

- Superscription = A top-level view providing info, tone, and context for the body of the message
- Vs. 1 Massa literally = lift, bear, carry
- Regularly translated variously as prophecy, burden, oracle, utterance
- "Burden" is the correct interpretation
- Something that is NOT pleasant, implies a warning



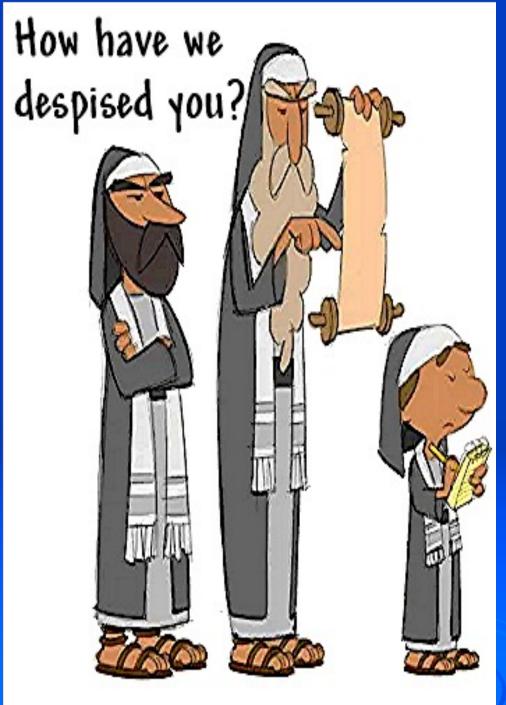
- Massa describes the nature and substance by which we are to understand "the word of the Lord"
- Debar Yehoveh = word of Yehoveh, and NOT word of the LORD
- > A serious and weighty warning to ALL Israel
- > This does not include a message to the "nations"

The predicament of God Worshippers

- Despite the religious perversion, the Jewish people still intended to worship Yehoveh
- Constantinian Christianity is a perversion of the biblically mandated faith because, like Judaism, manmade doctrine overtook God's holy writ...but still they worship God
- Both Judaism and Christianity have broken the covenant with God, and it must be exposed to avoid catastrophe
- This message is not pleasant and doesn't gain the giver popularity
- Beyad = by the hand of (Malachai)



- Malachai's prophecy does not lie solely in the past
- All God-worshipper religious leaders are charged to be truthful and faithful to God and His written Word
- Only starting in the late 20th century was there a way for the great thinkers who challenged the doctrines to be heard outside of Theological schools



- Jacques Ellul
- "The Subversion of Christianity"
- God reacts to what the Levite priests are teaching and doing
- The Priests' response to God is denial
- We can substitute the word Christianity with Priesthood, and Church with Judaism, to accurately reflect the condition of both faiths

TRUTHS THAT ARE HARD TO ACCEPT



- "Practice" of the Church means how the religion is carried out by Church leaders in rituals, laws, rules, holy days, etc.
- Ellul says those practices are not just different, but opposite of what The Law, the Prophets, Jesus and even Paul taught
- > The few that will heed God's warning = the remnant

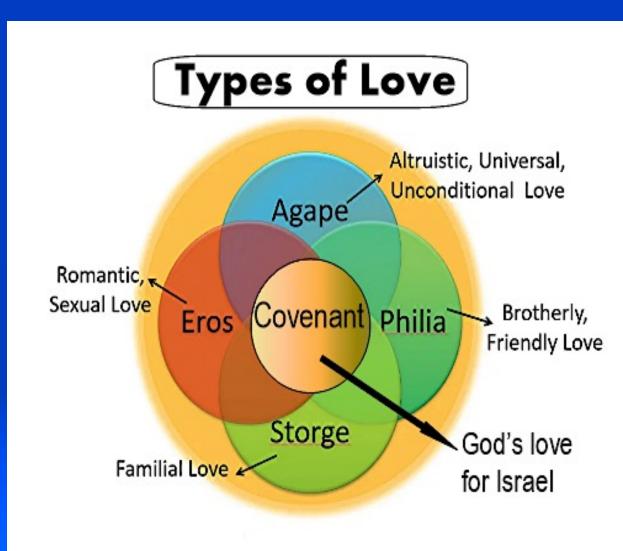
- Israel has rebelled, the Priesthood has failed, but God assures them He still loves them
- Snaith says 3 attributes to God's love:
- > 1) Sovereign
- 2) Unconditional
- > 3) Intimately personal
- ▶ Deut. 7:6 8
- God's natural inclination is to love all people
- Deut. 10:12 15
- God had/has affinity and affection for Israel

WHATIS GOD'S LOVE

ACCORDING TO THE BIBLE?



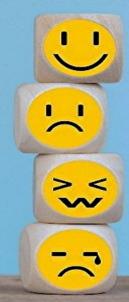
- Metaphors to help explain God's love
- Marriage
- Parent to child
- God did
 NOT lower his
 standards when
 Yeshua was born
- > *Ahab(v)* = love
- God's love for Israel is based on His covenant with them
- It is based on reciprocal love



LOVE GOD ES OFFICION Jeremiah 721-24

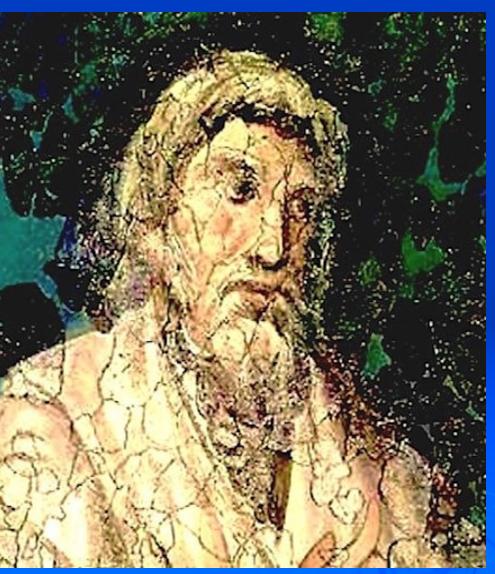
- We cannot reciprocate love to God, the way He shows us love
- Christianity is based on the Greek ideas of love that begins with warm affection
- But God does not look at our affection; it is obedience
- The TRUTH and fruit of our love for God is our obedience to His Laws and Commands, and not to Christianity or Judaism's made-up standards

Does God have emotions?



- > Vs. 2 Ahabti etkem amar Yehoveh
- > Ahab-ti carries a nuance of intimate love
- > Amar indicates a divinely sourced revelation
- "...Yet I loved Jacob, but hated Esau..."
- Does God really hate or get angry?
- Many mainstream denominations say God does not have emotions... This is the Gnostic viewpoint

Lactantius on God's hate and anger



- Lactantius: "He who loves the good also hates the evil..."
- Kaiser says the problem with anger or hate in the character of God is the result of our poor definitions
- Anger and hate are of the same fabric
- Let's also not take-on the Church thought that Jesus ended all divine hate and anger
- > Luke 14:26