

Covenant Marriage

Malachi 2:10-3:5

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Melbourne Community Church
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What will we learn?

- ❖ Marriage is God's institution.
- ❖ The Lord does not tolerate the exploitation of the weak.
- ❖ The Messiah who has come is coming again.



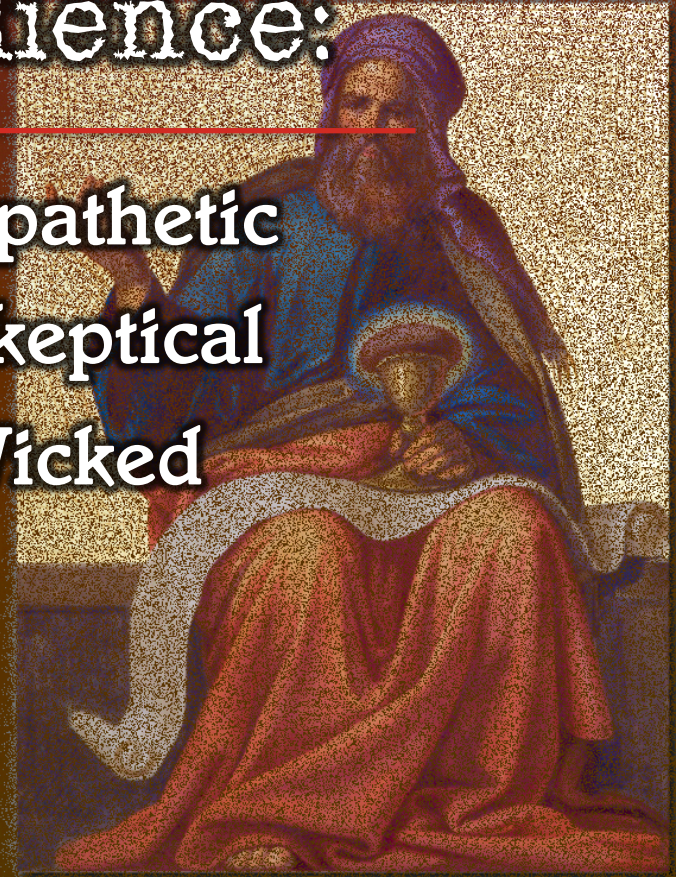
Old Testament prophecy:

- ❖ The prophets were mediators of God's covenant with Israel.
- ❖ The prophets' message was not their own, but God's.
- ❖ The prophets were God's direct representatives.
- ❖ The prophets' message is unoriginal, a restatement of the original Mosaic message from God.



Malachi's audience:

- ❖ Disillusioned
- ❖ Cynical
- ❖ Callous
- ❖ Dishonest
- ❖ Apathetic
- ❖ Skeptical
- ❖ Wicked



Malachi's concerns:

- ❖ Marriage
- ❖ Tithe
- ❖ Sabbath
- ❖ Priesthood
- ❖ Social justice



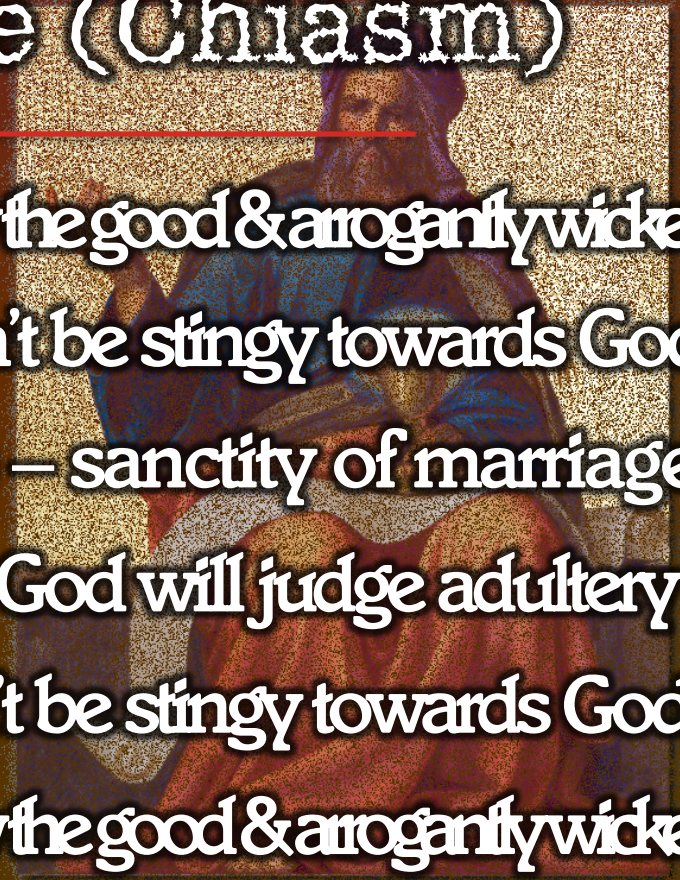
Malachi's disputations:

- ❖ “The Lord says ...”
- ❖ “But you say ...”



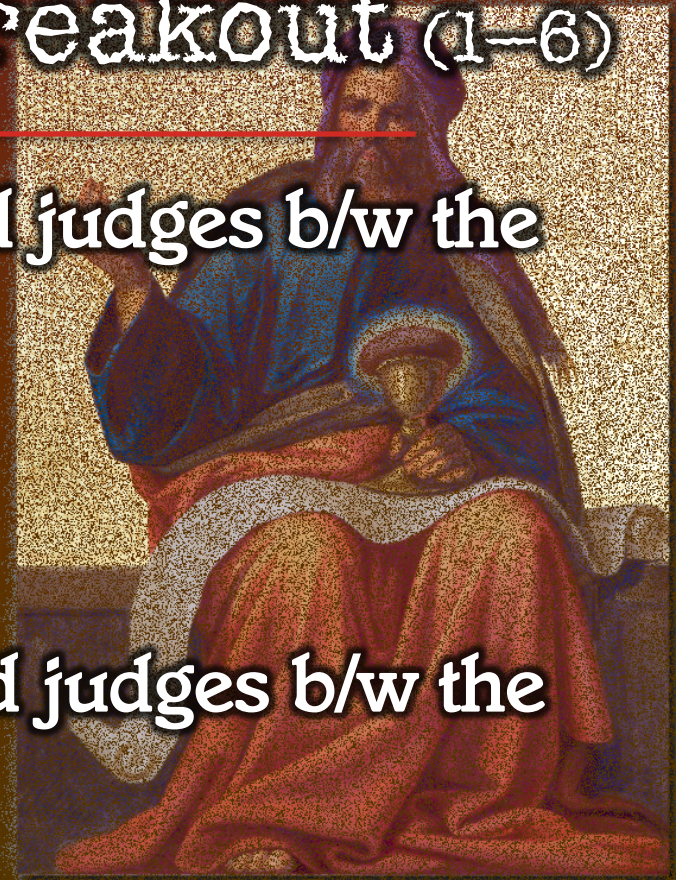
Malachi Structure (Chiasm)

