



## **Sermon Title: HOW DOES GOD RESPOND WHEN YOU DESPISE HIS NAME?**

**SCRIPTURE:** Malachi 2:1-9

**DATE:** February 24, 2019

- **He removes blessings from and sends curse to those who refuse to give glory to His Name (vv.1-4)**

<sup>1</sup> “And now, O priests, this command is for you. <sup>2</sup> If you will not listen, if you will not take it to heart to give honor to my name, says the Lord of hosts, then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings. Indeed, I have already cursed them, because you do not lay it to heart. <sup>3</sup> Behold, I will rebuke your offspring, and spread dung on your faces, the dung of your offerings, and you shall be taken away with it. <sup>4</sup> So shall you know that I have sent this command to you, that my covenant with Levi may stand, says the Lord of hosts.

- **He reminds His messengers to teach and live out the truth (vv.5-7)**

<sup>5</sup> My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him. It was a covenant of fear, and he feared me. He stood in awe of my name. <sup>6</sup> True instruction was in his mouth, and no wrong was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many from iniquity. <sup>7</sup> For the lips of a priest should guard knowledge, and people should seek instruction from his mouth, for he is the messenger of the Lord of hosts.

- **He treats with contempt those who continue to despise His name (vv.8-9)**

<sup>8</sup> But you have turned aside from the way. You have caused many to stumble by your instruction. You have corrupted the covenant of Levi, says the Lord of hosts, <sup>9</sup> and so I make you despised and abased before all the people, inasmuch as you do not keep my ways but show partiality in your instruction.”