### Malachi

## Chapter 2

1‘O Priests,  
  
 ‘This is what I’m saying:  
  
 2‘If you won’t listen and take it to heart  
 That My Name must be glorified,’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah the Almighty...  
  
 ‘I’ll send curses upon you…  
 I’ll curse all the things that you want me to bless…  
 I’ll curse them and not let them happen  
 If you don’t take this message to heart.  
  
 3‘{Look!} Although I’ve given the [lamb’s] shoulders to you;  
 I can throw their dung in your faces…  
 Their manure, I’ll send to your holiday feasts,  
 And after that, I’ll remove you!  
 4Then you’ll know that I am the One  
 Who sent these instructions to you.  
  
 ‘This is what I promised to Levi,’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah the Almighty God...  
  
 5‘For I made an agreement with him…  
 An agreement that brings life and peace.  
 I also [taught him to] fear Me,  
 As I prepared him to glorify My Name.  
  
 6‘The law of truth, [I put] into his mouth,  
 And unrighteous words weren’t found on his lips.  
 Straightforward in peace, he traveled with Me,  
 And many, he turned from injustice.  
  
 7‘So the Priests must safeguard the knowledge  
 That used to come from his lips,  
 And seek the laws that came from his mouth;  
 For, he’d served as a messenger  
 Of Jehovah the Almighty God.  
  
 8‘But, you’ve turned from his ways,  
 And many, you’ve turned from the Law…  
 You’ve corrupted My sacred agreement with Levi...’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah the Almighty...  
  
 9‘So I’ve now handed you over  
 To those whom you view with contempt…  
 To those whom even the gentiles  
 Fail to view with respect.  
 For, you haven’t guarded My ways,  
 And My people, you’ve turned from My Laws.  
  
 10‘Don’t you each have one father,  
 And weren’t you formed by one God?  
 So, why have you each let your brothers  
 Profane My Agreement with your fathers?  
  
 11‘For this, I’m abandoning Judah…  
 Because in IsraEl and JeruSalem,  
 Disgusting things are now being done!  
  
 ‘Judah has profaned [My] most holy things  
 (Things that I [dearly] loved)  
 When they [turned] to alien gods.  
  
 12‘So the Lord will destroy those who’ve done this,  
 And Jacob’s tents will be humbled…  
 Those who carry sacrifices [before Me].  
  
 13‘Yes, you’re the ones who’ve done all these things,  
 And that’s why I’ve come to hate you…  
 For you’ve covered My Altar with tears!  
  
 ‘You’ve brought weeping and groaning upon it,  
 Because of the troubles you’ve caused.  
 For you thought I’d accept whatever you bring  
 As though it was truly worthy!  
  
 14‘So the time has arrived when you’ll ask Me:  
  
 ‘Why have You done this [to us]?’  
  
 ‘It’s because the Lord has served as a witness  
 Between you and the wives of your youth…  
 Those whom you’ve sent away…  
 Those who’ve [long] been your partners…  
 Those to whom [you’ve sworn oaths]!  
  
 15‘Because you’re doing such things,  
 Don’t expect Me to send anything good  
 With even small portions of My Holy Breath!  
  
 ‘Then you asked:  
  
 ‘What more than offspring does God want?’  
  
 ‘[I want you to] safeguard your spirits,  
 And not to abandon the wives of your youth!  
  
 16‘No, don’t detest them and send them away,  
 Then cover it up in your minds,’  
  
 ‘...says Jehovah, IsraEl’s God.  
  
 ‘For, thus says Jehovah the Almighty God:  
  
 ‘Keep a close watch on your spirits,  
 And don’t abandon [your women]!  
  
 17‘You also provoke [Me] with things that you say…  
 And then you ask how you’ve done this.  
 You do it by saying before Him  
 That even the wicked are good…  
 That He really thinks [kindly] of them,  
 And that God doesn’t truly want justice.’