife with?

c). What should his covering of his wife have looked like?

d). Who provides the example for this and which scripture did we look at?

e). Where do we find this same idea in the Book of Ruth? Why is Ruth significant for us? What is the picture presented here?

f). At what concluding point do our verses from Ezekiel and the Book of Ruth end and what would you say this has to do with covering? What part does the husband play in this?

g). Why then does God hate 'putting away'?

h). What admonition is repeated in v15 + 16 of Malachi Chapter 2 and what would this mean?

i). What do the scriptures teach us is the only acceptable reason for divorce?

j). What if someone finds themselves divorced in the eyes of the state for any other reason, what would this mean?

k). Read Matthew 19:10-12 – What do these verses teach us?

l). What further commentary do we find on this in 1 Corinthians 7:1-5?

m). Any personal thoughts on this?

4). Read Malachi 2:17 – What has been a recurring theme throughout the Book of Malachi and what do we find concerning this theme in Chapter 3?

a). What do we find in v17 that shows Israel's contempt for God brought to its zenith?

b). Which scripture did we look at that would show their accusation against God to be untrue?

c). What were they failing to understand about the way God was dealing with them?

d). What 2 things should we remember about the time in which we live?

e). Which scriptures did we look at in connection with this?

f). Do you have any thoughts about this personally?