

RETURN TO ME

PLAYING WITH FIRE

Malachi 2:1-9 Jeff Schreve

Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe; for our God is a consuming fire. Hebrews 12:28-29

Are you playing fast and loose with God, the consuming fire?

1. There are telltale signs that you are playing with fire.

And now, this commandment is for you, O priests. "If you do not listen, and if you do not take it to heart to give honor to My name," says the LORD of hosts ... Malachi 2:1-2

A. You are not listening to God.

B. You are not taking God's warnings to heart.

C. You are not honoring God's great name.

2. There are terrible consequences for playing with fire.

"... then I will send the curse upon you, and I will curse your blessings; and indeed, I have cursed them already, because you are not taking it to heart. Behold, I am going to rebuke your offspring, and I will spread refuse on your faces, the refuse of your feasts; and you will be taken away with it." Malachi 2:2-3

"But the flesh of the bull and its hide and its refuse, you shall burn with fire outside the camp; it is a sin offering." Exodus 29:14

"But you have turned from the correct path and caused many to stumble over my teachings. You have corrupted the promise made to Levi," says the LORD of Armies. So I have made you disgusting, and I have humiliated you in front of all the people, because you have not followed my ways. You have been unfair when applying my teachings." Malachi 2:8-9 GW

A. God's patience will run out.

B. God's judgment will fall.

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked. Galatians 6:7

C. God's Word will stand.

"Then you will know that I have sent this commandment to you, that My covenant may continue with Levi," says the LORD of hosts. Malachi 2:4

3. There are traceable causes to playing with fire.

"My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him as an object of reverence; so he revered Me, and stood in awe of My name." Malachi 2:5

A. You have lost the wonder of His covenant.

"My covenant with him was one of life and peace, and I gave them to him as an object of reverence; so he revered Me, and stood in awe of My name." Malachi 2:5

B. You have lost the blessing of His calling.

"True instruction was in his mouth, and unrighteousness was not found on his lips; he walked with Me in peace and uprightness, and he turned many back from iniquity. For the lips of a priest should preserve knowledge, and men should seek instruction from his mouth; for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts." Malachi 2:6-7

C. You have lost the fear of His name.

"... for I am a great King," says the LORD of hosts, "and My name is feared among the nations." Malachi 1:14

Will you get honest and get right?