

Authentic God-Honoring Teaching ***Malachi 2:1-9***

SECOND DISPUTE continued, 1:10-14

This complaint is clearly directed to a certain group, 2:1,4,7, 8, but. . .

A key role of the priests = Lv. 10:11, Neh. 8:7-11, Dt. 17:1,8-13

Authentic teachers want to honor God's name, 2:1,2a

- *See God's repeated concern over His name, 1:11,14, 2:2,5
- *What motives might folks have for teaching? Clearly these priests here weren't thinking of God's honor (cf. 1:6)
- *What can trip me off on my motives?

Authentic teachers speak truth to fix lives, 2:4-7

- *Note repetition of the "covenant w/Levi (in vss. 4,5,8). This refers to the Levitic priesthood. The "covenant of peace" (5) recalls Numbers 25 and Phinehas' zeal for God. He is thus the paradigm for priestly behavior. What he did physically needs regularly to be done figuratively!
- *Authentic teachers revere / stand in awe of God, 5 (1:6).
- *Authentic teachers walk with God, 6 (Micah 6:8b).
- *Authentic teachers lips offer true / righteous instruction, 6,7.
- *Authentic teachers turn people away from sin, 6 (Js. 5:19,20).
- *Authentic teachers = God's messengers and sought out, 7.

Inauthentic teachers will be despised, 2:2b,3, 8, 9

- *Inauthentic teachers make folks stumble / show partiality.
- *Inauthentic teachers are cursed by God, 2,3 and "despised" by people, 9 (talionic justice, as they had "despised," 1:6,7)
- *The high cost of bad teaching: Js. 3:1, Mtt. 18:6,7, Gal. 1:9, I Tim. 1:19,20, Rev. 2:14-16, 20-23, .