

# *Welcome To Open Bible Hour*

*Thank you for joining us on this Lord's Day!*

*Our desire is that you may grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ as we pursue an in-depth study of the book of Malachi.*

*If you have a prayer request, for which you would like us to pray, please fill out a prayer sheet at the back table and give to Lyle.*

**Our website: [OpenBibleHour.net](http://OpenBibleHour.net)**



# “CORRUPTION IN THE PRIESTHOOD”

## PART III

Malachi 2:1-9

March 4, 2012

## Mal 2:1-9

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- 2 "If you do not listen, and if you do not take it to heart to give honor to My name," says the Lord of hosts, "then I will send the curse upon you and I will curse your blessings; and indeed, I have cursed them already, because you are not taking it to heart.
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## **Isa 28:7-8**

7 And these also reel with wine and stagger from strong drink:

The priest and the prophet reel with strong drink,

They are confused by wine, they stagger from strong drink;

They reel while having visions,

They totter when rendering judgment.

8 For all the tables are full of filthy vomit, without a single clean place.

## **Jer 5:31**

31 The prophets prophesy falsely,

And the priests rule on their own authority;

And My people love it so!

But what will you do at the end of it?

## **Mic 3:11**

11 Her leaders pronounce judgment for a bribe,  
Her priests instruct for a price  
And her prophets divine for money.  
Yet they lean on the Lord saying,  
"Is not the Lord in our midst?  
Calamity will not come upon us."

## **Zeph 3:4**

Her prophets are reckless, treacherous men;  
Her priests have profaned the sanctuary.  
They have done violence to the law.

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## **1 Tim 3:15-16**

15 but in case I am delayed, I write so that you will know how one ought to conduct himself in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and support of the truth.

## **1 Tim 6:20-21**

20 O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge" —

21 which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith.

## **2 Tim 1:14**

14 Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.

## **Titus 1:13-14**

13 For this reason reprove them severely so that they may be sound in the faith,

14 not paying attention to Jewish myths and commandments of men who turn away from the truth.

## **1 Tim 1:3-4**

3 As I urged you upon my departure for Macedonia, remain on at Ephesus so that you may instruct certain men not to teach strange doctrines,

4 nor to pay attention to myths and endless genealogies, which give rise to mere speculation rather than furthering the administration of God which is by faith.

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# **1 Tim 5:21-22**

21 I solemnly charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of His chosen angels, to maintain these principles without bias, doing nothing in a spirit of partiality.

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# **Application**

1. Priests (OT) and Pastors today are not above the authority of the Word.

## **1 Chron 16:22**

22 "Do not touch My anointed ones,  
And do My prophets no harm."