- ❖ 1st disputation (1:2-5) – God judges b/w the good & arrogantly wicked
 - ❖ 2nd disputation (1:6-2:9) – don't be stingy towards God
 - ❖ 3rd disputation (2:10-16) – sanctity of marriage
 - ❖ 4th disputation (2:17-3:5) – God will judge adultery
 - ❖ 5th disputation (3:6-4:3) – don't be stingy towards God
 - ❖ 6th disputation (4:4-6) – God judges b/w the good & arrogantly wicked



Malachi Chiasm Breakout (1-6)

- ❖ 1st disputation (1:2-5) – God judges b/w the good & arrogantly wicked
- ❖ 6th disputation (4:4-6) – God judges b/w the good & arrogantly wicked



Malachi Chiasm Breakout (2-5)

❖ 2nd disputation (1:6-2:9) – don't be stingy towards God

❖ 5th disputation (3:6-4:3) – don't be stingy towards God



Malachi Chiasm Breakout (3-4)

- ❖ 3rd disputation (2:10-16) – sanctity of marriage
- ❖ 4th disputation (2:17-3:5) – God will judge adultery



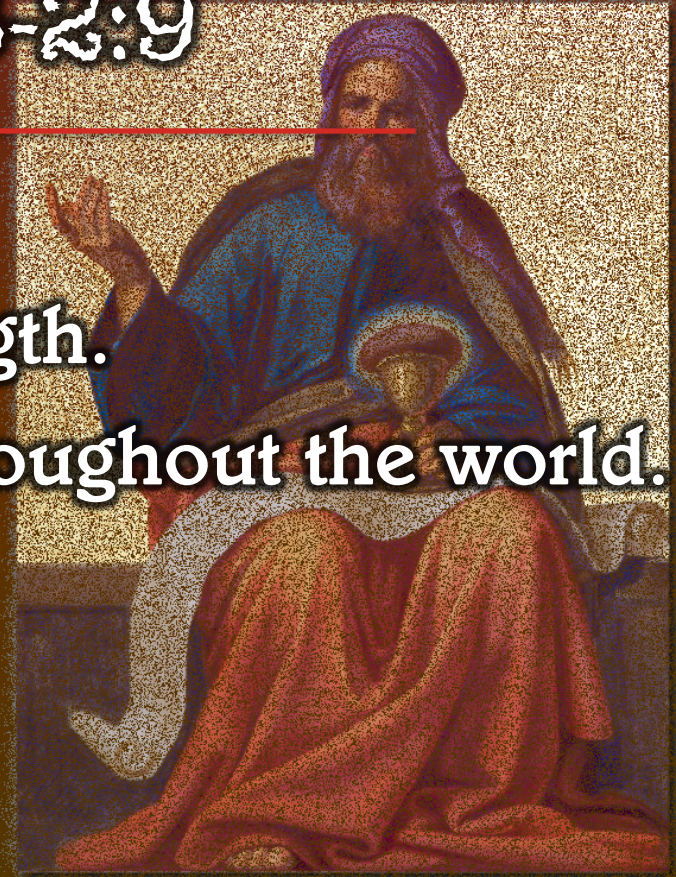
Malachi 1:1-5

- ❖ God is sovereign over history.
- ❖ The Lord loves his people.



Malachi 1:6-2:9

- ❖ God deserves our best.
- ❖ God is our source of strength.
- ❖ God will be worshiped throughout the world.
- ❖ We reap what we sow.



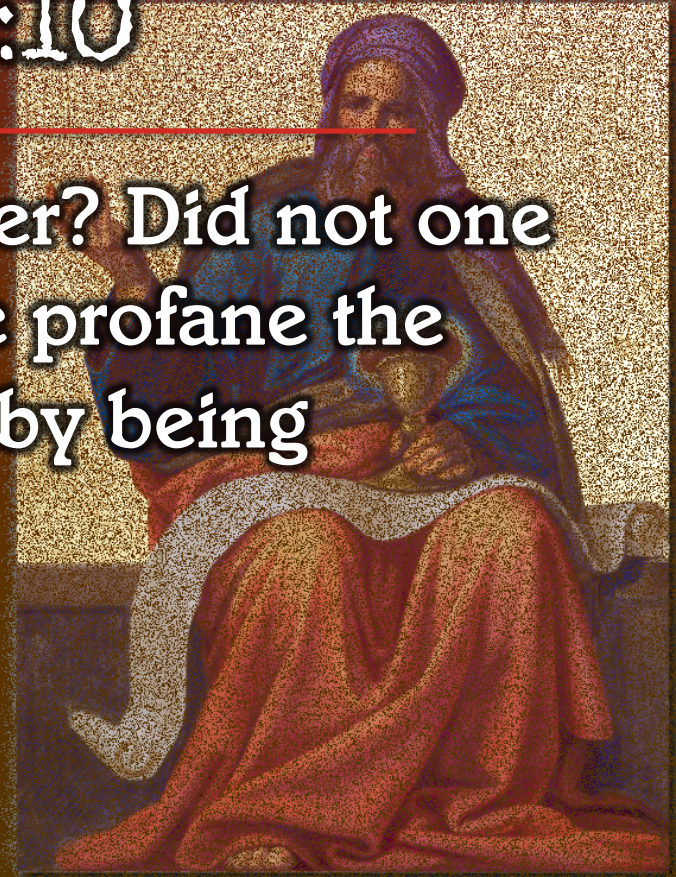
Malachi on Marriage:

