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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>15</sup> “Look,” said Naomi, “your sister-in-law is going back to her people and her gods. Go back with her.” <sup>16</sup> But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God.”



RUTH 1:15-16

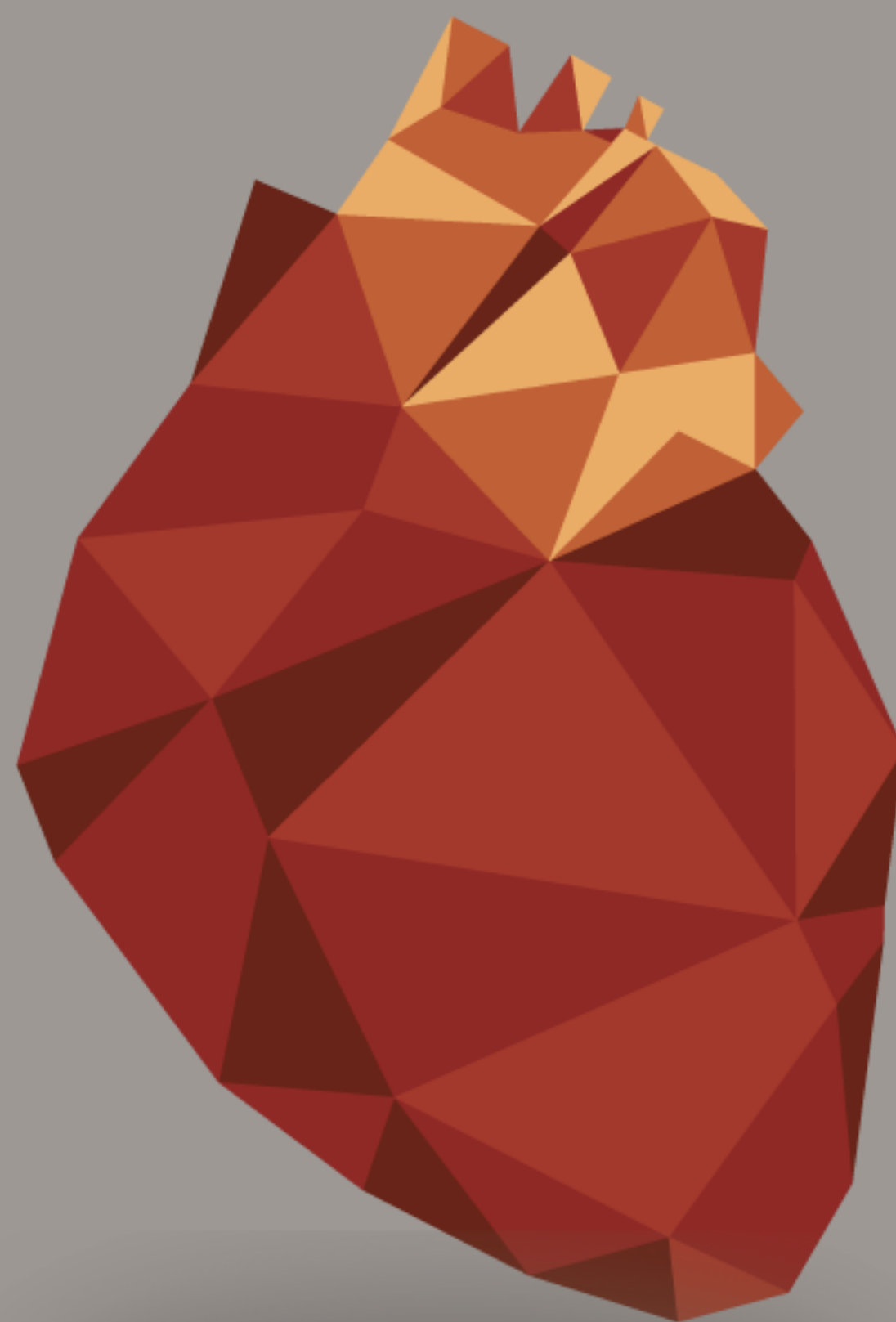
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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>17</sup> Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” <sup>18</sup> When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.



