

# Enjoy Life and Peace!

Malachi 2:1-9

LG Questions for 05/03/09

## Getting Started

1) **Wise Investing.** a) Pick up enough bank deposit slips for everyone in your group. Ask them to list on their slips what they're investing their lives in (work, church, hobbies, etc.) Take turns sharing what you've listed, if you're happy with your choices, and anything you might change. b) Finish by reading what Malachi 2:1-9 says about God's place in the priorities of Israel's leaders.

## Getting into the Bible

2) **Opportunity for Blessing.** a) Read Malachi 2:5-7 and describe the nature of God's covenant with the priests and Levites of Israel. What was their first priority (2:6) and how was it intended to bless God's people? (2:5)? b) What similar terms are used to describe followers of Jesus (1 Peter 2:5, 9) and how should our commitment to Him bless us and those who know us? (Galatians 5:16-23 and 1 Peter 2:11-12)

3) **Responsibility of Stewardship.** a) Read Malachi 2:1-2, 8. How effective were the priests and Levites in teaching the truth to God's people? Why? See the rest of Malachi for specific examples. b) What similar duties do we have and what similar dangers do we face as believers today? (Philippians 2:12-16 and James 1:22-27) Name one way you could improve as a role model.

4) **Inevitability of Consequences.** a) Read Malachi 2:3-4, 9. What was the reason for God's warning in this passage (2:4b). Did it come from anger or love? Explain. b) What consequences were they already suffering (2:9) and what even greater consequences did they still risk? (2:3)? c) Do you think these warnings are applicable to us today? If so, in what sense?

## Getting Practical

5) **Words of Warning.** As a safeguard against sin and a stimulus to healthy living, memorize Galatians 6:7-8 in a translation of your choosing. Practice it until you can say it smoothly enough to recite at your next life group meeting.