

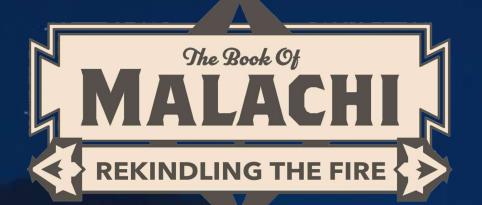
BEGINNING APRIL 11



#REKINDLINGTHEFIRE

#MALACHISERIES

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I HAVE LOVED YOU



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I HAVE LOVED YOU





Malachi 1:1-5

CHURCH

¹ This is the message that the LORD gave to Israel through the prophet Malachi. The LORD's Love for Israel 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.



Malachi 1:1-5

- 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



Malachi 1:1-5

yourselves, you will say, 'Truly, the LORD's greatness reaches far beyond Israel's borders!'"







Malachi 2:11

CHURCH

Judah has been unfaithful, and a detestable thing has been done in Israel and in Jerusalem. The men of Judah have defiled the LORD's beloved sanctuary by marrying women who worship idols.



Withholding Tithes

Malachi 3:8

ANTCHURCH

"Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! "But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?' "You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me.



Illegitimate Divorce

Malachi 2:15-16.

Didn't the LORD make you one with your wife? In body and spirit you are his. And what does he want? Godly children from your union. So guard your heart; remain loyal to the wife of your youth. 16 "For I hate divorce!" says the LORD, the God of Israel. "To divorce your wife is to overwhelm her with cruelty," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "So guard your heart; do not be unfaithful to your wife."



Neglect of Temple Service

Malachi 1:12-13

"But you dishonor my name with your actions. By bringing contemptible food, you are saying it's all right to defile the Lord's table. ¹³ You say, 'It's too hard to serve the LORD,' and you turn up your noses at my commands," says the LORD of Heaven's Armies. "Think of it! Animals that are stolen and crippled and sick are being presented as offerings! Should I accept from you such offerings as these?" asks the LORD.



Malachi came at a time when God's people needed to return to Him.





The real issue in this book is not whether God loved them, but how He could love them?





GOD'S LOVE IS A PERSISTENT LOVE

Malachi 1:2

"I have always loved you," says the LORD.





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You need to understand today that God's love for you is a persistent love, that will not quit, and is very real, despite the fact that you may be going through difficult times or difficult circumstances that would lead you to believe otherwise.





Romans 8:35-39

"Can anything ever separate us from Christ's love? Does it mean he no longer loves us if we have trouble or calamity, or are persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in danger, or threatened with death? (As the Scriptures say, "For your sake we are killed every day; we are being slaughtered like_



Romans 8:35-39

CHURCH

sheep.") No, despite all these things, overwhelming victory is ours through Christ, who loved us. And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—

The Book Of MALACHI REKINDLING THE FIRE

Romans 8:35-39

not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord."



GOD'S LOVE IS A PURPOSEFUL LOVE

Malachi 1:2 "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,





GOD'S LOVE IS A PURPOSEFUL LOVE

God's love for you and me is such that He has a purposeful, meaningful, life planned for each and every one of us.





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GOD'S LOVE IS A PURPOSEFUL LOVE

Psalms 149:4

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For the LORD delights in his people; he crowns the humble with victory.



Malachi 1:2–4

And the LORD replies, "This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, 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



Malachi 1:2-4

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.'



GOD'S LOVE IS A PASSIONATE LOVE

God is sovereign, and He alone determines the purpose for each of our lives.





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Romans 9:10-16

¹⁰ This son was our ancestor Isaac. When he married Rebekah, she gave birth to twins. ¹¹ But before they were born, before they had done anything good or bad, she received a message from God. (This message shows that God chooses people according to his own purposes; ¹² he calls



Romans 9:10-16

people, but not according to their good or bad works.) She was told, "Your older son will serve your younger son." ¹³ In the words of the Scriptures, "I loved Jacob, but I rejected Esau." ¹⁴ Are we saying, then, that God was unfair? Of course not! ¹⁵ For God said to Moses, "I will





Romans 9:10-16

CHURCH

show mercy to anyone I choose, and I will show compassion to anyone I choose." ¹⁶ So it is God who decides to show mercy. We can neither choose it nor work for it.



"God allows adversity into our life to turn our attention to Him. And while it can be painful to endure, it leads us into a deeper relationship with Him and saves us from future destruction. If you hear the Lord 'pounding' through adversity in your life, respond quickly by opening the door to Him." - Charles Stapley



GOD'S LOVE IS A PASSIONATE LOVE

God has a sovereign purpose for each of us today. But it can only be fulfilled as we accept His love as revealed in the person of Christ.





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GOD'S LOVE IS A PASSIONATE LOVE

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.



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GOD'S LOVE IS A PURSUING LOVE

Malachi 1:5

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



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GOD'S LOVE IS A PURSUING LOVE

"Walk away from your own preoccupations . . . and see the perishing multitudes." – K.P. Yohannan (Gospel for Asia)





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AGNOSTIC? ATHEISTIC?

ACCEPTING?





#SERMONTITLE



