

Why Loyalty in Marriage Matters

Malachi 2:10-16

God wants you to protect your marriage with faithfulness, to reflect His purpose and worship Him in it.

You Must Renew Your Loyalty to:

1. Your God, who saves you, and loyalty to your spiritual family of believers, for you need to reflect your unique spiritual identity (2:10-12).

A. Don't destroy your marriage (2:10).

B. Don't marry unbelievers, such a union desecrates God's holiness (2:11).

C. Sinful, hypocritical religious rituals may cut one off from God's blessings (2:12).

2. Your spouse, your companion by covenant (2:13-14).

A. Emotionalism and self-pity are the wrong way to move God, submissive obedience blesses God (2:13).

B. Self-righteous defenses of your sin do not change God's witness to your marriage vows (2:14).

3. God's purpose for marriage (2:15-16).

A. God designed the marriage of believers to train a heritage of Godly descendants (2:15).

B. God loves marriage, so safeguard your marriage from divorce's treachery (2:16).

- Where do you need to grow in loyalty? Are you growing in your loyalty to your God, your spouse, and to the good of God's people? God wants genuine worship, are you living like His will is more valuable than yours?
- *Singles, make the conviction to never marry an unbeliever, which leads your kids away from the Lord. Don't flirt with or date unbelievers, for where you give your heart away to unbelievers you will destroy your convictions to not marry unbelievers.*
- *Dads, you give your daughter away in marriage, so make sure you protect her when suitors try to steal her heart away.*
- *Singles and married couples, be committed to the sacredness of marriage, don't let it be compromised. Save for it and once married, treasure it. Marriage is a covenant commitment of one man and one woman until death do you part. Selfish love is always looking for someone or something better and that will turn your heart away from your spouse.*