Genesis 3:14-15 So the Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, "Cursed are you above all livestock and all wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and you will eat dust all the days of your life. 15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Joshua 1:6-9 "Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. 7 Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. 8 Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. 9 This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Malachi 1:1-5 This is the message that the Lord gave to Israel through the prophet Malachi. 2"I have always loved you," says the Lord. But you retort, "Really? How have you loved us? And the Lord replies, "This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, 3 but I rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country. I turned Esau's inheritance into a desert for jackals." 4 Esau's descendants in Edom may say, "We have been shattered, but we will rebuild the ruins." But the Lord of Heaven's Armies replies, "They may try to rebuild, but I will demolish them again. Their country will be known as 'The Land of Wickedness,' and their people will be called 'The People with Whom the Lord Is Forever <u>Angry.' 5 When you see the destruction for yourselves, you will say,</u> 'Truly, the Lord's greatness reaches far beyond Israel's borders!'"

1 This is the message that the Lord gave to Israel through the prophet Malachi.
• Messenger = Burden in Hebrew



2 "I have always loved you," says the Lord. But you retort, "Really? How have you loved us?" And the Lord replies, "This is how I showed my love for you:

God loves his people!!!



2b "This is how I showed my love for you: I loved your ancestor Jacob, 3 but I rejected his brother, Esau, and devastated his hill country. I turned Esau's inheritance into a desert for jackals." 4 Esau's descendants in Edom may say, "We have been shattered, but we will rebuild the ruins." But the Lord of Heaven's Armies replies, "They may try to rebuild, but I will demolish them again. Their country will be known as 'The Land of Wickedness,' and their people will be called 'The People with Whom the Lord Is Forever Angry.' 5 When you see the destruction for yourselves, you will say, 'Truly, the Lord's greatness reaches far beyond Israel's borders!"

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#### 1. God loves you

 Romans 2:4 Don't you see how wonderfully kind, tolerant, and patient God is with you? Does this mean nothing to you? Can't you see that his kindness is intended to turn you from your sin?



- 1. God loves you
- 2. His love for us should lead to us loving him in the way that we live



"I said, 'Hello, Michael. Can I ask you, what is the key to all your success?' He thought about it. Then he said, 'What you have to do is love basketball. You can't be great unless you really love the game. Once you love basketball more than anyone else in the world, then you're willing to sacrifice. You're willing to wake up early. You're willing to do what it takes to be the best. But first, you have to really love it.' "



- 1. God loves you
- 2. His love for us should lead to us loving him in the way that we live

