

SERMON NOTES: -----Pastor Jack Bracy

Messages from the Minor Prophets

Attitudes That Keep Us from Realizing Our Dreams

July 5, 2009, Pt. 5

"God said, "I love you." You replied, "**Really? How have you loved us?**" "Look at history".... "Look at how differently I've treated you, Jacob, from Esau: I loved Jacob" *Malachi 1:2 MSG*

Giving _____

"**A son honors his father**, and a servant his master. If I am a father, where is the honor due me? ...But you ask, 'How have we shown contempt for your name?' "When you say, 'The altar of God is not important anymore; **worship of God is no longer a priority**,' that's defiling. When you bring a blind or sick or lame animal to sacrifice to me, do you think there's nothing wrong with that?" *1:6 NIV; 1:7 MSG; 1:8 GNT*

Playing _____

"Why doesn't one of you just shut the Temple doors and lock them? Then none of you can get in and play at religion I am not pleased... **I am honored all over the world**. And there are people who know how to worship me all over the world, who ... **All except you**... You profane me when you say, 'Worship is not important, and what we bring to worship is of no account,' and when you say, 'I'm bored—this doesn't do anything for me.'" *1:10-13 MSG*

Ignoring _____

"The words of a priest's lips **should preserve knowledge of God**, and people should go to him for instruction, for the priest is **the messenger of the Lord** ... But you priests have left God's paths. Your instructions have caused many to stumble into sin. You have corrupted the covenant..." *2:7-8 NLT*

People _____

"You cover the Lord's altar with tears, weeping and groaning because he pays no attention ... You cry out, "Why doesn't the Lord accept my worship?" I'll tell you why! **Because the Lord witnessed the vows you and your wife made when you were young**. But you have been unfaithful to her, though she remained your faithful partner, the wife of your marriage vows." *2:13-14 NLT*

"**I hate divorce**...and the one who is guilty of violence, says the Lord who rules over all. Pay attention to your conscience, and do not be unfaithful." *2:16 NET*

Downplaying _____

"You make God tired with all your talk. "How do we tire him out?" you ask. By saying, "**God loves sinners and sin alike**. God loves all." And also by saying, "Judgment? God's too nice to judge." *2:17 MSG*

Denying _____

"You have scorned my decrees and failed to obey them. Now **return to me, and I will return to you**... "But you ask, 'How can we return when we have never gone away?' "Should people cheat God? Yet you have cheated me! "But you ask, 'What do you mean? When did we ever cheat you?' "**You have cheated me of the tithes and offerings due to me**. ... Put me to the test and you will see that I will open the windows of heaven and pour out on you in abundance all kinds of good things." *3:7-8 NLT; 3:10 GNT*

Making _____

"What have we said against you?' "You have said, '**What's the use of serving God?** What have we gained by obeying his commands or by trying to show the Lord of Heaven's Armies that we are sorry for our sins? From now on we will call the arrogant blessed. For those who do evil get rich, and those who dare God to punish them suffer no harm.'" *3:13-15 NLT*

"**But for you who fear my name**, the Sun of Righteousness will rise with healing in his wings. And you will go free, leaping with joy like calves let out to pasture." *4:2 NLT*