

***“Marriage Matters”***  
*A Cry for Authentic Faith • pt. 4*  
Malachi 2:10-16

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INTRODUCTION

- healthy homes...or heart-broken homes?
  
- the church: ministering to the world, or mirroring the world?
  
- “dealing treacherously” ... bringing compromise

*1. The heart of the matter*

- why are marriage and divorce such important issues to God?
  - a. *MARRIAGE* — compromise leading to sin reveals a flippant response to God’s Word.
    - + God’s will regarding marriage is explicitly stated  
Deut. 7:1-4

“...the Mosaic covenant was by Malachi’s time understood as a quaint, archaic document too restrictive to be taken seriously and inapplicable to a ‘modern’ age—virtually the same way that most people in modern Western societies view the Bible today.”  
— Douglas Stuart

Ezr. 9:1-2; 1 Cor. 7:39; 2 Cor. 6:14-15

b. *DIVORCE* — compromise leading to sin brings shame to God’s name.

+ God’s character: a covenant-keeper  
Mal. 2:14, 16; Mt. 19:6, 8-9

*2. A matter of the heart*

- treachery & betrayal in the family
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- treachery & betrayal before God
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- treachery & betrayal in marriage

APPLICATION

+ for those who have been divorced...

+ for those who are married...  
1 Ki. 11:1-2