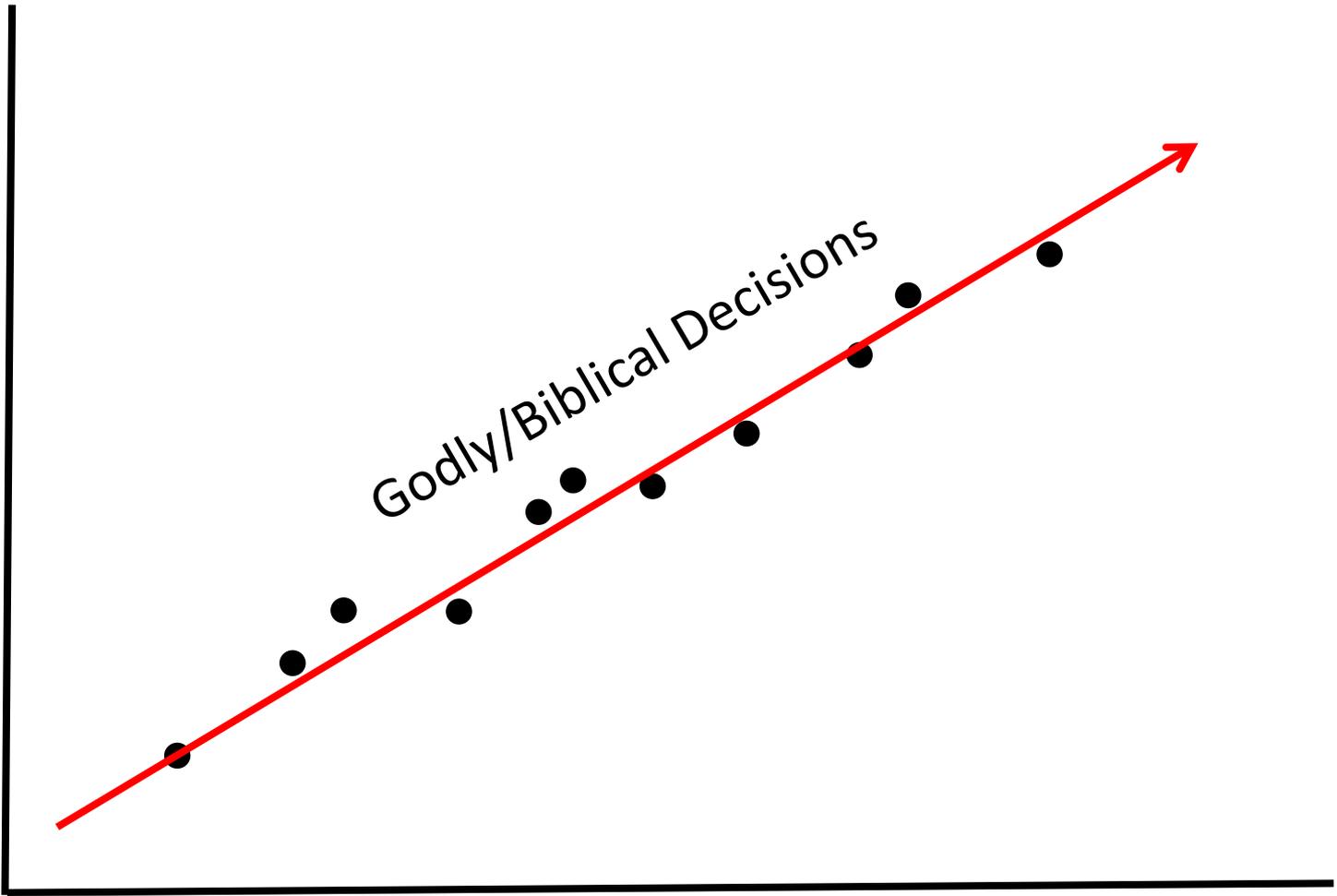
## **1 Tim 5:19-20**

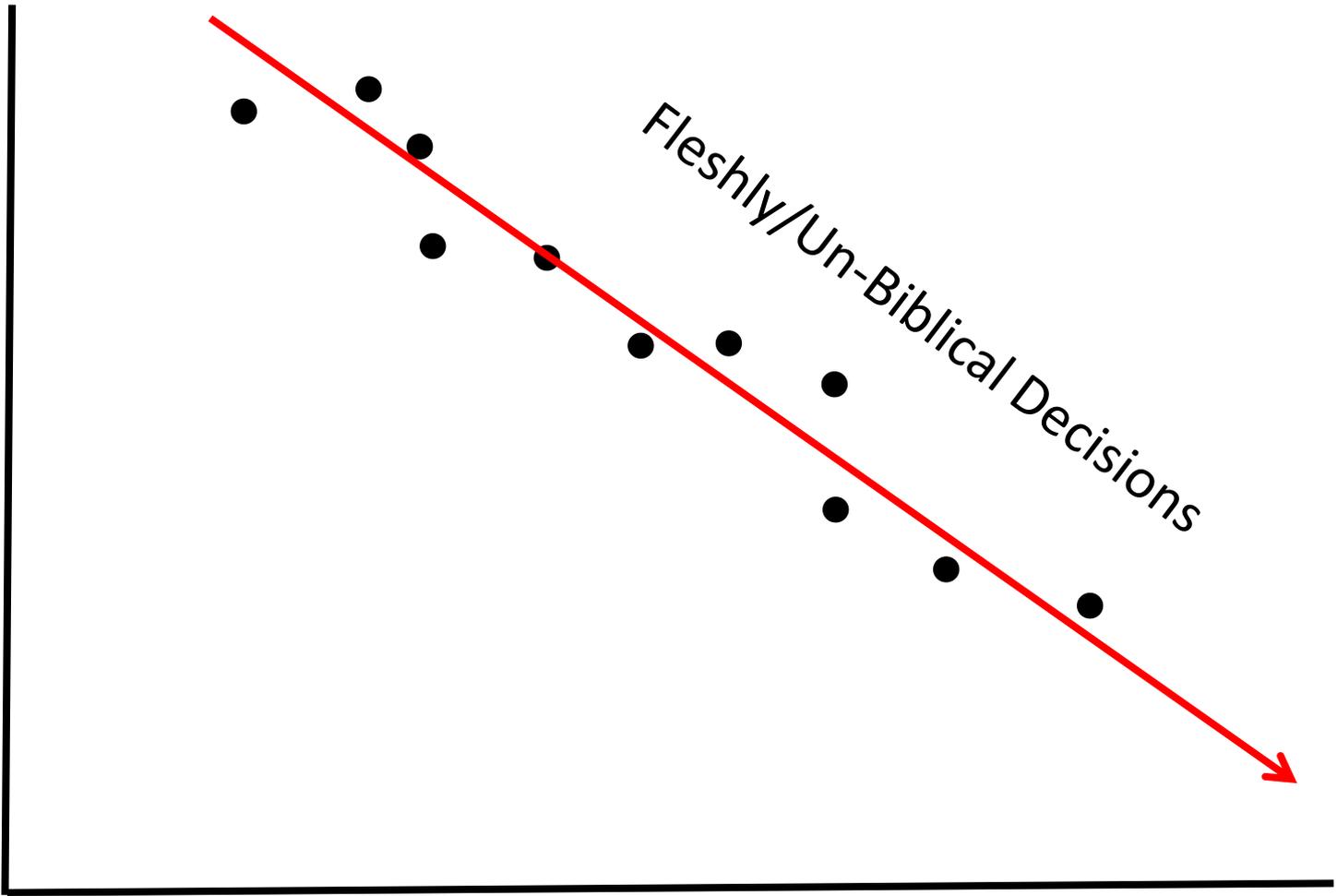
19 Do not receive an accusation against an elder  
except on the basis of two or three witnesses.

