



November 26, 2023 | Pastor Keith Krell
Malachi 2:10-16 | “Treachery or Loyalty?”

Scripture Reading

Malachi 2:10–16

Genesis 1:26–28; 2:18–24

Deuteronomy 7:1–4

Nehemiah 12:23–37; 13:23–29

Matthew 5:31–32; 19:3–12

2 Corinthians 6:14–7:1

Ephesians 5:22–33

Study Questions

1. Why are believers prone to evil (2:10–12)? Read Jeremiah 17:9–10 and Matthew 12:33–35. What do these passages say about the human heart? How can you live out the identity of your new heart as described in Ephesians 4:17–24 and Colossians 3:1–11?
2. Why does God require Christians to only marry believers (Deuteronomy 7:1–4; 1 Corinthians 7:39)? What are some dangers of a believer marrying an unbeliever (2:13)? What are some practical difficulties of marrying someone who doesn’t share your worldview? How would you counsel a believer considering an interfaith marriage?
3. What are God’s purposes for godly marriages (2:15–16; cf. Ephesians 5:22–33)? What external expressions demonstrate that you cherish your spouse? How might we turn marriage into an idol? What does the Bible teach about singleness (1 Corinthians 7:25–40)? If you are single, what area of your personal life do you need to cultivate to be a satisfied single?
4. How has Western society devalued the sanctity of marriage? What are some of the far-reaching social effects? What are some reasons Christians have trouble in their marriages? If you are married, in what specific areas does your marriage need work?
5. How can you comfort those who have experienced the trauma of divorce (2:16)? How can you maintain a humble posture in your marriage? Read 1 Corinthians 10:12. What are some ways we can guard our hearts?

Recommended Reading

Gordon P. Hugenberger, *Marriage as Covenant: Biblical Law and Ethics as Developed from Malachi* (Baker, 1984)

Andreas J. Köstenberger with David W. Jones, *God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundations* (Crossway, 2004)

Gary Thomas, *Sacred Marriage* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2002)

Gary Thomas, *Making Your Marriage a Fortress: Strengthening Your Marriage to Withstand Life’s Storms* (Zondervan, 2022)