

# **A Study of the Prophets**

## **O.T. Survey Lesson 201--Malachi 1:1-2:16**

**Introduction:** Malachi, whose name means "my messenger" was the last literary prophet of the O.T. era. His message was directed to a people who were apathetic to God's will. In this lesson we see this disrespect for God manifest in the neglect of proper worship among the priests; and in the flagrant disregard of God's teaching about marrying outside the Israelite nation.

**Lesson aim:** To warn of the dangers of spiritual apathy.

### **God's love and the contempt of His name-- Malachi 1:1-2:9**

1. With what affirmation does God address the Israelites through Malachi? (1:2) How had God demonstrated that love?
2. Would Edom be able to overrule the purpose of God for that nation? (v. 4) What impact should this have on Israel? (v. 5)
3. On what basis then should God have been honored? (v. 6) Yet, how had the priests treated Him?
4. How were the priests despising God's name? (v. 7) How were they defiling God? What kind of sacrifices were they offering on the altar? (v. 8) Could they expect God to show them favor in this? (v. 9)
5. What did God say He wished would happen? (v. 10) How did God say He would only be worshipped? (v. 11)
6. What comments of the priests revealed their attitude toward the Lord? (v. 13) What did God pronounce upon the people who would not give God the best offerings they had vowed to give?

7. What warning did God issue to the priests? (2:1-4)
8. How had Levi treated God? (v. 5) What had God made with him? What things did God say about Levi? (v. 5-6)
9. Consequently, how had God treated them? (v. 9)

### **Unscriptural marriages--Malachi 2:10-17**

1. To what facts does God appeal in this section? (v. 10) How were the Jews profaning the covenant of God? (v. 10) What in particular were they doing? (v. 11)
2. What did God threaten to do to the man who did such? (v. 12)
3. In spite of their disobedience, what were the people doing? (v. 13) Why did God say He would refuse to accept their offerings? (v. 14)
4. Who had not been guilty of Scripturally divorcing his wife? (v. 15) What did God urge the men to do?
5. What did God reveal was His attitude toward divorce? (v. 16)