- ❖ Intermarriage with pagans
- ❖ Divorce



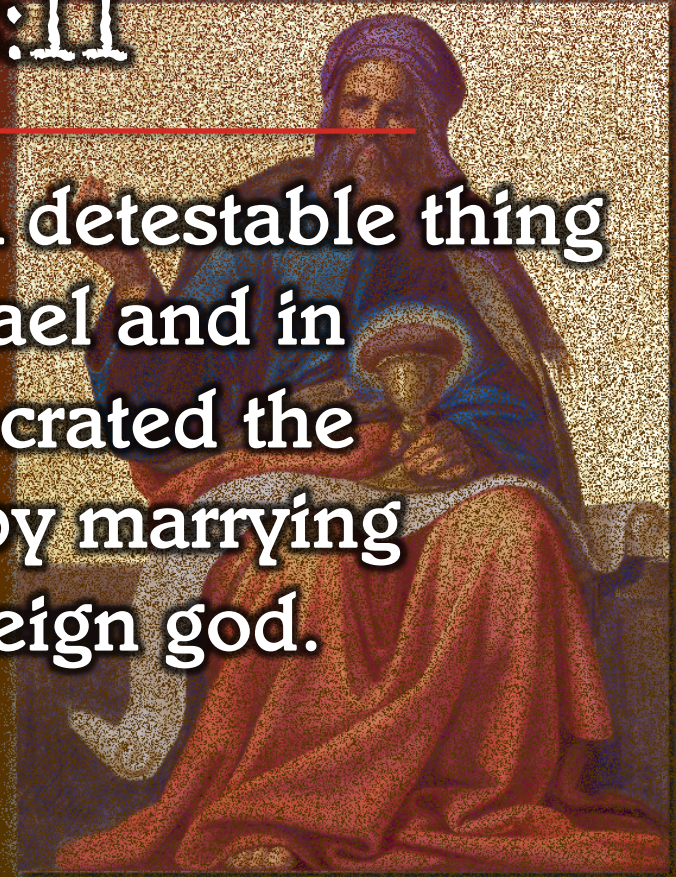
Malachi 2:10

Do we not all have one Father? Did not one God create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our ancestors by being unfaithful to one another?



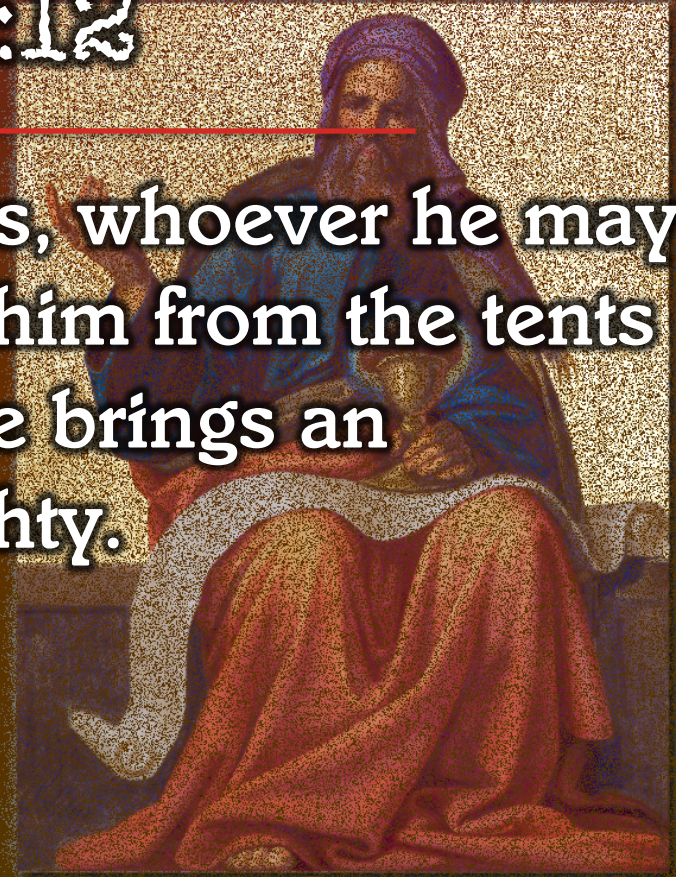
Malachi 2:11

Judah has been unfaithful. A detestable thing has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem: Judah has desecrated the sanctuary the LORD loves by marrying women who worship a foreign god.



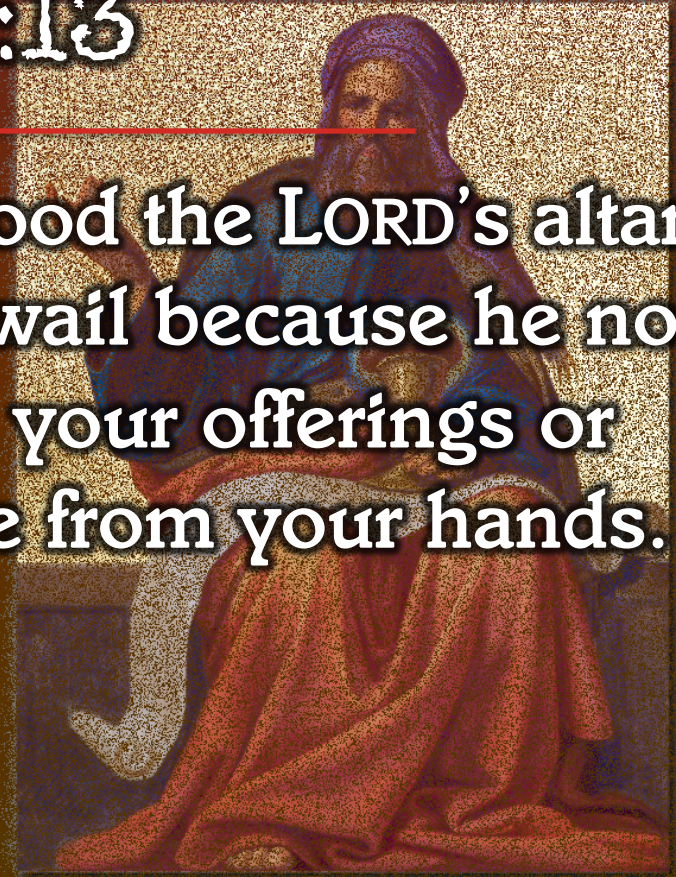
Malachi 2:12

As for the man who does this, whoever he may be, may the LORD remove him from the tents of Jacob — even though he brings an offering to the LORD Almighty.



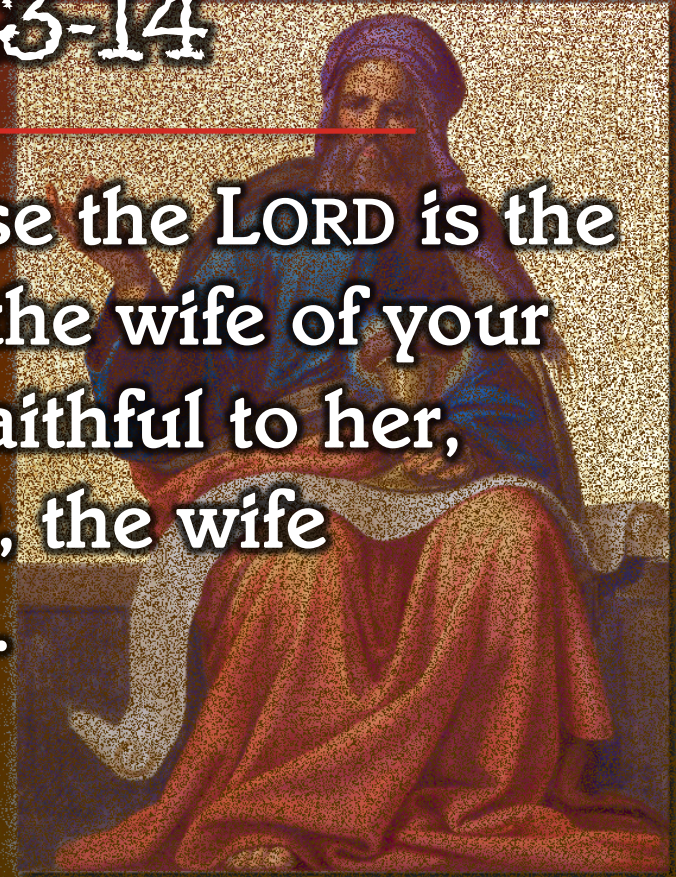
Malachi 2:13

Another thing you do: You flood the LORD's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer looks with favor on your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands.