20 Those who continue in sin, rebuke in the presence  
of all, so that the rest also will be fearful of sinning.

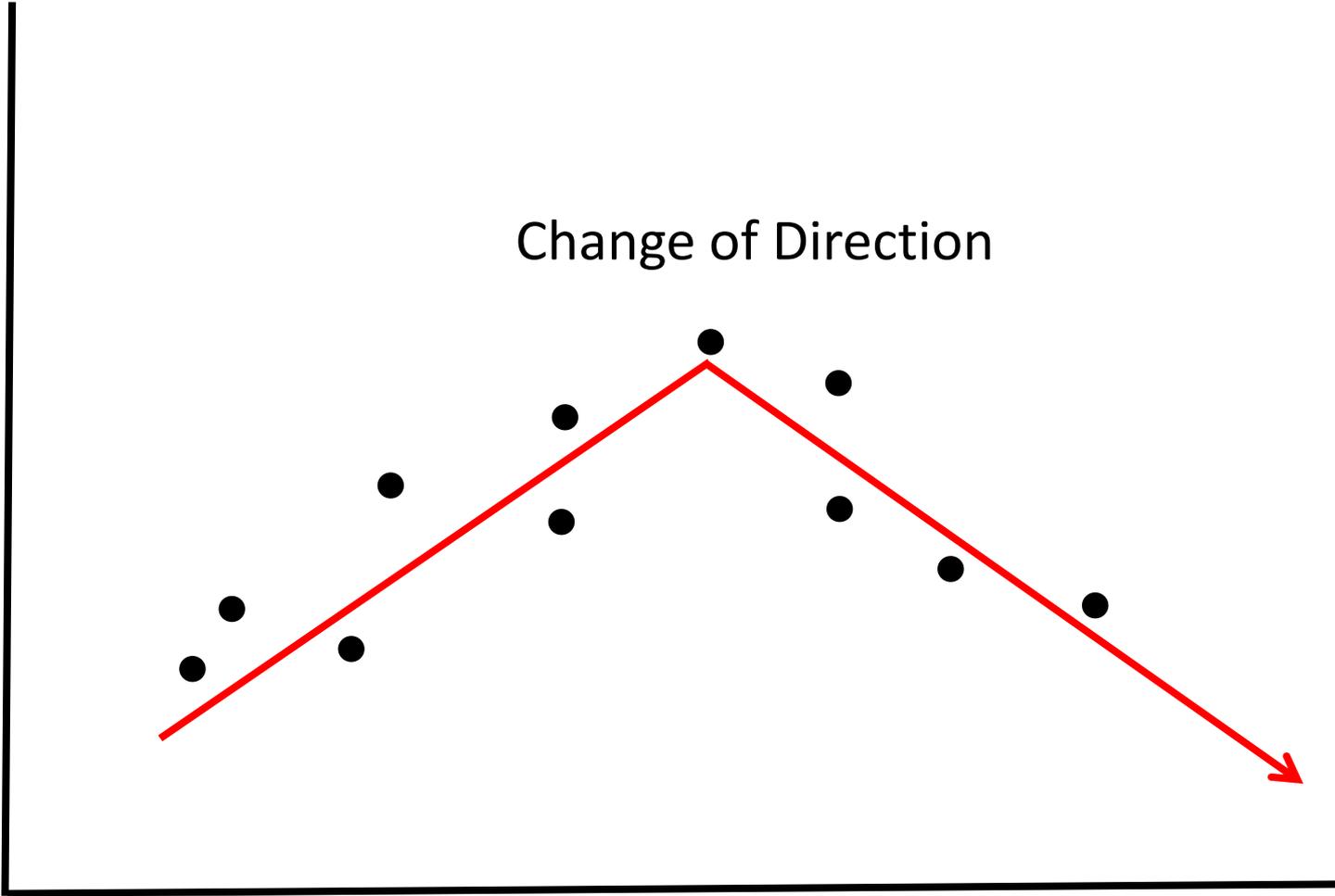
# **Application**

1. Priests (OT) and Pastors today are not above the authority of the Word.
2. God's highest purpose in the universe is to display His glory. His passion is His glory.
3. If a Pastor is not passionate about the glory of God in all things, he will either eventually get out of the ministry or he will stay in it for the salary.
4. God's judgment is always commensurate with the degree of the offence. The greater the offence, the greater the judgment.
