

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

The awakened sons of GOD desire no greater prize than to be found hidden in the blood of their dear SAVIOR. They seek no other rest, for in CHRIST alone they find perfect peace and lasting joy. It is not so with the men of this world who consider the message of the gospel to be unworthy of their great powers of reason and intellect and consider those who declare it to be true, mentally deficient or at the least, deluded. The religious men of this world do not see the total sufficiency and power of that blood to save the sons of GOD. They are convinced that they must add something to it in order to make it effective. They often make such statements as, “CHRIST has done all that HE can in shedding HIS blood, now it is up to you to receive it”. Faith is not something which men bring to GOD but rather is that which GOD brings to men. Faith is the gift of GOD and true faith is the evidence of the sovereign work of GOD in those for whom CHRIST died. CHRIST has made no failed attempts to save anybody. When HE shed HIS precious blood on Calvary, HE unequivocally and without controversy completely paid the whole sin debt of HIS elect bride. In so doing HE finished the work which HE came to do. HE not only has redeemed HIS people, but HE has destroyed their enemies.

The scarlet thread of CHRIST’s blood alone is the sole basis of the saint’s hope. This truth is woven by the hand of GOD into the very tapestry of the faith which is delivered to the saints. We neither know nor care to look for any other. *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* *“For I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”* With all of that in mind, it is interesting to look at the three instances when a “scarlet thread” is specifically mentioned in the scriptures. The first was when Tamar was giving birth to the twins sired by her own father-in-law. One was called Pharez and the other Zarah. Zarah stuck his hand out of the womb first and had a scarlet thread placed upon it, yet Pharez (whose name means Breaker) came forth out of the womb first. The LORD had promised that the MESSIAH would come from the loins of Judah. The fulfillment of this promise is observed in the book of Revelation, *“Weep not: behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, hath prevailed to open the book, and to loose the seven seals thereof.”* And it is here in this most unlikely of situations (the result of incest and harlotry) that the LORD would see fit to send forth a sign of HIS greatest triumph as HE traced HIS earthly lineage through Pharez. Yet the scarlet thread was not placed upon Pharez’s hand but rather that of his brother’s. HE has triumphed openly over all of HIS enemies and as Job has said, *“who can hinder him? who will say unto him, What doest thou?”*

Just as the midwife placed a thread upon the hand of the one who was not the firstborn, so too do the free will “midwives” place the scarlet thread upon the hand of one who cannot save them or anyone else without their permission. This quasi-savior is not the FIRSTBORN of GOD, for HE is mighty to save and cannot be denied HIS right nor HIS possession which HE has purchased with HIS own blood. HIS blood is both sufficient and efficient for their redemption.

Then the “scarlet thread” appears again in the book of Joshua as that token which was given to Rahab by the Israelite spies to mark the place of her abode even as the children of Israel put the blood of the lamb on their door posts and lintels on the night of the Passover. It is the blood of CHRIST that marks out the deliverance of the captives and does set at freedom those who are worthy of death. There were probably at least a few morally upright women in the city of Jericho, but it was unto a harlot that the messengers were sent and to whom the token was given and she alone with her family were saved alive.

The third time a scarlet thread is mentioned is found in the book of the Song of Solomon where the BRIDEGROOM is describing the beauty of HIS beloved. *“Thy lips are like a thread of scarlet, and thy speech is comely.”* The FATHER sees the beauty of HIS children as HE beholds them hidden in the blood (which is the life thereof) of HIS dear SON. *“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.”* This is the MARK HIS bride’s BEAUTY; lips as a *“thread of scarlet”*. Her speech is that which is comely because it is the speech of those lips which testify of a *“thread of scarlet”*.

Peter exhorted the saints to be ready to give to every man, who asks, a reason of the HOPE that is in them. *“But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”* We have no other HOPE than that which is displayed in the scarlet thread which is woven into the only garment of covering which we have or desire. What is the reason of your hope?

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