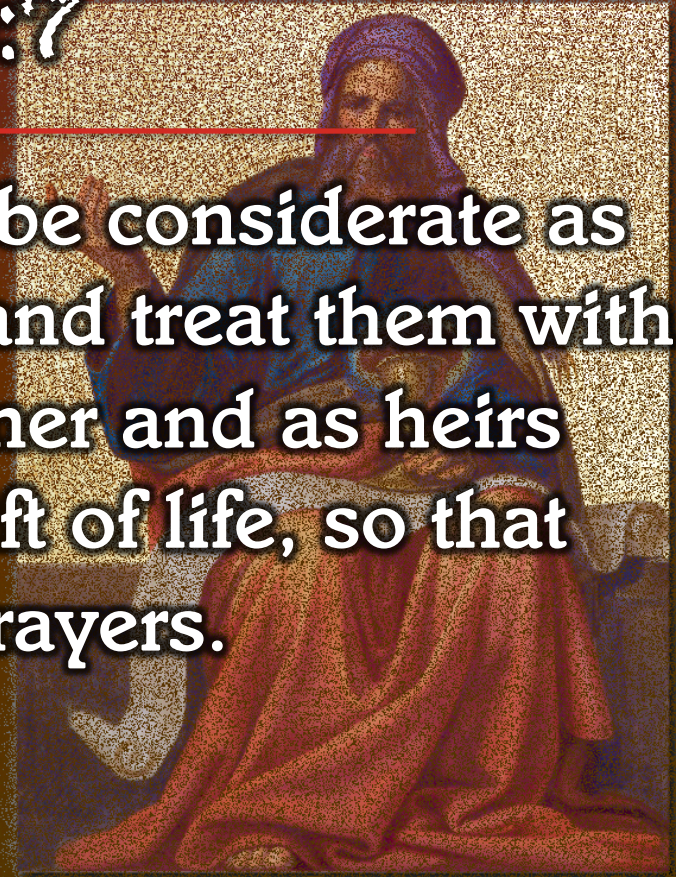
Malachi 2:13-14

You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.



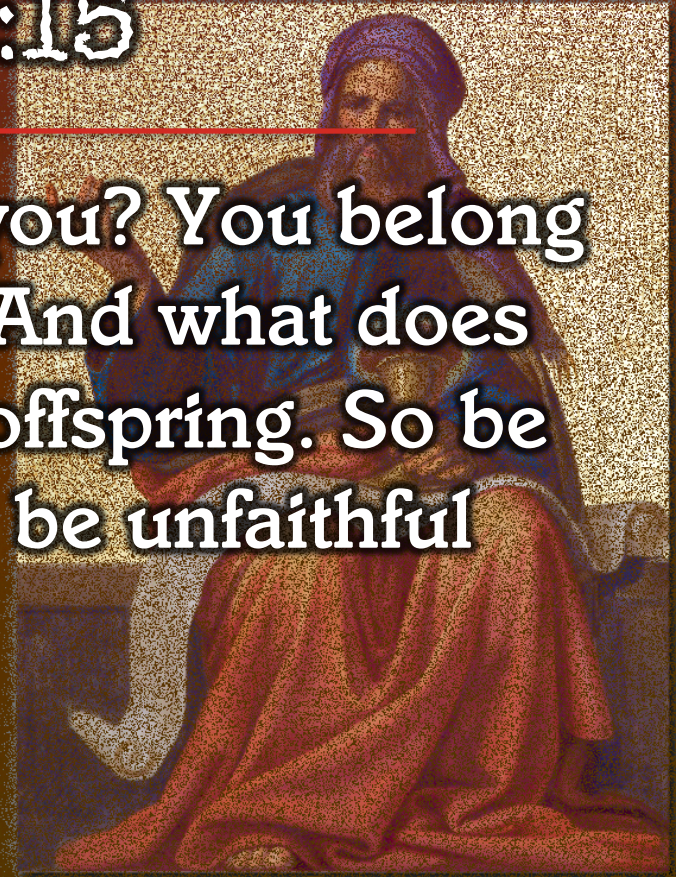
1 Peter 3:7

Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.



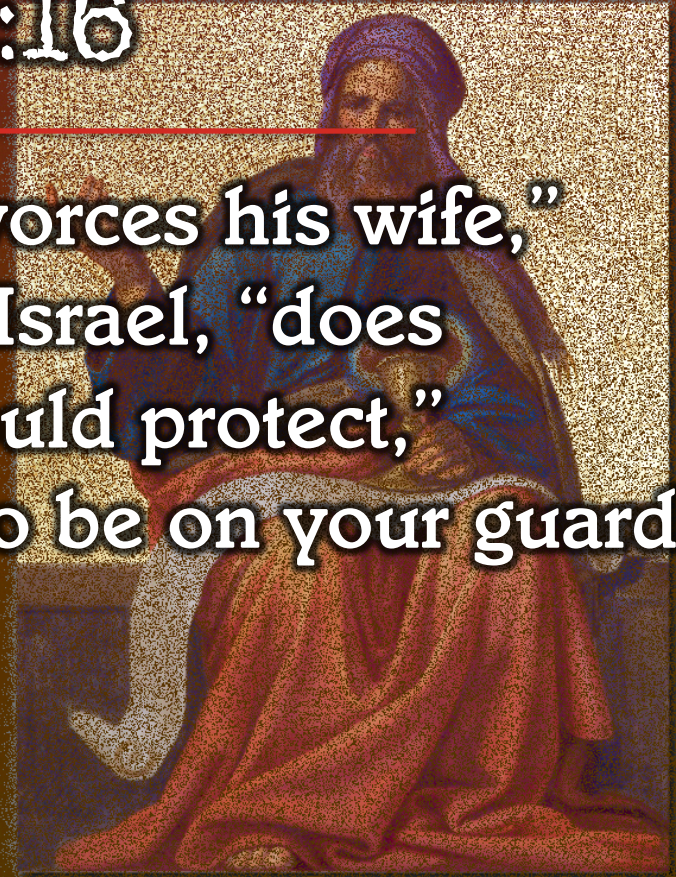
Malachi 2:15

Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth.



