**Already, But Not Yet**

**A Sermon Series Through The Book of Malachi**

**“I Have Loved You, Says The Lord”**

**Malachi 1: 1-5**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ is the last prophetic book in the cannon of Scripture - is the final word of God from His prophets.**

**In Malachi, the people \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had the land and the promise of God’s restoration but still, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_had all of the promises of God come to pass.**

**The people of God in Malachi feel \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, ignored, and neglected.**

**Through the prophet Malachi we see the truth about the human condition - our selfishness and our sin - but also, we see that God’s faithful and enduring \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_will come to pass.**

**God unconditionally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ those who are His people.**

**God’s love and commitment to His people is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and fixed.**

**The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_thing that God reminds the people of in this book is His affection, care, commitment and His love for them.**

**The basis for our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to God is always His love for us.**

**God’s love is set and fixed on the Christian, not because of what they have done or haven’t done, or because of their ability to follow the law and the commands of God. Rather, God’s love is \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_on His gracious choice to come and initiate a relationship with the believer.**

**Application**

**Just like Israel, we have done nothing good or bad to earn or merit God’s love. The story of our lives, if we are honest, is the story or our own continual rejection and rebellion to God - over and over again - yet His grace can still find us (it can still find you this day). God’s unchanging and enduring love can be set on you, forever, through Jesus Christ. “I have loved you”, says the Lord.**

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| **Malachi** | **already; not yet** | **forgotten** | **promises** | **loves** |
| **unchanging** | **first** | **obedience** | **based** |