

Welcome friends to another broadcast of “Morsels for Zion’s Poor”

It is nearly impossible to correct a man’s thinking on a particular doctrine or subject, once he has been convinced that the scripture speaks of some notion which is in opposition to that which is actually true. Apart from a work of grace to remove the scales from his eyes, he will remain in opposition to the truth. It is far more difficult for a man to “unlearn” things which are ingrained in his thinking than it is to “learn” that which cannot be overturned. This is why the LORD said, that the harlots and publicans go into the kingdom of GOD before the men of religion. The man who knows himself to be a sinner, possessing no righteousness of his own, can more readily embrace the mercy of GOD shown to sinners, than the man who believes he can gain the favor of GOD through his faith, knowledge, and devotion.

The transformation of the mind of Saul of Tarsus, as he became Paul the Apostle, is just such a marvel, which cannot be explained by human understanding. Consider the mindset of the Jews, being one of the oldest cultures recorded in the scriptures, and maintaining a tradition that is ingrained in their psyche from infancy. Because of this they consider that they are the chosen people of GOD and assume that they can inherit and pass on the promises of GOD to their posterity by instruction, in, and adherence to, these traditions. Paul was not only taught in this way, but was very zealous to uphold and defend that which he believed to be true even to the putting to death, those whom he believed were the enemies of the truth, as he understood it. No man could ever have convinced him otherwise.

It is not shocking then, that many Gentiles, believe that the natural descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob are the “chosen people of GOD.” Now it cannot be successfully argued that the LORD has not shown favor to the carnal nation of Israel, down through history, nor that they may not yet be used by HIM in the ultimate unfolding of HIS purpose for the nations of this earth. But, by the grace of GOD, it can be shown that they are but a type and foreshadow of that people which were chosen in CHRIST from before the foundation of the world. As Paul came to understand, *“They are not all Israel, which are of Israel: Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children:---They which are the children of the flesh, these are not the children of God: but the children of the promise are counted for the seed.”*

As the LORD opened his understanding, he confessed, *“For he is not a Jew, which is one outwardly;-- But he is a Jew, which is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the spirit, and not in the letter; whose praise is not of men, but of God.”* The “chosen people” of GOD, is not the carnal nation of Israel, but rather that “nation” which is hidden in CHRIST from before the foundation of the world. That people which were not a “people” but are now clearly manifested as the people of GOD and the heirs and joint heirs of HIS everlasting promise.

All of the promises which benefit the sons of GOD are theirs because of the promise which was given to CHRIST, (by the FATHER) and they are by election and imputation made to be those who inherit all things in HIM. *“For all the promises of God in him are yea, and in him Amen, unto the glory of God by us.* CHRIST is the SEED of Abraham who does bestow upon those, whom HE has loved with an everlasting love; all of the blessings which are HIS in this covenant which the FATHER has made with HIM. This is not a particular nationality of people in the Earth, but rather are those who are redeemed *“to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation.”* *“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.”*

So when Paul declares, *“if ye be Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*, he is asserting the union which exists between CHRIST and HIS people. They cannot be separated from HIM nor will HE be separated from them. In HIS own body on Calvary’s tree, HE has purchased them from the sin and death which they have gladly embraced in their flesh. HE has done whatever is necessary that HE might not lose even one of those sheep which HE has loved with an everlasting love. HE is the GOOD SHEPHERD who gives HIS life for the sheep.

. *“Thy free grace alone,”*#11 **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email us at forthe poor@windstream.net**