Malachi

Oracle 1 – God's Love Denied

1:1-5

1. The ***oracle*** of the Lord (1:1)

2. The ***claim*** of God's love for Israel (1:2a)

Deut. 4:37-38 [37] "Because He loved your fathers, therefore He chose their descendants after them. And He personally brought you from Egypt by His great power, [38] driving out from before you nations greater and mightier than you, to bring you in *and* to give you their land for an inheritance, as it is today.

3. Israel's ***question*** about God's claim (1:2b)

4. The ***vindication*** of God's claim (1:2c-5)

a. The ***election*** of Israel over Edom (1:2c-3a)

John MacArthur - Nor does the love/hate language signify a comparative love in which he loved Jacob more and Esau less. Rather, the context here speaks of love as “choosing for intimate fellowship” and hate as “not choosing for intimate fellowship” in the realm of redemption.

b. The ***judgment*** of Edom (1:3b-5)

5. How do Jacob and Esau prove God’s love to a questioning Israel?

a. God’s love is seen in His gracious ***choice*** to save.

b. God’s love is not proved or disproved by immediate ***circumstances***.