

## MALACHI: Live Fully Devoted

Lesson Five • Malachi 2:10-16

### The Tragedy of Dealing Treacherously

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A departure from God's Word leads to the TRAGEDY of dealing treacherously in our relationships with one another and with God.

*Have we not all one Father? Has not God created us? Why do we deal treacherously with one another by profaning the covenant of the fathers? Malachi 2:10*

#### Don't Deal Treacherously in the Area of Marriage

### 1. Don't Deal Treacherously by MARRYING an Unbeliever!

#### *The Tragedy of Marrying an Unbeliever*

A spiritually mixed marriage profanes the HOLINESS of God.

*Judah has dealt treacherously, and an abomination has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem, for Judah has profaned the Lord's holy institution which He loves: he has married the daughter of a foreign god. May the Lord cut off from the tents of Jacob the man who does this, being awake and aware and who brings an offering to the Lord of hosts. Malachi 2:11-12*

#### *God's Warning Against Spiritually Mixed Marriages*

It's not an issue of DISCRIMINATION against unbelievers, rather it's an issue of PROTECTION for believers from idolatry.

*Do not intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, for they will turn your children away from following Me to serve other gods, and the Lord's anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you. Deuteronomy 7:3-4 NIV*

*Do not be unequally yoked with unbelievers. For what partnership has righteousness with lawlessness? Or what fellowship has light with darkness? What accord has Christ with Belial? Or what portion does a believer share with an unbeliever? What agreement has the temple of God with idols? For we are the temple of the living God. 2Corinthians 6:14-16 ESV*

### 2. Don't Deal Treacherously by DIVORCING Your Spouse!

#### *The Tragedy of Divorcing Your Spouse*

A broken marriage destroys the COVENANT of marriage.

*And this is the second thing you do: you cover the altar of the Lord with tears, with weeping and crying; so He does not regard the offering anymore, nor receive it with good will from your hands. Yet you say, "For what reason?" Because the Lord has been witness between you and the wife of your youth, with whom you have dealt treacherously; yet she is your companion and your wife by covenant. Malachi 2:13-14*

#### *What Does God Think about Marriage and Divorce?*

God LOVES marriage, thus God HATES divorce.

*"For the Lord God of Israel says that He hates divorce, for it covers one's garment in violence," says the Lord of hosts. Malachi 2:16*

*"But from the beginning of the creation, God 'made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'; so then they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate." Mark 10:6-9*

#### *Why God Loves Marriage and Hates Divorce:*

- God's design of marriage is one man and one woman joined together in a covenant relationship for a LIFETIME.

*Yet she is your companion and your wife by covenant. But did He not make them one, having a remnant of the Spirit? Malachi 2:14-15*

- God's purpose in marriage is to reproduce a GODLY LEGACY for His glory.

*And why one? He seeks godly offspring. Malachi 2:15*

#### *The Remedy for Dealing Treacherously*

TAKE HEED to your spirit to make sure your heart is right with God.

*Therefore take heed to your spirit, and let none deal treacherously with the wife of his youth. Malachi 2:15*

*"Therefore take heed to your spirit, that you do not deal treacherously." Malachi 2:16*

*"The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin." Exodus 34:6-7*