

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

When I was growing up, my mother used to have a little poem that she would delightedly recite whenever my father exhibited some annoyance with the amount of time being expended in some endeavor (usually getting ready to go somewhere). I can still hear her, in the back pages of my mind, reciting it with a certain amount of glee; “Patience is a virtue, possess it if you can, it’s seldom in a woman and it’s never in a man.”

Patience is, according to the scriptures, one of the hallmarks of true love, “*Charity suffereth long, and is kind*” It is also one of those “fruits of the SPIRIT” about which we are exhorted to exercise, “*be patient toward all men. See that none render evil for evil unto any man.*” As with most lessons taught in the scripture, there is a carnal application which is profitable in this world in a natural sense, but there is a greater application which can only be applied by the SPIRIT of GOD. We would not desire to disdain that natural lesson of learning patience in our carnal bodies, but we would more greatly desire to see that truth which is eternal made applicable to us as HE is pleased to work in us both to will and to do of HIS good pleasure.

In the book of the Revelation, John speaks of the “*patience of the saints.*” The particular Greek word used here means, “a cheerful or hopeful endurance.” In Romans 2:7 this work is translated as “*patient continuance*”. “*To them who by patient continuance in well doing seek for glory and honour and immortality, eternal life*” In II Cor. 1:6 it is translated as “*enduring*”. This word is concerned with the exercise and manifestation of the gift of faith which is enduring and not easily laid aside.

The “*patience of the saints*”, is that which rests in the finished work of CHRIST. This is that “*patience*” which surveys the work and perfections of CHRIST and is completely satisfied. That man who has this “*patience*” is seeking no other righteousness than that which is fully supplied in the person and work which CHRIST has performed in HIS substitutionary atonement, and in that which HE presently performs as HIGH PRIEST over the house of GOD. This is that “*rest*” which is spoken of in Hebrews 4; “*There remaineth therefore a rest to the people of God. For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his.*” Therefore HE is our SABBATH; that true REST which no day of the week, time, nor season upon this earth could ever be.

The “*patience of the saints*” is manifested as endurance in the face of trials and difficulty. “*Here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.*” This “*keeping*” has reference to a holding on to the teaching of CHRIST which is the “*faith of JESUS*”. They “*keep it*” because it is their only HOPE. The LORD said, “*He that endureth to the end shall be saved.*” If a man casts off “*the faith of JESUS*”, upon what then would he have to stand? This endurance, is insured by the GIVER of faith whom the scripture describes as “*able to keep you from falling, and to present you faultless before the presence of his glory with exceeding joy,*” This is of great comfort to that man who desires to be found faithful but sees in himself an evil heart of unbelief.

The “*patience of the saints*” is that which is “*holding on to that which is precious.*” A man’s regard to the gospel of CHRIST and the priority of it in his thinking is a testimony to the presence of the gift of faith. That man who only has a divided interest in such matters proves himself to be devoid of this gift, not having received, “*the love of the truth, that they might be saved.*”

The “*patience of the saints*” is that which causes a man to desire to separate the precious from the vile. Those who have a form of godliness but deny the power thereof are said to be “*Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.*” These impostors attribute a man’s salvation to an act of his own free will rather than praising GOD for HIS sovereign grace. The saints own no other message than; “*JESUS CHRIST and HIM crucified.*”

The “*patience of the saints*” is the same in all ages, and in all circumstances. CHRIST as the ruler of HIS Kingdom is the very substance of all prophecy, and all prophecy has its fulfillment in the manifestation of HIS glory. This is true whether it was Abraham, who “*sojourned in the land of promise*”, or Joseph, who “*when he died, -- gave commandment concerning his bones.*”, or Paul saying “*I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day.*” They confessed that they looked for “*a city which hath foundations whose builder and maker is GOD.*” “*This is the patience of the saints.*” Do you have this patience or do you seek to provide your own?

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