

WHEN YOU QUESTION GOD'S LOVE

Malachi 1:1-5

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"I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have You loved us?" Malachi 1:2

Why do we tend to question God's love for us?

1. Because we tend to focus on poor circumstances.

A. Circumstances can be very misleading.

B. God works in ways that we can't understand.

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways My ways," declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts." Isaiah 55:8-9

2. Because we tend to forget past history.

A. Israel forgot what God had done for them.

1. God had chosen Jacob over Esau.

2. God had set His love upon Israel.

For you are a holy people to the Lord your God; the Lord your God has chosen you to be a people for His own possession out of all the peoples who are on the face of the earth. The Lord did not set His love on you nor choose you because you were more in number than any of the peoples, for you were the fewest of all peoples, but because the Lord loved you and kept the oath which He swore to your forefathers, the Lord brought you out by a mighty hand, and redeemed you from the house of slavery, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 7:6-8

B. We forget what God has done for us.

But God demonstrates His own love toward us in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

... you, being rooted and grounded in love may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God. Ephesians 3:17-19

3. Because we fail to see the promised future.

A. Sin cannot win, and faith cannot fail.

B. Fix your eyes on the reward.

... considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. Hebrews 11:26

Prescription for victory in the Christian life: Always keep the cross and the reward before you!