

MALACHI

C R U S H I N G S P I R I T U A L A P A T H Y

GOD'S LOVE FOR AN UNGRATEFUL PEOPLE (1:1-5)

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FAITH BIBLE CHURCH

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INTRODUCTION

¹The oracle of the word of the LORD to Israel through Malachi.

1. GOD'S _____

²"I have loved you,"
says the LORD.

2. ISRAEL'S _____

But you say,
"How have You loved us?"

3. GOD'S _____

"Was not Esau Jacob's brother?"
declares the LORD.
"Yet I have loved Jacob;
³but I have hated Esau,
and I have made his mountains a desolation
and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness."

4. EDM'S _____

⁴Though Edom says,
"We have been beaten down,
but we will return
and build up the ruins";

5. GOD'S _____

thus says the LORD of hosts,
"They may build,
but I will tear down;
and men will call them the wicked territory,
and the people toward whom the LORD is indignant forever."

6. ISRAEL'S _____

⁵Your eyes will see this and you will say,
"The LORD be magnified beyond the border of Israel!"

NOTES:

CONTEMPORARY IMPLICATIONS

1. When you don't see yourself as very _____, you cannot see God as very _____.
2. When we see the terrible _____ of sinners, we should be driven to _____ God's love for us.
3. God does not _____ you.
4. Ingratitude always leads to _____.
5. In the same way a parent _____ the unkind words of ungrateful children, so too does God _____ our sins in order to maintain _____ with us.
6. If you're a Christian, be overwhelmed and humbled by _____.
7. When trials come, _____ as the kind gift of a loving God.
8. God expects us to change our _____ even if He does not change our _____.
9. Christians are not those who claim Christ simply to _____ Hell. Christians are broken people who _____ their own sin, _____ of being holy, and trust Christ in order to be _____.

FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION . . .

1. Think about the trials you experience. Do you value them? Do you see God's love in them? Spend some time in prayer, asking God to help you see your circumstances from His perspective.
2. Are you truly satisfied with Christ alone? Think about what you consider to be your 'needs' in this lifetime. Are there any needs you are tempted to value above Christ? Be honest with God. Do you expect anything from Him in addition to Christ and His grace to forgive? Repent of anything that muddies your value of Christ alone. Turn and love Jesus afresh.
3. Sin is not just breaking God's laws, but it is also breaking God's heart. Is there anything in your life that you know breaks God's heart? It might be a well-known fact about you. It may be a secret sin. Whatever it is, seek God's forgiveness for this sinful attitude or desire. Turn from sin and pursue a life that emulates Christ.
4. Are you thankful for God's sovereign act of election? Is there any hint of bitterness toward God for His decisions? If yes, confess that smug, prideful heart, and ask God to humble you to accept His sovereign plan.
5. Is your claim to faith only an attempt to avoid Hell? If yes, pray that the Lord would soften your heart to recognize your total depravity and grant you a hatred of your own sin. Ask Him to produce in you a desire for internal transformation and total conformity to Christlikeness.