



Lesson #15: El Echad

The name “*El Echad*” makes its most pressing appearance in Malachi 2. In that time the people of Judah had moved far away from God. They were spiritually bankrupt – their priests had failed to do what God ordained them to do, to _____! (Malachi 2:7-8). As a result of the priest’s failures, the people were not living in a way that pleased God. The priests had broken the covenant and so had the people. The men and women of Judah were trying to live in two worlds – the _____ and the _____. It is in the midst of this spiritual and social maelstrom that Malachi asked a pressing question. “*Have we not all one father? hath not one God created us?*” (Malachi 2:10). Here we see the name “*El Echad*” making an appearance. The name “*El Echad*” means “_____.”

When God reveals himself to the nation of Judah as “*El Echad*” He is speaking to a group of people living on divided ground. They were trying to multi-task in their spiritual walk. The truth of this name, as it was communicated in Malachi 2, is that because *El Echad* is the one God we must give him our _____.

AS THE GOD OF THE _____, EL ECHAD COMMANDS YOUR ATTENTION

The God whose covenant the people of Judah were breaking in Malachi 2 was the same God who made the covenant with the patriarchs. He had not changed, but somewhere along the way the people certainly had.

- A. **We fail to _____ to God’s covenant promises** (Mal. 2:2a)
One great danger of being an earth bound believer is that the voice of God in Scripture may be drowned out by other voices. One of the most frightening things in the life of a Christian is the possibility that one day you may wake up and read the sacred page only to hear _____ from God.
- B. **We fail to have a _____ for God’s covenant glory** (Mal. 2:2b)
The issue is not merely whether the glory of God is the explicit unifying theme of the believer’s message, but whether there lies on his _____ a burden to see God glorified. What could possibly be more valuable than having an unwavering commitment to the glory of *El Echad*?

AS THE GOD OF _____, EL ECHAD COMMANDS YOUR ATTENTION

This God of the covenant is the same God who created everything!

- A. ***El Echad* is the _____ creator God**
Malachi’s declaration in 2:10 is a declaration of _____, the belief in one God. This was very unique in the time of the ancient Jews because almost everybody was polytheistic. They believed in many gods and even accept the gods of others as true gods. . However, the God of the Bible claims to be the “*one God*,” the only God. In fact, this was the great scheme (or declaration of Israel). The Israelite children were to memorize this great declaration (Deut. 6:4)
- B. ***El Echad* is the _____ creator God**
The Hebrew word “*Echad*” means “a collective, _____, or united one.” If the Lord is one, then how are we to understand the Trinity? Though the word “Trinity” is not found in the Bible, the concept certainly is. The Father, Jesus Christ, and the Holy Spirit, are referred to as _____ and are attributed the qualities that only God has. The teaching of a _____ God is unique to Christianity and affirms the Father, Son and Holy Spirit as _____ God in _____ persons.

AS THE GOD OF _____, EL ECHAD COMMANDS YOUR ATTENTION

Those who worship the “One God” (*El Echad*) should worship Him alone!

- A. **Worshippers of *El Echad* must be wholly _____ to God**
Malachi’s proclamation that God was *El Echad* or “the one God” was an attack against the false thinking of his day. Five times in this passage Malachi uses the word “_____.” Some translations use the phrase “breaking faith” or “deal treacherously.” Simply speaking, they did not honor their commitments. They failed to keep their promises. They broke their vows.
- B. **Worshippers of *El Echad* must be wholly _____ from the world**
Malachi provided some needed steps towards consecration. In his day (just like in ours) there was a pattern in the world not to take _____ seriously. In particular, there was a pattern not to take the marriage covenant seriously. Malachi’s point was that this is the way of the world but it should not characterize God’s people (Malachi 2:15-16).

Concluding Thoughts

You may consider yourself to be a good multitasker but the reality is that none of us are all that good at it. Research actually shows that *too much* multitasking temporarily lowers our IQs. It makes us do stupid things. I wonder if your relationship with God has been stagnated because of your lack of a unified focus. This is exactly the issue that Malachi was facing. We try and live in two worlds – the _____ and the _____.