RUTH 1:17-18

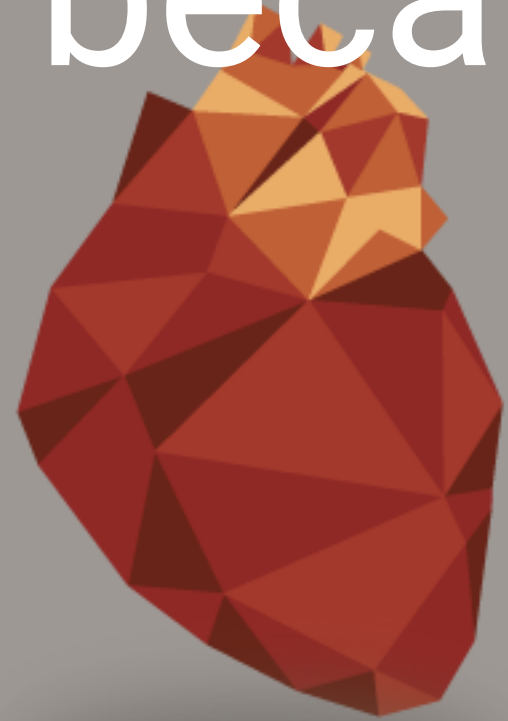


**THE FATHER'S HEART**

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>1</sup> “And now, you priests, this warning is for you. <sup>2</sup> If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me.

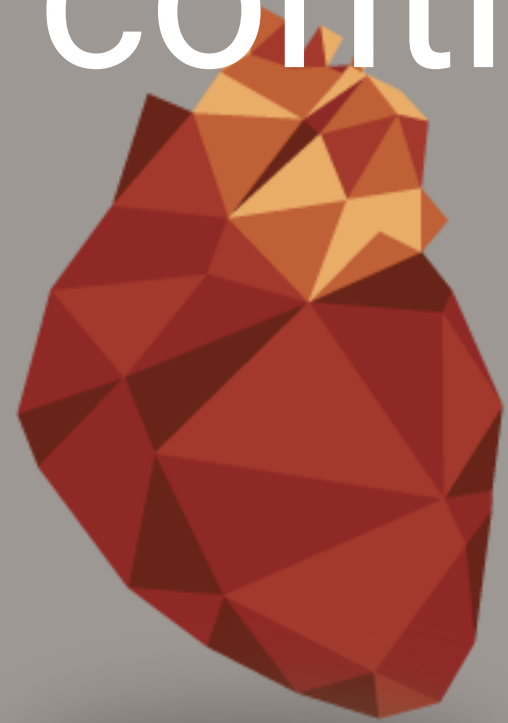


MALACHI 2:1-2

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>3</sup>“Because of you I will rebuke your descendants; I will smear on your faces the dung from your festival sacrifices, and you will be carried off with it. <sup>4</sup>And you will know that I have sent you this warning so that my covenant with Levi may continue,” says the Lord Almighty.



MALACHI 2:3-4

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>5</sup>“My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. <sup>6</sup>True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin.



MALACHI 2:5-6

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>7</sup>“For the lips of a priest ought to preserve knowledge, because he is the messenger of the Lord Almighty and people seek instruction from his mouth. <sup>8</sup> But you have turned from the way and by your teaching have caused many to stumble; you have violated the covenant with Levi,” says the Lord Almighty.



MALACHI 2:7-8

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## PROMISE KEEPER

9 “So I have caused you to be despised and humiliated before all the people, because you have not followed my ways but have shown partiality in matters of the law.”



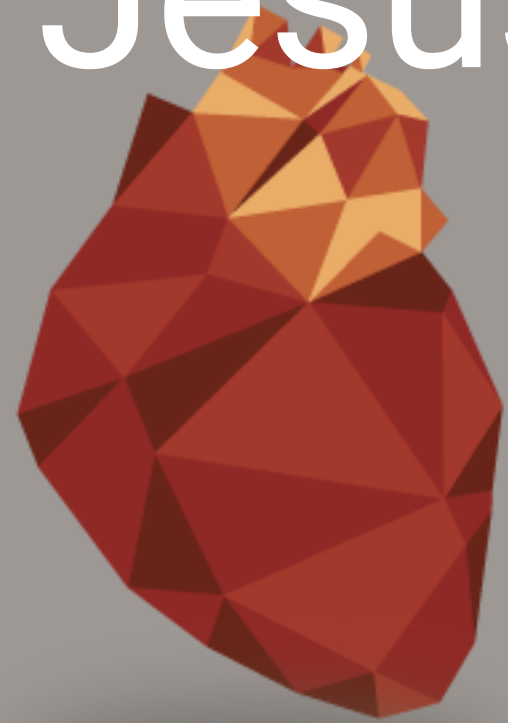
MALACHI 2:9



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## PROMISE KEEPER

As you come to him, the living Stone—rejected by humans but chosen by God and precious to him—you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.



