

Judgment and Hope: A study of Joel, Obadiah and Malachi

A Love – Hate Relationship

Malachi 1

A. Relationship of Love (Malachi 1:1-5)

How do you know that someone love you?

- Words, Acts of Service, gifts, quality time, and intimacy.

Question to God– How have you loved us?

- The people doubted God’s love for them.
- He described his love by describing his hate for Esau who was not a part of the covenant.
- The struggle with understanding the hate of God.
 - John 3:17-18
 - When people condemn themselves for rejecting God.
- A covenant love relationship with God includes being opened to discipline.

B. Responding to God’s Love (Malachi 1:6-14)

Question to God – How have we shown contempt to God?

- The people showed contempt to God through their gifts to God.
- Purpose of sacrifices and offering to God was to show love for God, loyalty to God and to express sorrow for sin.
- The priests were responsible for not teaching and maintaining proper sacrifices.

What do we do to gain acceptance from people in our world vs gaining acceptance from God?

The major issue in this passage is that the people rejected the Authority of God.

How does God know you love Him?

- Acts of Service, Words, Quality Time, Gifts and Intimacy.