

My Messenger – Part 3

Malachi 2:1-9: Unfaithful and Faithful Teaching Ministries

THE UNFAITHFUL TEACHING MINISTRY. v.1-3, 8-9

1. They did not listen to God. v.2

- They did not take it to heart. v.2
- Isaiah 50:4-5: The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious; I turned not backward.

2. They focused on the audience rather than the truth. v.9

- They showed partiality in their instruction.
- What was wrong? The focus in their teaching was not the honor of God. v.2

3. The results? v.8 Ref. 2 Timothy 4:1-5

- They turned themselves away. v.8a
- They caused many others to stumble. v.8b

THE FAITHFUL TEACHING MINISTRY. v.4-7

1. The “covenant with Levi.” v.4

- The name ‘Levi’ represents the whole priestly ministry of the OT. Ref. Num. 25:12f
- The tribe of Levi was given the responsibility to keep the covenant, teach the law, observe the sacrifices, and bless others by their faithfulness. Deut. 33:8-11

→ Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the covenant with Levi. Hebrews 4:15

2. They prioritized God first. v.5

- Their heart focus was not popularity, attendance, being liked by the crowds...but the LORD.
- “It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me.” fear = reverence. Ref. 1:6,11,14
- “He stood in awe of my name.”

3. They were committed to God’s truth. v.6

- “True instruction” implies there is a false instruction. Ref. 1 John 4:1-3 → Discernment
- They were committed to living God’s truth: “He walked with me in peace and uprightness.” Psalm 119:165

4. They “guarded” instruction. v.7

APPLICATIONS...

1.

2.

2 Timothy 4:1-5: I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.