God's Electing Love

Malachi 1:1-5
June 15, 2025

- **THE BIG IDEA:** God's sovereign choice in election is not a doctrine to dread, ignore, or run from. Election is one of the clearest evidences that we have that God loves us and His love is not based on anything that we do or anything that is in us. God will have compassion on whom He will have compassion.

Malachi 1:1-5 (NASB95)

1 [1] The oracle of the word of the Lord to Israel through Malachi. [2] "I have loved you," says the Lord. But you say, "How have You loved us?" "Was not Esau Jacob's brother?" declares the Lord. "Yet I have loved Jacob; [3] but I have hated Esau, and I have made his mountains a desolation and appointed his inheritance for the jackals of the wilderness." [4] Though Edom says, "We have been beaten down, but we will return and build up the ruins"; thus says the Lord of hosts, "They may build, but I will tear down; and *men* will call them the wicked territory, and the people toward whom the Lord is indignant forever." [5] Your eyes will see this and you will say, "The Lord be magnified beyond the border of Israel!"

A Question of God's Love

- The word oracle in verse 1 can be translated as "burden."
- Faithful preaching requires teaching hard truths.
- "For the Word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart."- Hebrews 4:12
- What was written in the Old Testament was written down for our instruction.
- What was Israel's answer to God's declaration of love? "Prove it."

God's Answer

1. How did God love Jacob? With an unconditional, electing love.
2. We cannot ignore the doctrine of election.
3. God, who is perfect in righteousness, is under no obligation to save anyone.
4. The question should not be, "Why doesn't God save everyone?" The question should be, "Why does God save anyone?"

Is God Fair?

1. We don't want fair; we need grace.
2. The elect are not a select few but are a vast multitude that God has chosen in grace.
3. "My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me; and I give eternal life to them, and they will never perish; and no one will snatch them out of My hand."- John 10:27-28

God Reigns

- We see in the life of the church today that the Lord is magnified beyond the border of Israel.
- Satan and wickedness may rage but God is still on the throne.

"I believe in the doctrine of election, because I am quite certain that, if God had not chosen me, I should never have chosen Him; and I am sure He chose me before I was born, or else He never would have chosen me afterwards; and He must have elected me for reasons unknown to me, for I never could find any reason in myself why He should have looked upon me with special love."

Charles Spurgeon