

Text: Malachi 1:1-5

Title: When Doubts Brew

Main Point: God's love is the remedy for our doubts and disappointments.

Major points:

1. Love proclaimed.
2. Love doubted.
3. Love proved.

Quote 1

Jeremiah 31:3b – “I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you.”

Quote 2

“Though there had been brief excitement over the return of the exile, the renewal of temple worship, and the rebuilding of Jerusalem, that excitement had quickly evaporated in the light of the harsh realities of survival in a tiny, poor region under foreign rule. Under the scorching heat of everyday hardship and failed expectations, joy in God's love had quickly withered. Wasn't life supposed to be better than this?

- Iain Duguid (from *Zephaniah, Haggai, Malachi*)

Quote 3

Deuteronomy 7:6-7 – “For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for his treasured possession, out of all the peoples of the earth. It was not because you were more in number than any other people that the LORD set his love on you and chose you, for you were the fewest of all the peoples.” (see Deut. 9:6,24)

Quote 4

Romans 9:10-13 – “And not only so, but also when Rebecca had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, though they were not born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God's purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of his call—she was told, ‘The older will serve the younger.’ As it is written, ‘Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.’”