TRUSTING Malachi 2:10-17)

spiritual – broken covenant; idol worship

<u>social</u> – same careless/carefree attitude toward <u>marriage</u> covenants

God's Response

a) I HATE when good faith is violate or trust is betrayed.

b) I am SICK of being portrayed as "not caring" about this issue.

"break faith" (NIV) <u>bgd</u> = robe/covering > to <u>conceal</u> true identity or true intention i.e. to *trick* or *deceive* using fake gestures or promises.

The POWER of Promise

- The marriage vow provides <u>agenda</u> and <u>direction</u>
- All issues are either <u>supportive</u> or <u>subversive</u> of that vow
- This actually provides great <u>simplicity</u> and <u>freedom</u> for life.

The COMMITMENT of Covenant

- The issue of marriage must be thoroughly <u>examined</u> and sincerely <u>heartfelt</u>.
- You must be willing to <u>trust</u> and <u>be trusted</u> COMPLETELY
- "guard yourself in spirit" = Do not accept anything less than this ideal!



WHEN YOU TRUST, you will either be ripped off or rewarded. This is the **nature** and **reality** of trust.

PAINFUL PARADOX

- We cannot have <u>union</u> if we withhold our heart.
- When trust is broken, it <u>can</u> be <u>mended</u> and <u>restored</u>!



TRUSTING GOD WITH MARRIAGE ISSUES?

- √ Trust his <u>advice</u>...
- √ Trust his **<u>guidance</u>**...
- ✓ Trust him when your companion is <u>untrustworthy</u>.
- ✓ Trust his <u>motive</u> (even) when you do not understand his plan.