



HOUSE GROUPS

HOUSE Groups: Discussion Questions:

Malachi 2:1-9

(Key Verse)

Malachi 2:6 *The law of truth was in his mouth, And injustice was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, And turned many away from iniquity.*

I. The Dung of The Priests:

(Malachi 2:1-2): "1 "And now, O priests, this commandment is for you. 2 If you will not hear, And if you will not take [it] to heart, To give glory to My name," Says the LORD of hosts, "I will send a curse upon you, And I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have cursed them already, Because you do not take [it] to heart.

Question: What are some good signs that the church is bringing glory to the Lord?

Question: Why is it important for a church to place an emphasis on the teaching of God's Word, and how is that emphasis communicated by the pastor on a regular basis?

Question: In light of the cultural pressures upon Christianity, what are some of the ways that you can be praying for your pastor, and your church?

(Malachi 2:3-4): **3** "Behold, I will rebuke your descendants And spread refuse on your faces, The refuse of your solemn feasts; And [one] will take you away with it. **4** Then you shall know that I have sent this commandment to you, That My covenant with Levi may continue," Says the LORD of hosts.

Question: How can the Christian safeguard himself against having only the appearance of righteousness, and not a righteous heart to go along with it?

Question: Why does the Lord judge His priests so severely?

II. The Blessing of the Priests:

(Malachi 2:5-6): **5** "My covenant was with him, [one] of life and peace, And I gave them to him [that he might] fear [Me]; So he feared Me And was reverent before My name. **6** The law of truth was in his mouth, And injustice was not found on his lips. He walked with Me in peace and equity, And turned many away from iniquity.

Question: How does a follower of Jesus show respect, and reverence to the Lord?

Question: When the pastor honors God's Word, how does that lead the people into living a life of peace, and reverence for the things of the Lord?

Question: Why is it especially important for the pastor to retain his integrity by teaching all of the truths of the Bible, and how does his decision to do so help lead many to turn from their sin?

(Malachi 2:7): 7 "For the lips of a priest should keep knowledge, And [people] should seek the law from his mouth; For he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts.

Question: Why do some pastors today change what the Word of God says, or refrain from teaching certain passages of Scripture? How is this a misrepresentation of the Lord?

Question: What are some of the factors that influence Christians to not stand for the truth?

(Malachi 2:8-9): 8 But you have departed from the way; You have caused many to stumble at the law. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi," Says the LORD of hosts. 9 "Therefore I also have made you contemptible and base Before all the people, Because you have not kept My ways But have shown partiality in the law."

Question: When a pastor departs from the Lord, why does it cause so many people in the church to stumble?

Question: How does a personal commitment to God's Word bless the pastor, and those that are in the church?