

**THEME: WHO I AM IN CHRIST.**

**TOPIC: I AM HIS TREASURED POSSESSION.**

**TEXT: MALACHI 3:16-18, ROMANS 8:38-39, EXODUS 19:5**

**Introduction:** *"They shall be mine, says the Lord of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession."* Malachi 3:17a

This verse is a lovely verse. Which you meditate on often, especially when you feel down, **"I am treasured by God!"** When Malachi's words were spoken, God's people were being persecuted as they returned from exile (and slavery) in Babylon. They probably believed a day of righteous actions would never come again. God promises otherwise: After judging evildoers, He will bring healing and righteousness **Malachi 4:2.**

Malachi ended with two special notes. First, he reported that while the society refused to turn to God, there were individuals who "listened and heard." And Malachi told us that their names were recorded in God's record book

(Malachi 3:16–18).

### **1. We are His treasured Possession – 1 Peter 2:9**

God demonstrated His love to us and proved our worth to Him by offering the highest payment He could possibly pay. Our worth is *not* based on what we think of ourselves, or by our own good deeds, but solely on the astronomical price that God was willing to pay for us to come home.

May we never forget the value of the gift the Father gave us when He sacrificed His beloved Son. Jesus truly proved that we truly are His Father's most treasured possession.

**Q:** What do we mean when we say 'treasured possession'?

### **2. I'm not Feeling the Love? – Romans 7:24.**

Many of us don't feel treasured by God. We have the old and new natures battling each other. Paul expressed the frustration of continuing to sin in spite of his desire to do good and follow the law. In frustration he said, "Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?" **Romans 7:24.**

**Q:** Why is it important for us to feel the love of God?

### **3. Weapons of Self Destruction for not feeling the love – Romans 7.**

- a. Shame...it robs you of all happiness.
- b. Uncontrolled thoughts...they will ruin your life.
- c. Compulsions....inner desires made you do it even though it was wrong.

- d. Fear...enormous destroyer.
- e. Hopelessness...keeps you from keeping on.
- f. Bitterness...you hurt YOU the most...get better or bitter.
- g. Insecurity...poser...you will do or say anything.

#### 4. Answers to Fixes of Self Destruction to not feeling the love – Romans 8.

- a. I must Remind myself daily what Jesus did for me – **Rom. 8:1-4**
- b. I Ask the Holy Spirit to give me better thoughts – **Rom. 8: 5&6**
- c. I Realize I have a new ability to say “no” – **Gal. 5:16, Rom. 8:9 & 12**
- d. I Turn my thoughts to God whenever I’m afraid – **Rom. 8:14-16**
- e. Focus on the long-term, not on the short term! **Rom. 8:17-18**
- f. Remind myself that God is good and in control. **Rom. 8:19-25**
- g. Insecurity – Not trusting that God will never stop loving me! Remember you belong to God and have the Holy Spirit in your life.

#### Conclusion

- 1 Peter 2:9 (BSB): But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, to proclaim the virtues of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvellous light.
- Exodus 19:5 (BSB): Now if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, you will be My treasured possession out of all the nations--for the whole earth is Mine.
- Deuteronomy 7:6 (BSB): For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. The LORD your God has chosen you to be a people for His prized possession, above all peoples on the face of the earth.
- Psalm 103:13 (BSB): As a father has compassion on his children, so the LORD has compassion on those who fear Him.

Remind yourself every day, "**I am treasured by God!**" If you still have trouble appreciating that then read and meditate on Romans 8 every day until it registers.