

# TOUGH LOVE

HARSH BUT GLORIOUS AWAKENINGS FOR A PEOPLE ON THE BRINK

———— A STUDY ON MALACHI ————



# Part 4 – 1:6-14

## 1 Peter 4

17 For it is time for judgment to begin with God's household; and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who do not obey the gospel of God?

## Part 4 – 1:6-14

Who is God and who are we?

## Matthew 22

36 “Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

37 Jesus replied: ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’”

What we do serves as a much more accurate diagnostic of our respect for and love of God than what we say or claim to feel.

God = Father and Master

Father = Source of Life and Absolute  
Authority

Master = Owner and Absolute Boss

Father = Source of Life and Absolute  
Authority

Master = Owner and Absolute Boss

We = sons & servants

We = Honor and Reverence



God

v.5 & v.11

## Philippians 2:10,11

“ ... at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, 11 and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”

Do you believe God is great?

How great?

We honor and reverence God by bringing  
Him our first and best.

Last/Least

First/Best

When we offer God our leftovers or anything less than our best, we are showing that we do not really think He is very great.

(vv. 6-9, 12-14)

“despise” God’s name - v.6

“profane” God’s name - v.12

“deceive” ourselves - v.14 - “swindler”

Time

Talents (including energy)

Treasures

Pure – no blemishes

First-fruits

Whole tithes – “all your hearts”



We honor and reverence God by bringing  
Him our first and best

Last/Least

First/Best

Convictable, teachable, enthusiastic

So, what has to change in God's house? In the hearts of God's people?

1. We have to give God our best, our all, not our token left-overs – vv. 7,8,14
2. We need to pursue God out of passionate conviction, not only in passing, when convenient – v.13

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