

Malachi 2:10-11 (NLT)

[10] Are we not all children of the same Father? Are we not all created by the same God? Then why do we betray each other, violating the covenant of our ancestors? [11] Judah has been unfaithful, and a detestable thing has been done in Israel and in Jerusalem. The men of Judah have defiled the Lord's beloved sanctuary by marrying women who worship idols.

Malachi 2:12-13 (NLT)

[12] May the Lord cut off from the nation of Israel every last man who has done this and yet brings an offering to the Lord of Heaven's Armies. [13] Here is another thing you do. You cover the Lord's altar with tears, weeping and groaning because he pays no attention to your offerings and doesn't accept them with pleasure.

Malachi 2:14 (NLT)

[14] You cry out, “Why doesn’t the Lord accept my worship?” I’ll tell you why! Because the Lord witnessed the vows you and your wife made when you were young. But you have been unfaithful to her, though she remained your faithful partner, the wife of your marriage vows.

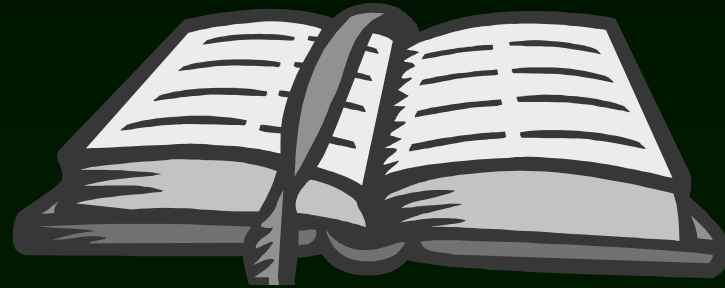
Malachi 2:15-16 (NLT)

[15] Didn't the Lord make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are his. And what does he want? Godly children from your union. So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth.

[16] "For I hate divorce!" says the Lord, the God of Israel. "To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty," says the Lord of Heaven's Armies. "So guard your heart; do not be unfaithful to your wife."

BROKEN COVENANT

Malachi 2:10-16



Deuteronomy 4:13-14 (NIV)

He declared to you **HIS COVENANT,**
the Ten Commandments, which he
commanded you to follow and then wrote
them on two stone tablets. [14] And the
Lord directed me at that time to teach you
the decrees and laws you are to follow in
the land that you are crossing the Jordan
to possess.

Deuteronomy 7:3-4 (NIV)

Do NOT intermarry with them. Do not give your daughters to their sons or take their daughters for your sons, [4] for **they will turn your sons AWAY from following ME** to serve other gods, and the Lord's anger will burn against you and will quickly destroy you.

Ezra 9:2-4 (NIV)

They have taken some of their daughters as wives for themselves and their sons, and have mingled the holy race with the peoples around them. **And the leaders and officials have led the way in this UNFAITHFULNESS.**" [3] When I heard this, I tore my tunic and cloak, pulled hair from my head and beard and sat down appalled. [4] Then **everyone who trembled at the words of the God of Israel gathered around me** because of **this UNFAITHFULNESS** of the exiles. And I sat there appalled until the evening sacrifice.

Nehemiah 13:25-26 (NIV)

I rebuked them and called curses down on them. I beat some of the men and pulled out their hair.

I made them take an oath in God's name and said: "You are not to give your daughters in marriage to their sons, nor are you to take their daughters in marriage for your sons or for yourselves. [26] **Was it not because of marriages like these that Solomon king of Israel sinned?** Among the many nations there was no king like him. He was loved by his God, and God made him king over all Israel, but even **he was led into sin by foreign women.**

2 Corinthians 6:14-15 (NIV)

Do **NOT** be yoked together with unbelievers. For what do righteousness and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness? [15] What harmony is there between Christ and Belial? What does a BELIEVER have in common with an UNBELIEVER?

Broke God's Covenant by:

- **marrying Unbelieving wives**
- **divorcing the wives of their Youth**

(Apple)

God Hates Divorce Because it...

- **is Direct Disobedience**
- **Dishonors our Worship**
- **Distorts the Gospel message**

(Ebie)

→ God is more interested
in our **GODLINESS**
than
in our **HAPPINESS**

→ Temporary, Quick, Happiness

- OR -

Long-Lasting, Growing, Joy

→ **Easy** is NOT always **Good**

- **AND** -

Hard in NOT always **Bad**

We cannot win Any Spiritual Battle unless we...

- **admit it is Sin**
- **learn Total Dependence on God's Strength**
- **hate for OUR sin**
- **develop a growing Desire for Holiness**

Psalm 51:16-17 (NIV)

**You do NOT delight in sacrifice, or
I would bring it; you do not take
pleasure in burnt offerings. [17]**

**The sacrifices of God
are a broken spirit;
a broken and contrite heart,
O God, you will not despise.**

QUESTIONS

1. Why does God give us such strong warnings about marrying unbelievers?
2. Why is God so strongly against Divorce?
3. What hope is there for the person who has been divorced or has married an unbeliever?