

Marriage – Part 2 - Summary
(LFL-M-LDL)
What is Marriage? Why is Marriage?

Malachi 2:13 (NKJV)

13 And this is the second thing you do:
You cover the altar of the LORD with tears,
With weeping and crying;

Malachi **is** pointing out that the second area of great offense to the institution of marriage occurs when we are before God in prayer. He immediately begins to recognize the emotion that accompanies this institution—and we must be aware of and cautioned regarding emotions that saturate marriage.

Tears:

You cover the altar of the LORD with tears

Tears: **dim'âh**, *dim-aw'*;—tears. **tears**, i.e., the bodily fluid that comes out of eyes as a basal response (basic, base, normal, understandable response) to emotional distress or physical pain; note: this has the associative meanings of sorrow, distress, or repentance;

Treachery brings tears! (Men may say, I don't cry. Well, the escalation of these emotions occurs whether tears are associated with them or not. –And men do cry)

Consider these three examples of (**Dimah**):

Psalms 39:12 (NKJV) 12 "...Do not be silent at my tears (**Dimah**);

Psalms 6:6–7 (NKJV) 6 ...I drench my couch with my tears (**Dimah**)

Ecclesiastes 4:1 (NKJV) And look! The tears (**Dimah**) of the oppressed,

Be careful not to read Malachi and come away with the conclusion that all of the tears, weeping, and crying at the altar of the Lord are because of guilt. Ecclesiastes is addressing those tears, weeping, and crying of the innocent, tears caused by the treacherous person. There are torrents of tears at the altar of the Lord from the victim, from the oppressed, who has repented and is seeing comfort. God sees those tears and does not turn away from them.

Weeping:

13 ...You cover the altar of the LORD with...With weeping...

b^ekîy, *bek-ee'*; a weeping; by analogy, a dripping:—overflowing

bek-ee' - "to make a great lamentation,"

weeping, the act of making expressions of sorrow, both noises and tears from the eyes . note: the associative meaning can be either sorrow, repentance from sin, or a combination of both;

Weeping refers not just to the tears, but also to the audible sounds of sorrow that accompany the tears. You may look at it as the next level of intensity of sorrowful and hopefully repentant expression. Malachi is making sure that we understand the impact of escalating emotions In marriage.

2 Kings 20:1–3 (NKJV) And Hezekiah **wept bitterly** (*bek-ee'*).

That is the same word that is used by Malachi. Is a deep sorrow, sadness, and often fear that accompanies words beckoning God's intervention. But in the case of Malachi, with tears are not accompanied with repentance and a seeking of truth. These same depths of emotion can be generated by someone who is guilty of treachery. Malachi is say to us, don't be that person!

Psalms 6:8–10 (NKJV) For the LORD has heard the voice of my **weeping** (*bek-ee'*).

Crying:

13 You cover the altar of the LORD with ... crying;

The emotional response of tears at this highest level.

Crying: Hebrew: *'ănâqâh*, *an-aw-kaw'*

groaning, sighing, wailing, i.e., the sounds of persons in grief or physical distress (Ps 12:6[EB 5]; 79:11; 102:21)

This specific word for crying is only used four times in the Old Testament, and it is most interesting that one of those four times is here in Malachi having to do with the breakdown of the institution of marriage. God understands!!!!

Psalms 79: (NKJV) 11 Let the **groaning** (*an-aw-kaw'*, crying), of the prisoner come before You;
According to the greatness of Your power
Preserve those who are appointed to die;

Psalms 102: (NKJV) 20 To hear the **groaning** (*an-aw-kaw'*, crying) of the prisoner,
To release those appointed to death,

Psalms 12: (NKJV) 5 "For the oppression of the poor, for the **sighing** (*an-aw-kaw'*, crying) of the needy,
Now I will arise," says the LORD;
"I will set *him* in the safety for which he yearns."