

Ministry Under the Microscope

Series - *First Pursuit: Pursuing the God Who Pursues Me*
 – Malachi 2:1-9 –

THE BIG IDEA

I CAN'T LEAD ANYONE ELSE FURTHER
 THAN I HAVE GONE MYSELF.

1. The Bad News

* *Fatal flows that led to a spiritual slide. . .*

2. The Good News

* *Jesus is a better PHINEHAS.*

Application Questions. . .

1. What part of the text or message had the greatest impact on you? Where were you most encouraged, intrigued, or challenged?
2. Some of God's harshest words are in response to the compromises tolerated by the priests. What compromises do 21st century Christians face? Don't settle for trite legalisms about drinking and smoking. What are the real compromises that dilute vital Christianity?
3. What dangers exist for Christians who rely on 'outward image' instead of nurturing a genuine spiritual life (1 Sam 16:7)?
4. What does this passage have to say to the person who may be religious but not godly?
5. Has your activity *for* Jesus ever become a substitute for cultivating life with Jesus?
6. Finish up discussing why the Good News (point 2) truly is *Good News*. What convinced you that true life was found in Jesus? When did you come to understand this truth?

