

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

Prayer is often given to us to make our requests known unto GOD, its primary function, however, is to express worship unto HIM who rules in the heavens and the earth, whose name is HOLY and whose ways are past finding out. Even as the LORD gave the opening line of HIS model prayer for HIS disciples, “Our FATHER which art in heaven, hallowed be THY NAME, THY Kingdom come THY will be done, in Earth as it is (i.e.; decreed) in Heaven.” Only then does HE speak of making a request.

GOD will convince HIS children of HIS holiness and justice (which grows out of HIS holiness) as HE manifests the giving of HIS only begotten SON as a SATISFACTION of the law which men have despised and presently disregard apart from HIS grace. Does HE not, by this revelation, humble the hearts of those proud sinners for which HE shed HIS blood? Is this not that which causes them to rejoice in HIS goodness? “And they that know thy name will put their trust in thee: for thou, LORD, hast not forsaken them that seek thee.” Even then do they find rest in HIM and HIS sovereign rule for they know: “The LORD killeth, and maketh alive: he bringeth down to the grave, and bringeth up.”

A man cannot truly rejoice in the goodness of GOD to make men to live, until he first understands that HE has the power to destroy (kill absolutely) both soul and body in hell. The LORD said of HIMSELF, “See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.”

So, we see HIM who does indeed deliver men from death and destruction. “For I lift up my hand to heaven, and say, I live for ever. If I whet my glittering sword, and mine hand take hold on judgment; I will render vengeance to mine enemies, and will reward them that hate me. I will make mine arrows drunk with blood, and my sword shall devour flesh; and that with the blood of the slain and of the captives, from the beginning of revenges upon the enemy. Rejoice, O ye nations, with his people: for he will avenge the blood of his servants, and will render vengeance to his adversaries, and will be merciful unto his land, and to his people.” HE delivers HIS elect from the “dunghill”. A “dunghill” is literally a pile of rubbish and filth. Men by nature like to think of themselves as very special unto the LORD as they entertain the notion that they can do many things to please HIM and earn HIS favor, by their morality, obedience, and devotion. Yet the LORD has no regard unto men and their supposed righteousness. “But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags; and we all do fade as a leaf; and our iniquities, like the wind, have taken us away.” By this description we must despair of ever coming into HIS presence.

Yet we read that HE has seen HIS people in their dire condition and has had mercy upon them according to HIS purpose. “And when I passed by thee, and saw thee polluted in thine own blood, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live; yea, I said unto thee when thou wast in thy blood, Live. --- Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, thou becamest mine. Then washed I thee with water; yea, I thoroughly washed away thy blood from thee, and I anointed thee with oil.” Thus, HE has lifted up the “beggar from the dunghill”. Apart from HIS sovereign grace, we would perish, for we had no riches wherewith to buy the gold of HIS Kingdom.

Then we read that HE has raised up “the poor out of the dust.” The LORD told Adam that he would surely die in the day that he ate the fruit of the tree which HE forbade him to eat. When Adam had fulfilled this prophecy, acting according to his nature, the LORD cursed the ground and told him, “In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou art, and unto dust shalt thou return.”

The outlook for mortal man is quite bleak. He has no “life” within himself (as the LORD told Adam he would surely die), and can look forward to nothing but utter destruction in the lake of fire apart from the gift of LIFE from HIM who has the power to make men live. “For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself.” “As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.” “And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.” Surely, HE “raiseth the poor out of the dust”, now by the “new birth”, and later, in the day of the resurrection when the dead in CHRIST shall awaken from their sleep. Are you alive in HIM? HE is the WAY the TRUTH and the LIFE.

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