

## Malachi 2

### New King James Version (NKJV)

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### Corrupt Priests

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.

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.

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[a] 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.

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.

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.”

Treachery of Infidelity

10 Have we not all one Father?  
Has not one God created us?  
Why do we deal treacherously with one another  
By profaning the covenant of the fathers?

11 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.

12 May the LORD cut off from the tents of Jacob  
The man who does this, being awake and aware,[b]  
Yet who brings an offering to the LORD of hosts!

13 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 goodwill from your hands.

14 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.

15 But did He not make them one,  
Having a remnant of the Spirit?

And why one?

He seeks godly offspring.

Therefore take heed to your spirit,

And let none deal treacherously with the wife of his  
youth.

16 "For the LORD God of Israel says

That He hates divorce,

For it covers one's garment with violence,"

Says the LORD of hosts.

"Therefore take heed to your spirit,

That you do not deal treacherously."

17 You have wearied the LORD with your words;

Yet you say,

"In what way have we wearied Him?"

In that you say,

"Everyone who does evil

Is good in the sight of the LORD,

And He delights in them,"

Or, "Where is the God of justice?"