

# Where is the honor? Where is the respect?

Malachi 1:6-2:9

The question of honor and respect starts with the leaders.

## ABOUT LEADERS

The nation will find it very hard to look up to the leaders who are keeping their ears to the ground. —Sir Winston Churchill

A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way, and shows the way. —John Maxwell

"Attitude reflects leadership." Julius to Gerry in Remember the Titans

"The buck stops here!" -Harry Truman

### TITUS 1:7-9

*7 For an overseer, as God's steward, must be above reproach. He must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or a drunkard or violent or greedy for gain, 8 but hospitable, a lover of good, self-controlled, upright, holy, and disciplined. 9 He must hold firm to the trustworthy word as taught, so that he may be able to give instruction in sound doctrine and also to rebuke those who contradict it.*

**Malachi is an IF, THEN leadership litmus test to expose the reality our hearts posture towards God.**

### MALACHI 1:6-2:9

6 The Lord of Heaven's Armies says to the priests: "A son honors his father, and a servant respects his master. **If** I am your father and master, **(then)** where are the honor and respect I deserve? You have shown contempt for my name!

"But you ask, 'How have we ever shown contempt for your name?' 7 "You have shown contempt by offering defiled sacrifices on my altar. "Then you ask, 'How have we defiled the sacrifices?' "You defile them by saying the altar of the Lord deserves no respect. 8 When you give blind animals as sacrifices, isn't that wrong? And isn't it wrong to offer animals that are crippled and diseased? **Try giving gifts like that to your governor, and see how pleased he is!**" says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. 9 "Go ahead, beg God to be merciful to you! But **when you bring that kind of offering, why should he show you any favor at all?**" asks the Lord of Heaven's Armies.

**LEADERSHIP THAT HONORS GOD HONORS HIM WITH OUR WORDS, WORKS, AND WEALTH.**

**The priests were dishonoring God by:**

**The Old Testament & New Testament church leaders should:**

## **LEADERSHIP MATTERS TO GOD**

If our church leaders have dysfunctional and sinful posture towards God, our church body will too.

If our church has a dysfunctional and sinful posture towards God, our city will too.

Everybody is a leader of somebody.

The more people we lead, the greater our responsibility. The greater our responsibility, the more accountability we have.

**If we honor our Father in our personal devotion, He will honor us with a good church today and for many tomorrows.**

If our leaders disrespect God with their words, the people will disrespect God with their words.

If our leaders disrespect God with their works, the people will disrespect God with their works.

If our leaders disrespect God with their wealth, the people will disrespect God with their wealth.