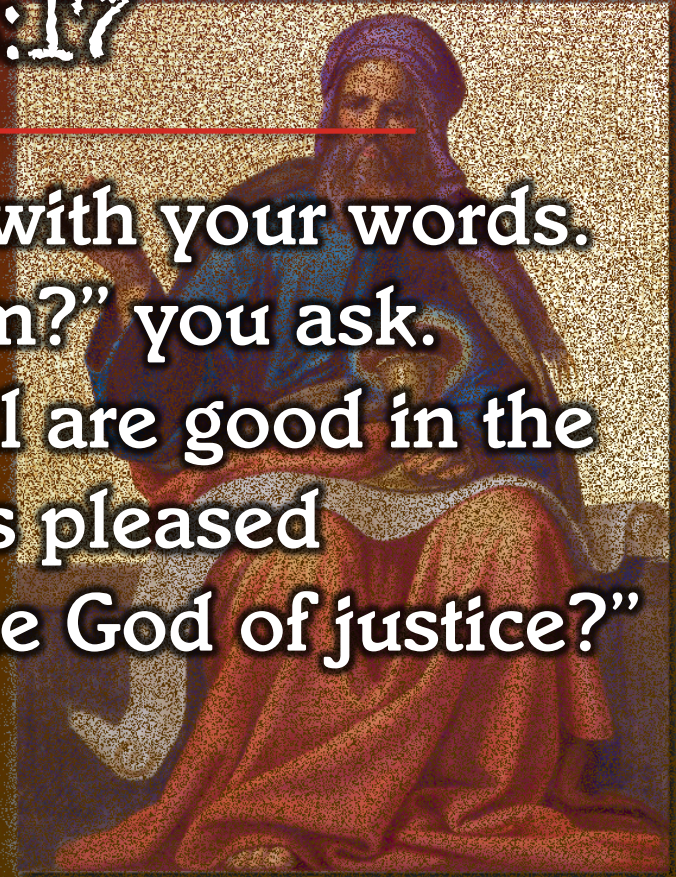
Malachi 2:16

**“The man who hates and divorces his wife,”
says the LORD, the God of Israel, “does
violence to the one he should protect,”
says the LORD Almighty. So be on your guard,
and do not be unfaithful.**



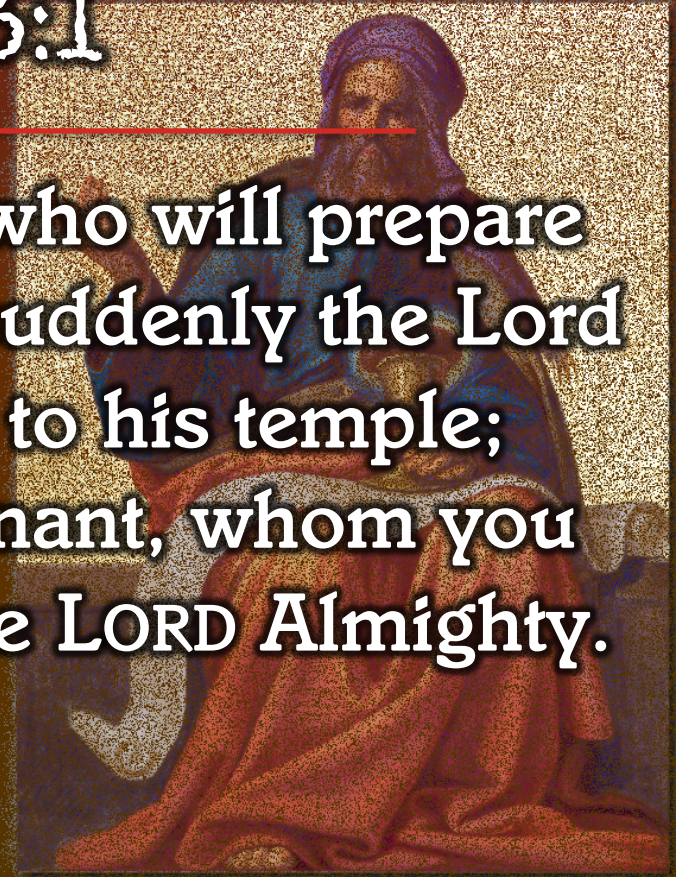
Malachi 2:17

You have wearied the LORD with your words.
“How have we wearied him?” you ask.
By saying, “All who do evil are good in the
eyes of the LORD, and he is pleased
with them” or “Where is the God of justice?”



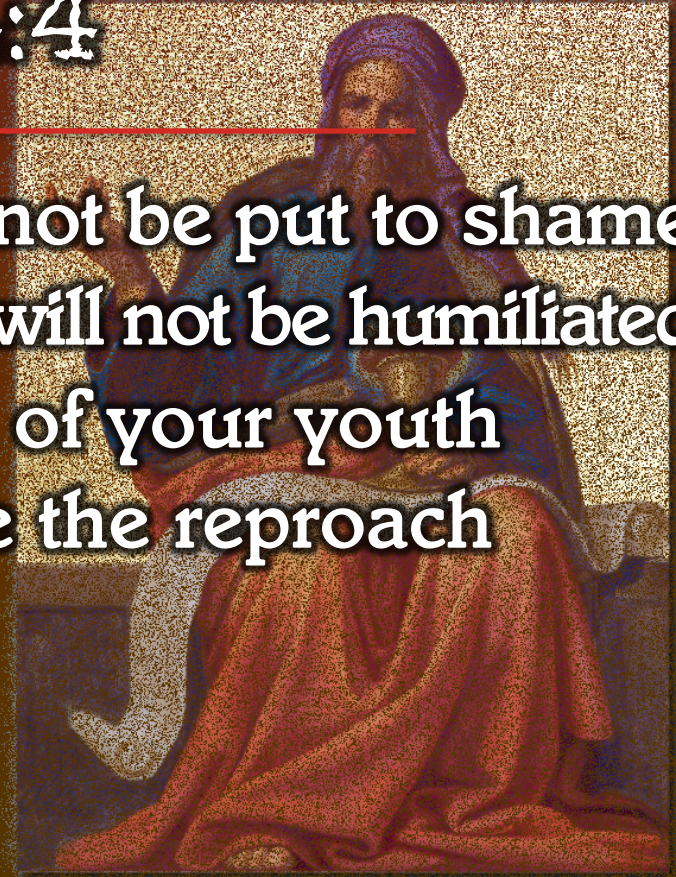
Malachi 3:1

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.



