

LEADING JUSTLY

Introduction

Just leaders act honorably toward constituents. How do just leaders act toward others? In this lesson, Malachi warns the priests in Jerusalem to turn from their evil ways, revere God, and to promote godly justice. God blesses honest leaders.

Aim for Change

During this lesson, you will:

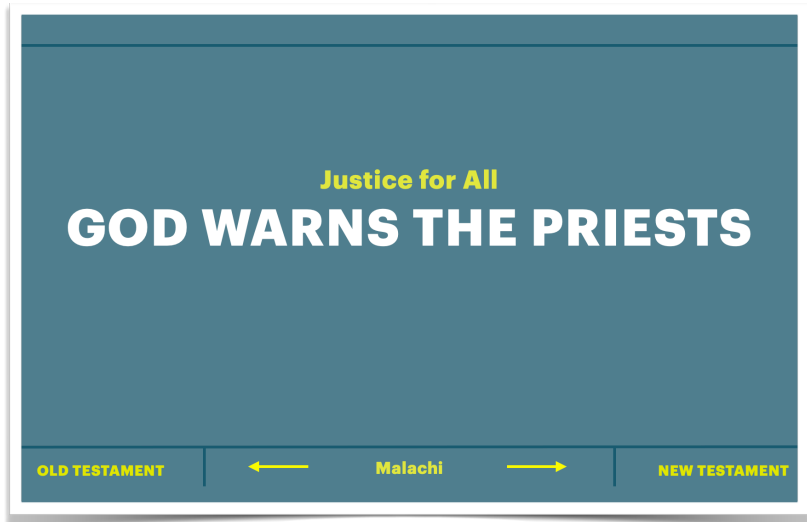
- Determine the significance of justice for spiritual leadership
- Affirm the value of covenanted reverence of God for leadership
- Practice just spiritual leadership

Scripture

(KJV) Malachi 2:1-9; 3:5-6

Devotional Reading,

Psalms 50:1-15



About Today's Lesson...

Godly leaders have a special responsibility to lead God's people honorably. And we should consider it an honor to receive the special gifts of God through Jesus Christ. These gifts from God are to be used "For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:" (Ephesians 4:12, KJV).

Today's lesson, taken from the book of Malachi, focuses on wayward priests and their failed leadership practices. After returning from many years of captivity, God's chosen people (the Jews) had lost their zeal for worship, and this was in part due to church leadership that went against God's covenanted guidance for their lives. Priestly leaders had caused the people to "stumble" in their relationship with God. But God, through Malachi, once again seeks to restore the covenanted relationship with His people.

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