Appeal to Backsliders

1.			_ God's	1	:2-5		
	a.	Claim: "I have	you." 1:2a	l			
	b.	Complaint: "How have \	/ou	us?" 1	:2b		
		Refute: I loved				:2c-4	
		Hope: YAHWEH will be beyond Israel. 1:5					
2.			_ God's		:6-2:9		
	a.	Claim: "Where is My	?"	oriests wh	0	My	1:6a
	b.	Complaint: "How have v	ve		Your		_ ?" 1:6b
	C.	Refute: You say, "The _	[ta	able] of YA	HWEH is t	o be	" 1:7-2:9
	d.	Hope: My	will be		among the	e	! 1:11
3.			_ God's	2	2:10-16		
		a. Claim: You	the alter	with		. 2:13	
		b. Complaint: "Why do	You reject our _		?" 2:1	4a	
		c. Refute: You have de	-)-12, 14b-16
4.					-		
		a. Claim: Your	have		YAHWE	EH. 2:17a	
		b. Complaint: "How ha					
		c. Refute: You say, "Eve					" 2:17c
		d. Hope: Behold, the _					
5.			_ God's	3	3:7-12		
		a. Claim: "You are	Me!"	3:7a, 8a			
		b. Complaint: "How ha	ve we	You	?" 3:7b, 8b		
		c. Refute: In	and		. 3:8c-10a		
		d. Hope: All the	will cal	l you		3:10b-12	
6.			_ God's	3	3:13-4:6		
		a. Claim: "Your have been arrogant against Me". 3:13a					
		b. Complaint: "What ha		_	_		
		c. Refute: You have sa		_			3:14-15
		d. Hope: Those who	YA	HWEH wil	l be	3	:16-4:6



Appeal to Backsliders

- 1. Have you ever asked God the question, "How have you loved me(us)?" In what ways did the circumstances of life draw you away from the truth of God's word? How has God shown his love for you? Read Romans 8:1, 2 Corinthians 5:14-17, Galatians 2:20. Discuss the hope God's love provides for mankind.
- 2. Compared with the condemned worship in Malachi, discuss the requirements of true worship in the nation of Israel. (Leviticus) How concerned was God with the manner in which he was worshipped? Why does God get to make the rules for acceptable worship? In what way might our worship fall short of God's standard? In what ways is our worship a "fragrant offering, acceptable to the Lord?"
- 3. Why does God compare idolatry to adultery? How did the divorcing Israelites women to marry foreign wives violate God's covenant? What is God's view on divorce, according to Malachi 2:16? How does the world's view of divorce weaken our thinking on the issue? How can we uphold marriage according to God's word? Read and discuss 2 Corinthians 6:14–18 in light of Malachi.
- **4.** Looking at Malachi 2:1, how may our words have questioned the holiness of God? What makes us have this same feeling that the tables have turned so that good is evil and evil is good? What are some verses that help correct our flawed thinking and turn our hope back to a holy and just God!
- 5. How does our stewardship of God's resources affect and reflect our worship of Him?
- **6.** Discuss the attitude of service to the Lord and how it should be expressed by those who fear God.

