

# Connection Group

## Malachi Lesson 1

- Why does Malachi refer to his message a “burden” (Oracle)? Should Christians carry burdens? (See 1 Peter 5:7; Galatians 6:2)
- In the book of Malachi, God provides 6 messages. As he gives his messages, he communicates and reminds us of his love in Malachi 1:2a. Why is love a crucial foundation to any message the Lord wants to share with his people? God is often described as a father. How does the love of the father help a child? (See 1 Thessalonians 2:11b-12) Why is obeying God out of love a healthier response verses any other reason for obeying him?
- Malachi 1:2-3 is a difficult passage. It uses the term love and hate. Look at Luke 14:26 and 16:13. How is the term hate used in these passages? Do love and hate mean the same thing to us as it does in these passages? What other thoughts help us understand Malachi 1:2-3? While God judged the nation of Edomite’s, did this forbid an Edomite from trusting in Christ? (Romans 10:14; Rev 7:9-10)
- Malachi 1:4. The term LORD of hosts is important. It is used 24 times in Malachi. What does this term mean? How can it provide comfort for a citizen in a kingdom, a bride before her groom, and/or a child with their father?
- Just as Israel asked (vs. 2), so we ask, how has God loved you?