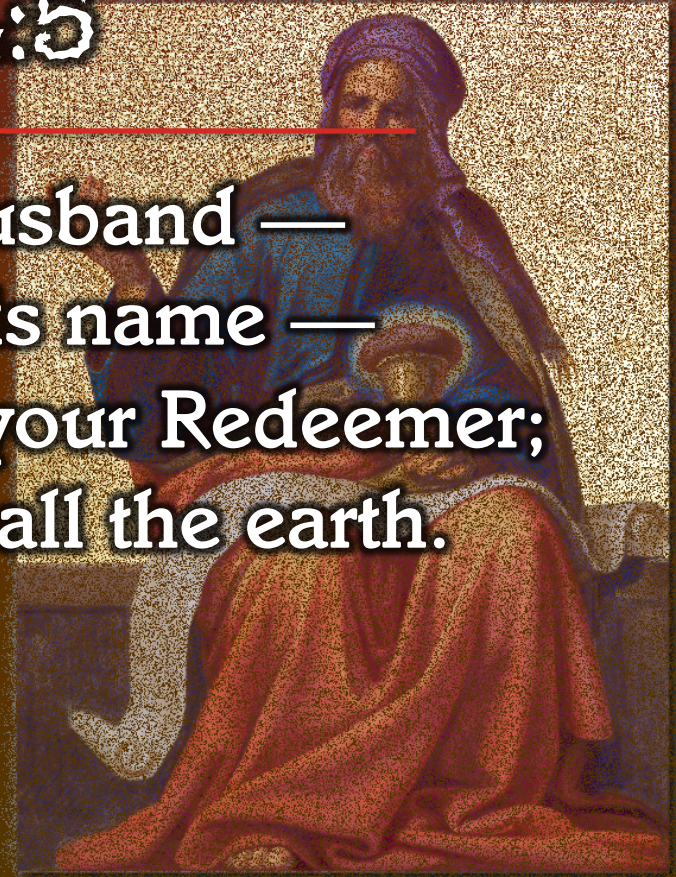
Isaiah 54:4

**“Do not be afraid; you will not be put to shame.
Do not fear disgrace; you will not be humiliated.
You will forget the shame of your youth
and remember no more the reproach
of your widowhood.**



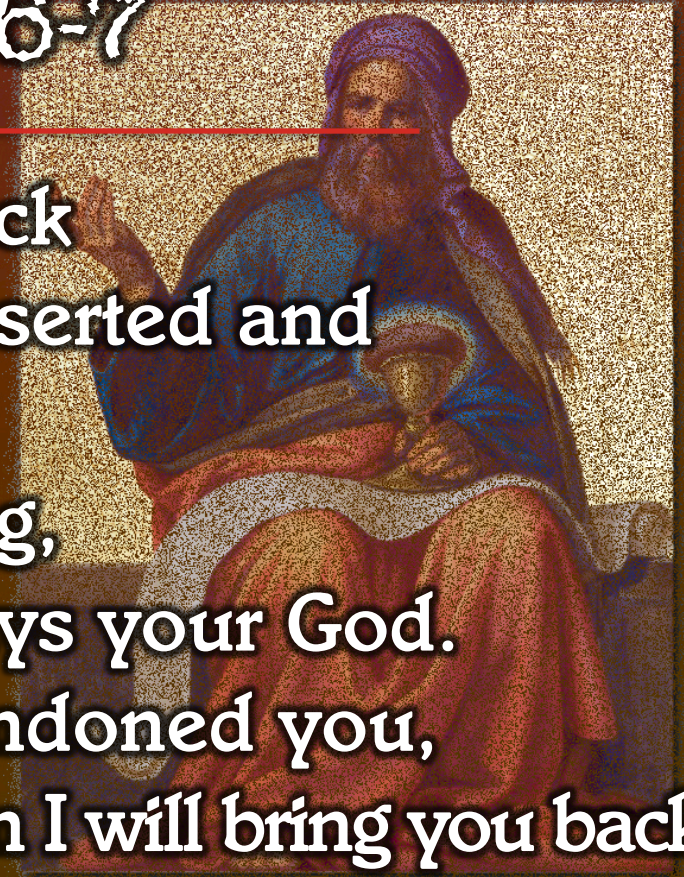
Isaiah 54:5

**“For your Maker is your husband —
the LORD Almighty is his name —
the Holy One of Israel is your Redeemer;
he is called the God of all the earth.**



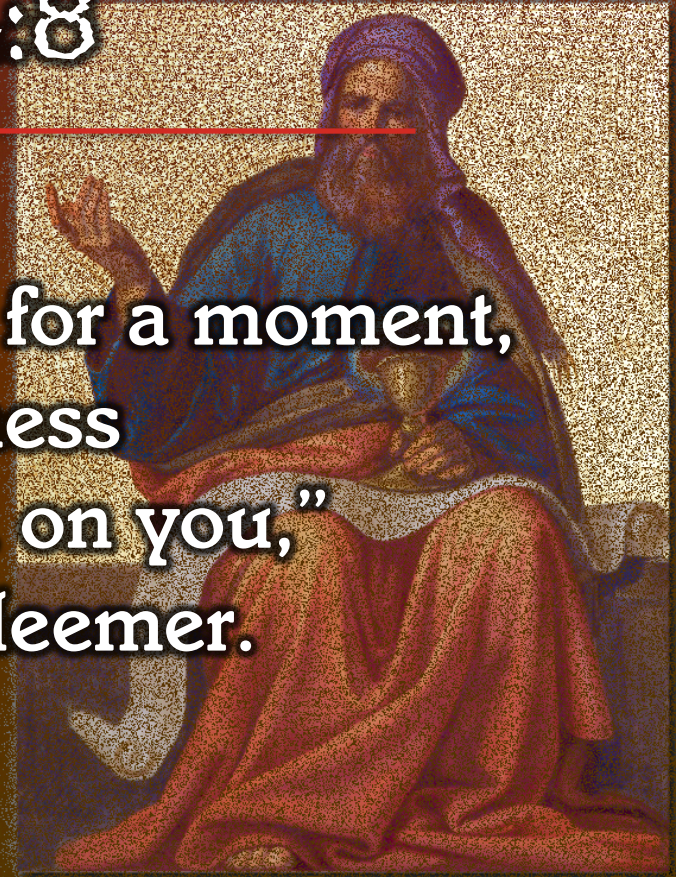
Isaiah 54:6-7

**“The LORD will call you back
as if you were a wife deserted and
distressed in spirit —
a wife who married young,
only to be rejected,” says your God.
“For a brief moment I abandoned you,
but with deep compassion I will bring you back.**



