**How have I loved thee? (Mal. 1:1-5)**

Magnifying glasses – to see things that we couldn’t see before

 – to see things clearer

Malachi

* magnifies God
* magnifies ourselves
* magnifies our relationship with God

Built around 6 disputations

1. Introduction of issue
2. Pushback
3. God’s answer

Timeline leading up to Malachi

In what way have you loved us, God?

A cooling off

People of Malachi’s day vs the psalmist

God responds

How have I loved thee? Let me count the ways

**1. I’ve reached out to you (v.1)**

Engages

No necessity

Covenant

“To Israel”

Stay on speaking terms with you

**2. I’ve chosen you (v.2-3)**

Genesis 25, especially 25:23

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Descendants of Esau = Edom | Descendants of Jacob = Israel |

Hate?!? (cf. Luke 14:26)

The scandal of grace

Fairness?

The magnitude of God’s love

**2b. I’ve secured your future (v.4-5)**

God does not owe us anything. \*God, how have *I* loved thee?