

Malachi – Chapter 2

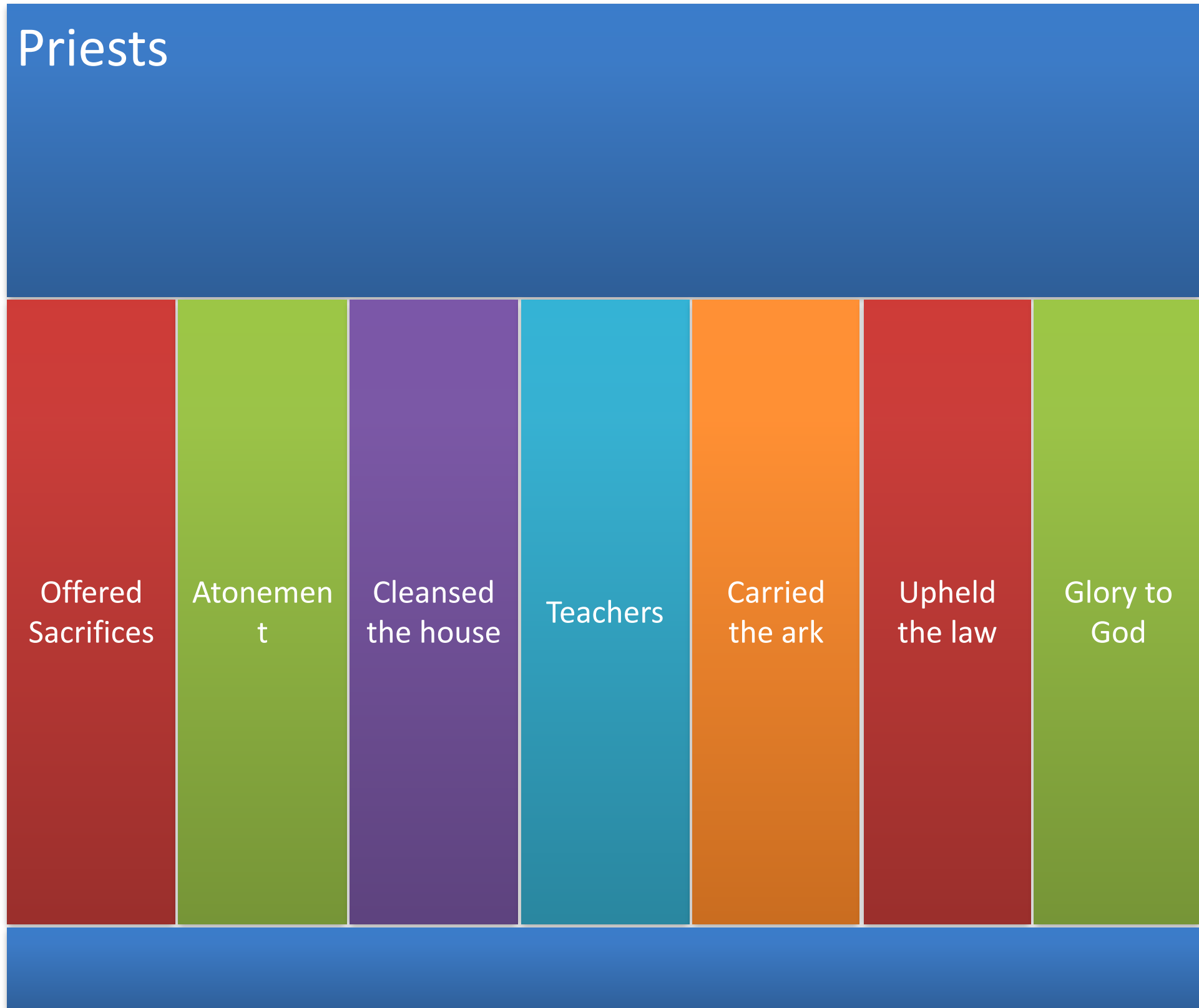
“O ye priests,
this commandment is for you”

**“A good head
and a good
heart are
always a
formidable
combination”**



Why The Priests

1. Lead the worship for the people
2. Bring the nation to God



Before The Exile

- Jeremiah 5:30-31
 - The priests bear rule by their means
 - My people love to have it so
- Ezekiel 34:1-10
 - Feed themselves (v2)
 - Feed not the flock (v3)
 - Do not bind up or heal (v4)
 - There is no shepherd (v5)
 - Flock is scattered (v6)
 - Flock become a prey (v7)
 - Feed themselves (v8)
 - Fouled with you feet (v19)

Malachi 2:8

“But ye are departed out of the way; ye have caused many to stumble at the law; ye have corrupted the covenant of Levi, saith the LORD of hosts.”