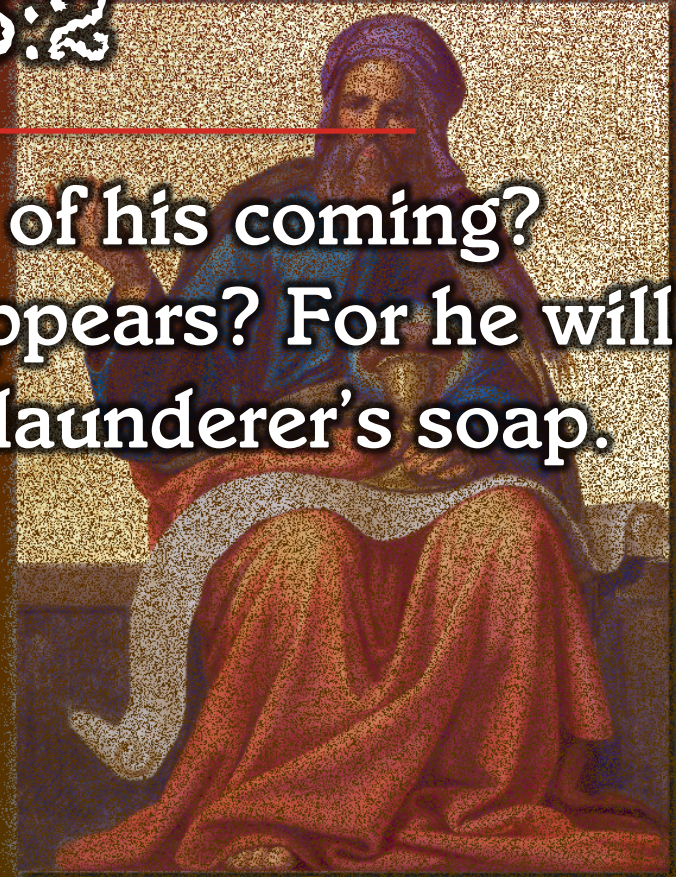
Isaiah 54:8

**“In a surge of anger
I hid my face from you for a moment,
but with everlasting kindness
I will have compassion on you,”
says the LORD your Redeemer.**



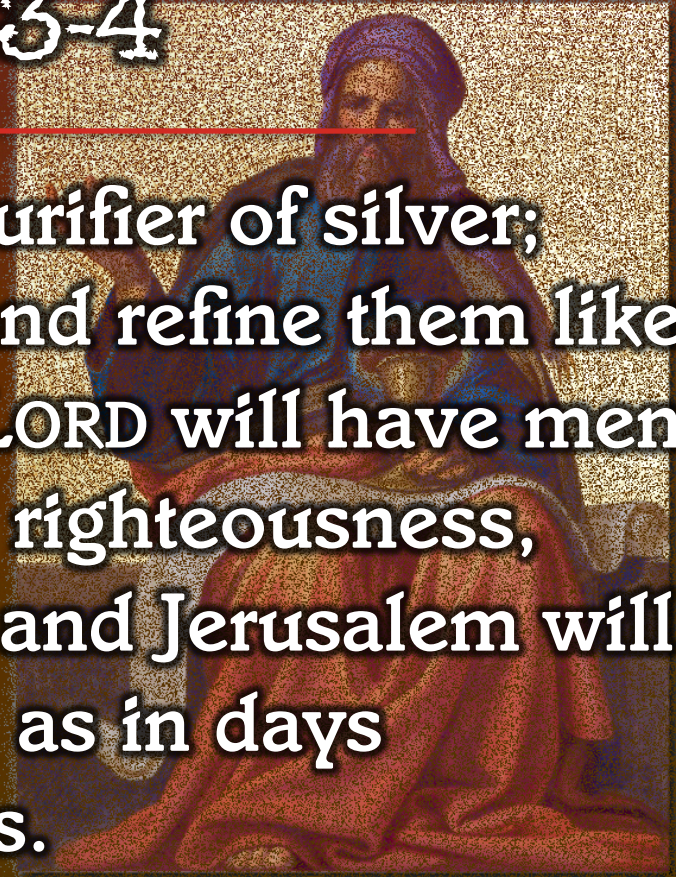
Malachi 3:2

But who can endure the day of his coming?
Who can stand when he appears? For he will
be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.



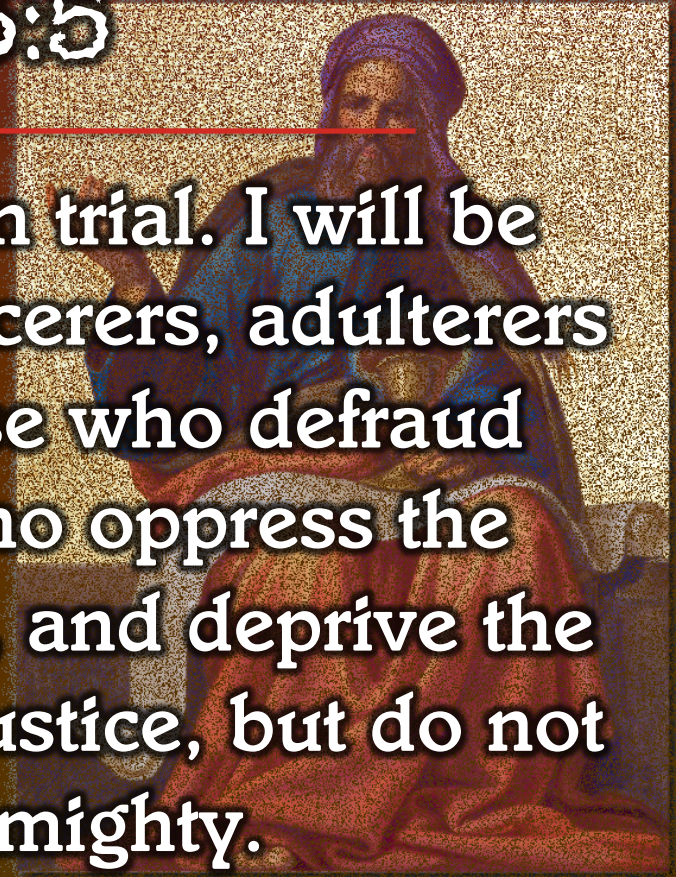
Malachi 3:3-4

He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.



Malachi 3:5

“So I will come to put you on trial. I will be quick to testify against sorcerers, adulterers and perjurers, against those who defraud laborers of their wages, who oppress the widows and the fatherless, and deprive the foreigners among you of justice, but do not fear me,” says the LORD Almighty.