5. If a Pastor is going to teach the Word of God he must teach all of it. No Pastor has the right to edit God.
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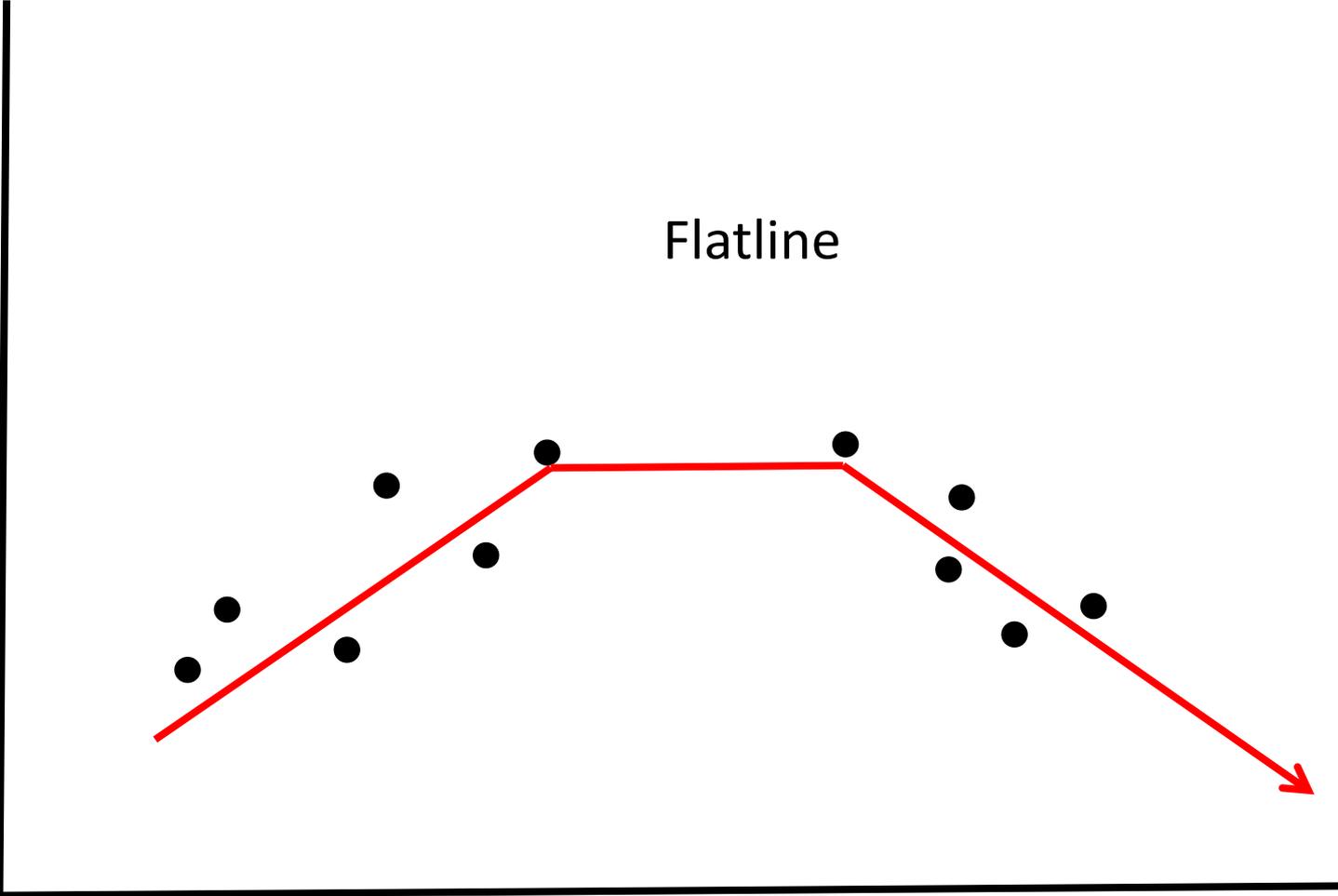




Change of Direction



Flatline



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6. Pastors play a major part in determining "trend lines" not only in the lives of those they minister to but also the church itself.
7. Malachi teaches us what all of the O.T. teaches which is:  
**Like Priest - Like People**