1 PETER 2:4-5

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## PROMISE KEEPER

“If you do not listen, and if you do not resolve to honor my name,” says the Lord Almighty, “I will send a curse on you, and I will curse your blessings. Yes, I have already cursed them, because you have not resolved to honor me.



MALACHI 2:2

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## PROMISE KEEPER

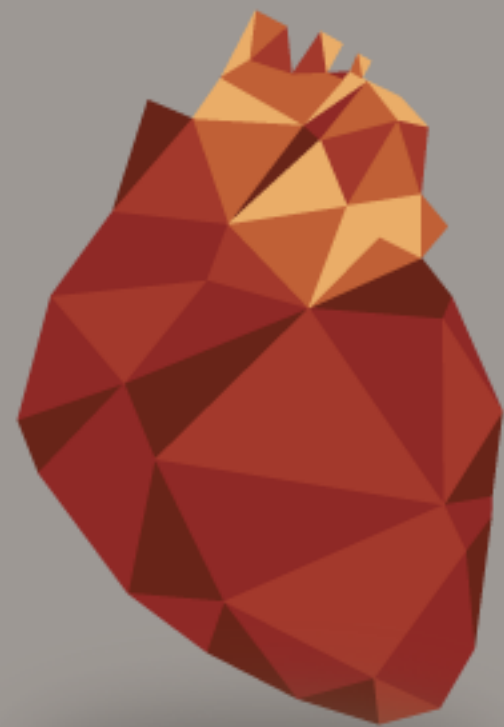
“My covenant was with him, a covenant of life and peace, and I gave them to him; this called for reverence and he revered me and stood in awe of my name. True instruction was in his mouth and nothing false was found on his lips. He walked with me in peace and uprightness, and turned many from sin.



MALACHI 2:5-6

## Consequences of breaking Covenant with God and False Teaching:

- Cause others to stumble - lose credibility, erode trust, cause confusion, create conflict
- God removes his blessings and his favor



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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>10</sup> Do we not all have one Father? Did not one God create us? Why do we profane the covenant of our ancestors by being unfaithful to one another? <sup>11</sup> Judah has been unfaithful. A detestable thing has been committed in Israel and in Jerusalem: Judah has desecrated the sanctuary the Lord loves by marrying women who worship a foreign god. <sup>12</sup> As for the man who does this, whoever he may be, may the Lord remove him from the tents of Jacob — even though he brings an offering to the Lord Almighty.



MALACHI 2:10-12

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>13</sup> Another thing you do: You flood the Lord's altar with tears. You weep and wail because he no longer looks with favor on your offerings or accepts them with pleasure from your hands. <sup>14</sup> You ask, "Why?" It is because the Lord is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant.



MALACHI 2:13-14

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>15</sup> Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth. <sup>16</sup> “The man who hates and divorces his wife,” says the Lord, the God of Israel, “does violence to the one he should protect,” says the Lord Almighty. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful.



MALACHI 2:15-16

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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>3</sup> Some Pharisees came to him to test him. They asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for any and every reason?” <sup>4</sup> “Haven’t you read,” he replied, “that at the beginning the Creator ‘made them male and female,’ <sup>5</sup> and said, ‘For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh’? <sup>6</sup> So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.”



MATTHEW 19:3-6



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## PROMISE KEEPER

<sup>7</sup> “Why then,” they asked, “did Moses command that a man give his wife a certificate of divorce and send her away?”  
<sup>8</sup> Jesus replied, “Moses permitted you to divorce your wives because your hearts were hard. But it was not this way from the beginning. <sup>9</sup> I tell you that anyone who divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another woman commits adultery.”



MATTHEW 19:7-9

## The Case for Marriage — Linda J. Waite

- Married people live longer and healthier lives
- Married people make more money
- Married people have more sex, better sex, and are more faithful sex partners
- Married people are less anxious, less depressed, and less psychologically distressed
- Married people are happier
- Children of married people are happier, healthier, more mentally well, and live longer



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PROMISE KEEPER

# Marriage Intensives for Hurting Marriages

[Intensives.com](http://Intensives.com)

[Relationalcare.org](http://Relationalcare.org)

[HopeRestored.com](http://HopeRestored.com)

