

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

The LORD has not raised up a ruling class by putting elders and overseers in HIS churches. Rather HE sends men among HIS flock to be servants who lead by example and exhibit patience and prudence with the knowledge that none of us know anything as we ought to know. Knowledge puffeth up but love edifieth. Those who are called to be teachers are to do so in a fashion which encourages the body to minister one to another, rather than the notion that “ministry” is singularly carried out by teaching and preaching. *“Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.”* The Body is a living organism which has but ONE HEAD, *“From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.”*

With this very truth in mind, Paul writes in his second epistle to the Corinthian church, pointing out that all of the saints are *“stablished, anointed, and sealed”* by the same SPIRIT that raised JESUS CHRIST from the dead and does presently dwell in the sons of GOD. He clearly states that his desire is to be their servant and not their lord or taskmaster. All of GOD’s children share in that *“ONE FAITH”* which is applied by HIS SPIRIT to their hearts according to the measure which pleases HIM.

Paul ascribes the activity of *“stablishing, anointing, and sealing”* completely to the LORD. There is no cooperative effort spoken of. Rather this is an operation which is carried out solely by the LORD, according to HIS will and purpose. Those upon whom HE is pleased to perform this operation are but objects of HIS mercy and tender care. This is called sovereign grace.

He points out that this *“stablishing”* is mutually applied to all of the saints together. *“Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ.”* This word *“stablisheth”* means *“confirmed”* or *“fixed”*. As Paul says. *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* The sons of GOD are all built together upon that ROCK which the LORD said HE would build HIS church, against which the gates of hell cannot prevail. *“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God; And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.”*

Then he says, that *“GOD, hath anointed us.”* *“Anointing”* must be applied by someone other than the one being *“anointed”*. This Greek word which is translated as *“anointed”* in the KJV literally means to *“smear or rub with oil”* which by implication refers to the consecrating or setting apart unto some office or service. The sons of GOD are *“anointed”* by HIM who has called them from darkness to LIGHT. They are each given gifts according to HIS purpose, for the profit of the whole body. *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.”* *“But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ. Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men.”* Let none say that they have no gifts for the gifts and calling of GOD are without repentance. It is unfortunate that the gifts of many are relegated to a place of non-importance by those who would exalt their own teaching gifts to the exclusion of them in the assembly.

Finally, he speaks of being *“sealed”* and *“given the earnest of HIS SPIRIT”*. While being *“sealed”* is akin to being *“anointed”* they are not identical concepts. This *“seal”* is a stamp of approval which cannot be overturned. CHRIST HIMSELF is ONE sealed by the FATHER. *“for him hath God the Father sealed.”* As HE is that ONE who is sealed in the courts of heaven, then it follows that all who are found in HIM abide under that same SEAL. To prove that this is so HE has give us an *“EARNEST”* (i.e.; pledge or binder) until HE comes to claim that which is HIS. *“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.”* Are you stablished, anointed, and sealed in CHRIST? HE which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the end.

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