



**MALACHI**  
“Ministry of Teaching”  
August 8, 2010  
Malachi 2:1-9 (ESV)  
**LG Study**

### QUICK REVIEW

God holds to account the failures and successes of the ministers of the Word of God.

### MY STORY

Have you ever acted upon false information you received from someone you deemed as trustworthy or an expert? If so, what happened? Please share.

### DIGGING DEEPER

1. God pronounced grave judgments against the priests due to their failure in the ministry of the Word (see Malachi 2:2-3, 9). In the New Testament, God warns against carelessly taking on the role of a teacher (read James 3:1).
  - a. Why does God hold pastors, teachers, and other ministers of the Word to such strict standards?
  - b. What implications does this have on current and would-be teachers?
2. Identify some of the main duties of the Levitical priesthood in the Old Testament. (See Leviticus 9:1-7; 10:11; Numbers 18:3; Exodus 30:7-10; Deuteronomy 17:8-13). Then, answer these questions:
  - a. What were their main duties?

- b. Given the nature of their work and calling, describe the spiritual impact that their failure would have had on the Israelites.

- c. What similarities are there to today if pastors and teachers were to give erroneous instruction and guidance in the church? Have you ever seen or experienced this in your church life?

3. Reading 1 Peter 2:5,9 and Revelation 1:6 and 20:6 will give you insight into those whom God calls as priests today. As you read these verses, note any lessons for your life you discern in respect to your responsibilities as a priest of God.

### TAKING IT HOME

1. If you consider yourself Christian, God has given you an important calling to be a Godly influence upon others—your friends, coworkers, parents, siblings, children, and etc.—regardless of your actual title. To put it simply, God has chosen you to be a channel of His grace for those whom God has placed around you. However, there is one catch. Our relationship with God must be in the right place. So, take the next few moments and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any sins that might be hindering your intimacy with God. Confess what ever sins the Holy Spirit brings to your mind and ask the Lord to renew your heart for Him.
2. Based upon Malachi 2:1-9, what are some specific things you should pray for the spiritual leaders of YNCC?
3. Prayer & Sharing Devotional:  
Please spend the remaining time in sharing your Life Journal (devotional) and praying for one another.

\*\* LifeGroup Study questions are available for pick up at the Information Center located in the lobby. They are also available online at [www.ynccla.org](http://www.ynccla.org).

\*\* Today's message will be available on CD next week in the YNCC office. Previous weeks' sermons are also available on CD and viewable online at [www.ynccla.org/sermons](http://www.ynccla.org/sermons).

