

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

Paul instructs Timothy with these words, *“I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made for all men; For kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour.”* The LORD alone will cause all that these earthly magistrates do, to work together for good to all of HIS children, whether or not we agree with whatever policy or agenda they might have. As the sons of LIGHT, we dwell in that LIGHT, and are not overtaken by darkness regardless of the darkness that swirls around us. Let the potsherd of the earth strive with the potsherd of the earth, or as the LORD told HIS disciples, *“Let the dead bury their dead.”* Many lament the “changing of the guard”, as if this somehow thwarts the purpose of GOD, rather than fulfilling it. I am sure that the Apostles often lamented various trials that befell them as a result of the rulers under which they lived, yet they spoke no evil towards those whom the LORD raised up into these places, and they did not expect that it was these “powers” which would render unto them some blessing. The LORD was pleased to put Paul and Silas in prison at the hand of an earthly government, yet HE was pleased to meet with them there and put a song in their heart, and praise upon their lips. *“Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hid.”* HE alone is our LIGHT. We look for light no where else, in this world of sin and sorrow. HE has ordained that we be the emissaries of HIS LIGHT, not by political activism, but by worship.

Paul exhorts the Colossians in three very closely related activities, which are the lifeblood of the saints, **“Rejoice evermore!”** Why should the saints be discouraged? Has not our SAVIOR and KING triumphed openly over all principalities and powers? Can the powers of darkness prevail against the children of LIGHT? *“Rejoice ye in that day, and leap for joy: for, behold, your reward is great in heaven.”* HE has gone to prepare for us a place, that where HE is we shall be. *“Rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.”* What HE has inscribed, no man can alter. *“What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.”* There is no greater place of rejoicing in this world than in the sending and hearing of the Gospel of CHRIST’s redemption.

“Pray without ceasing.” True prayer is both “*effectual*” and “*fervent*”. It is “*effectual*” because it is always according to the will of GOD. True prayer is “*fervent*”. Fervent prayer is unceasing prayer. Some think that they are heard because of their “*much speaking*”. Fervency has more to do with singleness of purpose than it does with zeal or passion. The LORD heard the desire of the Canaanite woman whose daughter was vexed with a devil, even though HE, at first, appeared to disdain her request. Yet by the power of the SPIRIT which worked in her mightily she persisted, knowing that HE alone was her DELIVERER. *“No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.”* *“And he spake a parable unto them to this end, that men ought always to pray, and not to faint.”* *“And shall not God avenge his own elect, which cry day and night unto him, though he bear long with them?”*

“In everything give thanks.” Man, by nature, is an unthankful creature. By this we do not mean that he does not take pleasure in events which produce the results with which he is pleased. Even unbelievers often speak of being blessed and expressing “*thanks*” in a measure, such as what we see around the holiday called “Thanksgiving”. Yet this natural expression of enjoyment of the “good things” (as men define them) which befall men falls quite short of being truly thankful in the manner in which Paul describes. This type of “thanksgiving” is that which is produced by the SPIRIT of GOD in the sons of GOD and does not exist in men by nature. We see this type of thanksgiving, expressed in an attitude, more so than in word. If anyone had reason to hold a grudge against his brethren, it would be Joseph, sold into slavery by his own kin. Yet he was thankful for these events. *“But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive.”* We see it in the apostles, *“And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name.”* Their “*thanks*” was expressed in their gladness to do the will of GOD. We are given to understand that HE works all things together for good to those who are called according to HIS purpose. Our SAVIOR’s joy was found in the unfolding of HIS FATHER’s will. This is to give thanks in everything. *“For this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”* Do you truly pray? *“Thy free grace alone,”* #11 **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email us at forthepoor@windstream.net**