

Does God Really Love Me?

Malachi 1:1-5

²“I have always loved you,” says the LORD. But you retort, “Really? How have you loved us?” And the LORD replies, “This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, ³ but I rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country. I turned Esau’s inheritance into a desert for jackals.”⁴ Esau’s descendants in Edom may say, “We have been shattered, but we will rebuild the ruins.” But the LORD of Heaven’s Armies replies, “They may try to rebuild, but I will demolish them again. Their country will be known as ‘The Land of Wickedness,’ and their people will be called ‘The People with Whom the LORD Is Forever Angry.’”⁵ When you see the destruction for yourselves, you will say, ‘Truly, the LORD’s greatness reaches far beyond Israel’s borders!’”

Malachi lived at the end of an age when Israel was indifferent and insolent!

1. He Loves Us with a _____ LOVE! (2)

This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, ³ but I rejected his brother, Esau...

God wants ALL to be saved! *This is good and pleases God our Savior, ⁴ who wants everyone to be saved and to understand the truth. ⁵ For, there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. ⁶ He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone.* I Timothy 2:3 (also 2 Peter 3:9)

³² *And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will draw everyone to myself.* John 12

² *God the Father knew you and chose you long ago, and his Spirit has made you holy* I Peter 1

God’s Election is not from PRE-DETERMINATION but from _____!

Don’t Look at Circumstances to see God’s Love, look at His Character!

2. He Loves with a _____ Love! (3)

but I [hated KJV] rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country.

Love Requires Hate! If people love God, they will Hate Sin!

⁹ *Don’t just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good.* Romans 12

3. He Loves with a _____ Love! (4)

‘The People with Whom the LORD Is Forever Angry.’

²⁵ *For Christ must reign until he humbles all his enemies beneath his feet. ²⁶ And the last enemy to be destroyed is death...* I Corinthians 15

4. He Loves with a _____ Love! (5)

When you see the destruction for yourselves, you will say, ‘Truly, the LORD’s greatness reaches far beyond Israel’s borders!’”

¹⁸ *And may you have the power to understand, as all God’s people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love is.* Ephesians 3