

Minor Prophets...

THE MINOR PROPHETS

The Book of Malachi
Mal. 2:1-9

...Major Message

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Mal. 2:1 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.

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I. THE LORD'S COMPLAINTS, 1:1-2:17

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3. Disregarding God's Law, 2:1-9

a. God's Commandment to the Priests, 2:1-4

(1) What He Said Specifically, 2:1

Mal. 2:1 And now, O ye priests, this commandment *is* for you.

(cf. Lev. 26:14-39; Deut. 27:11-26; 28:15-68)

(2) What He Said Solemnly, 2:2-3

(a) The Thrust of the Message, 2:2a

Mal. 2:2a 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.

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(b) The Threat of the Message,
2:2b-3

i. A Shattering Curse, 2:2b

Mal. 2:2b "...yea, **I have cursed them already, because ye do not lay *it* to heart.**

Deut. 28:15 But it shall come to pass, **if thou wilt not hearken** unto the voice of the LORD thy God, **to observe to do all his commandments** and his statutes which I command thee this day; that **all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee:**

Original Word: לב

Transliteration: leb

Short Definition: heart

<http://biblehub.com/hebrew/3820.htm>

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ii. A Shameful Corruption, 2:3

Mal. 2:3 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.”

(3) What He Said Surely, 2:4

Mal. 2:4 And **ye shall know** that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

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Mal. 2:4 And **ye shall know** that I have sent this commandment unto you, that my covenant might be with Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.

In our day, knowledge is not usually the problem – belief and obedience is!

(Deut. 33:8-11; cf. Exod. 32:25-29; Num. 3:12; 25:10-13; Neh. 13:29; Jer. 33:21-22).

Jer. 33:21 *Then* may also my covenant be broken with David my servant, that he should not have a son to reign upon his throne; and with the Levites the priests, my ministers.

22 As the host of heaven cannot be numbered, neither the sand of the sea measured: so **will I multiply the seed of David my servant, and the Levites that minister unto me.**

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b. God's Covenant with the Priests, 2:5-7

(1) A Lesson from the Past, 2:5-6

(a) Levi's Ordination, 2:5a

Mal. 2:5a "My covenant was with him of life and peace..."

(b) Levi's Obedience, 2:5b-6

i. His Godly Inclination, 2:5b-6a

Mal. 2:5 "...and I gave them to him *for* the fear wherewith he feared me, and **was afraid before my name**.

6a The law of truth was in his mouth, and iniquity was not found in his lips:

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ii. His Godly Influence, 2:6b

Mal. 2:6b "...he walked with me in peace and equity, and did turn many away from iniquity."

(2) A Lesson for the Present, 2:7

Mal. 2:7 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.

c. God's Contempt for the Priests, 2:8-9

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(1) Their Abandonment of God, 2:8

Mal. 2:8 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.

(2) Their Abasement by God, 2:9

Mal. 2:9 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.

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Conclusion

Heb. 3:1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider **the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus**;

Psa. 110:4 The LORD hath sworn, and will not repent, **Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.**

Heb. 7:21 (For those priests were made without an oath; but this with an oath by him that said unto him, The Lord sware and will not repent, Thou *art* a priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec:) Heb. 5:6, 10, 6:20, 7:11, 17

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1 Pet. 2:1 Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and envies, and all evil speakings,

2 As newborn babes, **desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby:**

3 If so be ye have tasted that the Lord *is* gracious.

4 To whom coming, *as unto* a living stone, disallowed indeed of men, but chosen of God, *and* precious,

5 Ye also, as lively stones, are built up a spiritual house, **an holy priesthood**, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, **acceptable to God by Jesus Christ. ...**

9 But ye *are* a chosen generation, **a royal priesthood**, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye **should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:**

10 Which in time past *were* not a people, but **are now the people of God**: which had not obtained mercy, but **now have obtained mercy.**

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