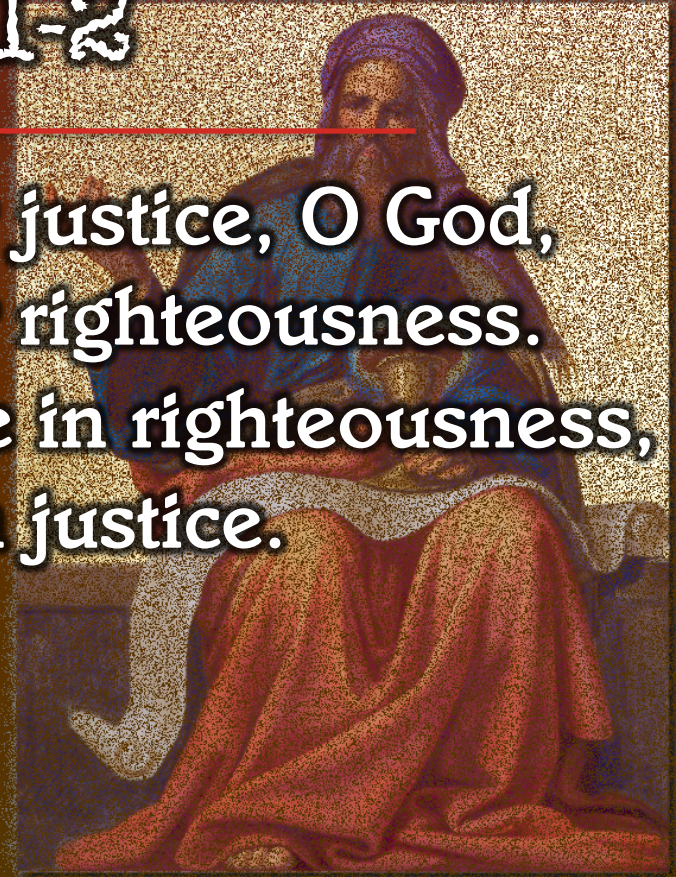
Do not oppress:

- ❖ Laborers
- ❖ Widows
- ❖ Orphans
- ❖ Foreigners



Psalm 72:1-2

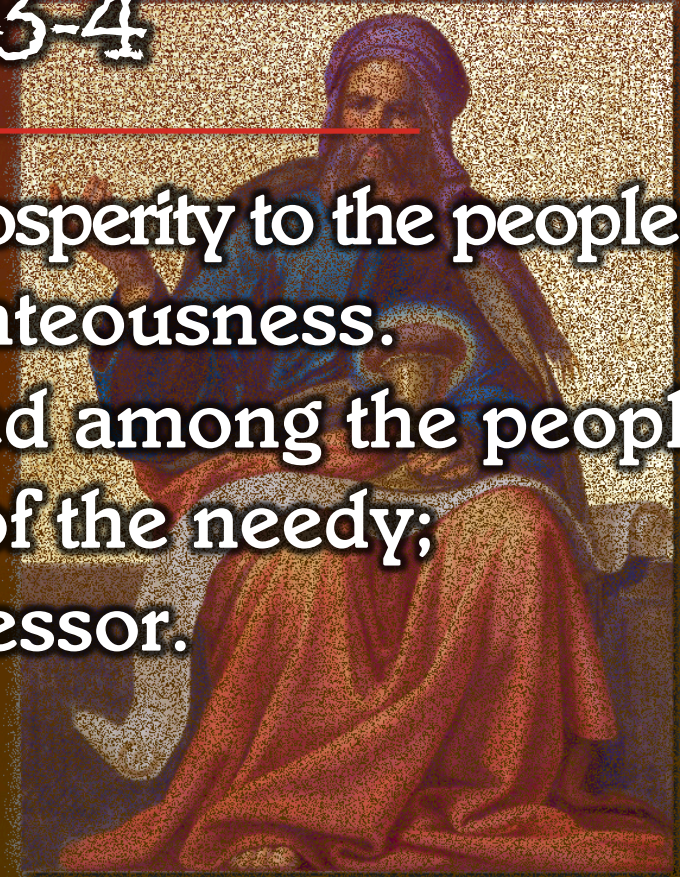
Endow the king with your justice, O God,
the royal son with your righteousness.
May he judge your people in righteousness,
your afflicted ones with justice.



Psalm 72:3-4

May the mountains bring prosperity to the people,
the hills the fruit of righteousness.

May he defend the afflicted among the people
and save the children of the needy;
may he crush the oppressor.



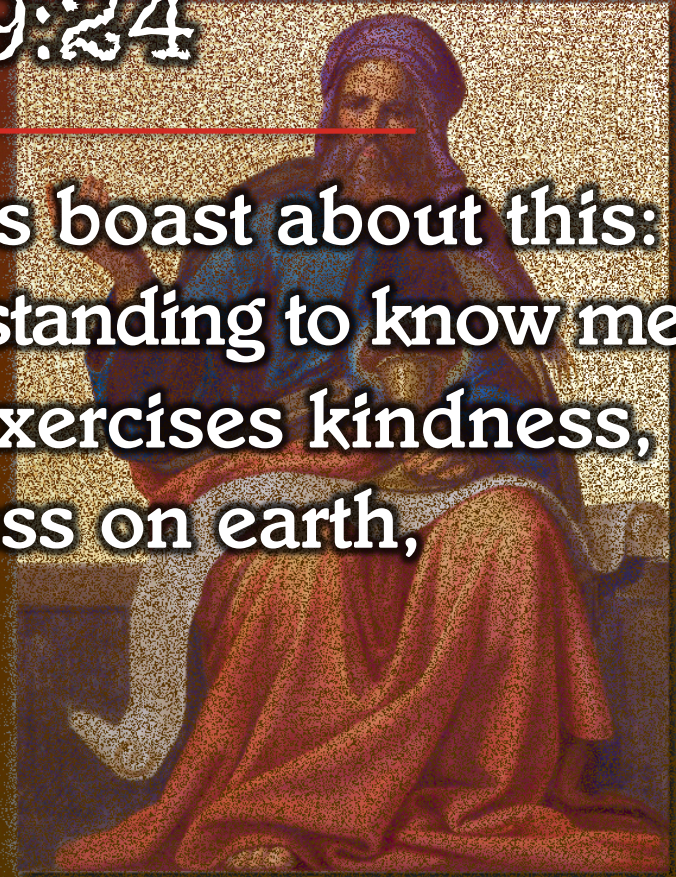
Jeremiah 9:23

“Let not the wise boast of their wisdom
or the strong boast of their strength
or the rich boast of their riches,



Jeremiah 9:24

**“but let the one who boasts boast about this:
that they have the understanding to know me,
that I am the LORD, who exercises kindness,
justice and righteousness on earth,
for in these I delight,”
declares the LORD.**



What have we learned?

- ❖ Marriage is God's institution.
- ❖ The Lord does not tolerate the exploitation of the weak.
- ❖ The Messiah who has come is coming again.





MALACHI

Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper



Two text boxes

❖ Xxxxxx

❖ Xxxxxx

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