1. Departed out of the way
2. Caused many to stumble
3. Corrupted the covenant of Levi

The Problem

**“The heart of the problem, is a problem
with the heart”**

Isaiah 29:13 Wherefore the Lord said, Forasmuch as this people draw near *me* with their mouth, and with their lips do honour me, but have removed their heart far from me

Jeremiah 4:4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your heart, ye men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem: lest my fury come forth like fire, and burn that none can quench it, because of the evil of your doings.

Lay it to heart

- If ye will not hear
 - If ye will not lay it to heart
 - Genesis 2:8 → put
 - Genesis 4:15 → set
 - Allow God to work with your heart
- } God's Doing
- Deuteronomy 5:1,29
 - Hear, Learn, Keep & Do
 - Deuteronomy 6:4-9, 25
 - Words of God in our hearts
 - Deuteronomy 8:1-3
 - What is in our hearts?
 - Do we live by the word of God?
 - Do we allow God to work with our heart?

Lay it to heart

- Jeremiah 17:5-10
- Cursed if our heart departs from God
- Blessed if we put our trust in God
- The heart is deceitful above all things – who can know it? → God
- We can't deceive God we can only deceive ourselves

Give Glory...

- If ye will not hear
- If ye will not lay it to heart



- To give glory unto my name
 - Malachi 1:6 → “Despised my name”
 - Understanding and knowing God (Jeremiah 9)
- To give glory unto my name → living according to God’s character
 - Exodus 33:19, 34:6
 - Numbers 14:21
 - Galatians 5:22-24
 - Revelation 14:1

Curse Blessings

- If we don't do these things, God will curse our blessings.
- Curse → A great loathing
- Blessing → A primitive root; to *kneel*; by implication to *bless* God (as an act of adoration)
- God will curse their worship
- Chapter 1
 - Polluted bread (v7)
 - Blind/Lame/sick (v8)
 - No pleasure (v10)
- This people honour me with their lips but their heart is far from me

Levi

- “that my
- Exodus 32 side?”
- Deuteronomy no part in the LORD the LORD

Firstborn



Levites



Our Inheritance

- Hebrews 12:23 → ecclesia of the firstborn

“To the general assembly and ecclesia of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,”

Israel

Levi

Us

Israel

Phinehas

“My covenant was with him of life & peace”

One individual → Phinehas

Numbers 25:12-13

1. Covenant of Peace
2. His seed after him... an everlasting priesthood
 - Everlasting = *o-lawm'*, *o-lawm'- concealed*, a hidden time; generally time *out of mind* (past or future)
 - The priesthood in the kingdom age will be the Melchiadok's priesthood ruled by Christ

Phinehas

No fear =
Israel @time
of Malachi



Fear =
Egyptians/
Phinehas



Perfect love
= 1 John 4:18

Reverence & Fear

“Behold the goodness & severity of God”

- Understood the name of God
 - Stood in awe of his name (v5)
 - Honour, praise & reverence
 - What is man that thou art mindful of him?
 - A name above every name that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bow.

Phinehas, Example

1. He held the LORD in great reverence
2. He glorified the LORD's name
3. The law of truth was in his mouth
4. Iniquity was not found in his lips
5. He walked with me in peace
6. He walked with me in equity
(uprightness)
7. He turned many away from iniquity

Plan for Success

1

- Allow God to work in your life

2

- Allow God to work with your heart

3

- Let perfect love cast out fear

Result

- A place in the promise land

Malachi 2:7

“

For the priest's lips should keep knowledge, and they should seek the law at his mouth: for he is the messenger of the LORD of hosts ”

The Lord Jesus Christ: Isaiah 11:2, 50:4-5

- Spirit of knowledge
- Ear to hear
- Opened mine ear
- Was not rebellious

One Shepherd

- Ezekiel 34:20-25
- God's promise to his people
 - One shepherd
 - He shall feed them
 - LORD will be their God
 - Make with them a covenant of peace

Let this mind::

- Romans 8:5 → to be spiritually minded is life & peace
- Philippians 2:5 → Let this mind be in you that was also in Christ
- Romans 12:2 → Be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind

**“We delight in
the beauty of
the butterfly but
rarely admit the
changes it has
gone through to
achieve that
beauty”**



2Corinthians 4:16-18

...but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.