



**Series:** Malachi – God’s Response to Fake Religion  
**Passage** Malachi 1:1-5  
**Title** I have Loved You Says the LORD  
**Speaker:** Pastor David Menard – 6/9/2019

### **Discussion Starter**

What was the condition of the nation of Israel when Malachi wrote this book? What was the state of worship when the book was written? What is the purpose of the book of Malachi?

### **God’ Love for you is the foundation of your relationship with God (Verses 1-2)**

- What does the name “Malachi” mean? After God spoke through Malachi, God was silent for over 400 years. Who was the prophet that came after Malachi?
- Why does the LORD use the word “burden”? What does this say about God’s love for us?
- What is the first of seven thesis statements in the book of Malachi? Why did the people respond with, “In what way have you loved us?” (verse 2)
- Why did God create you? Why does God provide instruction for us?
- Is your relationship with God based on performance? How might performance based relationships be an impediment to intimacy?

### **Do you ever question God’s love for you? (Verses 3-5)**

- Do you ever think that God does not love you?
- Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of soup. What was his birthright? How does the trade of his birthright demonstrate Esau’s lack of care for God?
- What does God mean when he says, “Yes, Jacob I have loved; But Esau I have hated”?
- Did God really hate Esau? Why was Jacob worthy of God’s love?
- The words “hate” and “love” are used as literary devices in verse 3. What is God communication through this literary device? See Luke 14:26.
- Why was Jacob chosen to be the father of Israel, and not Esau?

### **God’s love and salvation are available to all who call upon Jesus**

- Read Romans 10:11-13 – how does this verse relate to Esau and Jacob? Who initiated your relationship with God, you or God?