

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

The LORD promised to send the rains to water the newly planted crops of the children of Israel and then to finish their crops as they neared the time of harvest according to their obedience to the requirements of the law. This was a conditional blessing which was given to Israel under the covenant of law. Because of the weakness of their flesh they experienced many times of famine when it rained not upon the earth. This rain was often withheld, and their crops withered as their hearts grew cold and their disobedience was manifested.

Hosea also speaks of an early and latter rain. Yet the rain of which he speaks is not one of nature which falls from the clouds and would nourish a natural crop. Rather, he speaks prophetically of the outpouring of a “rain” which was not predicated upon the obedience of those to whom it was given. This “rain” of which he speaks does not produce a blessing but is the very blessing itself. The blessing of the LORD’s people was given to them in CHRIST by a promise which preceded the giving of the law. The “law was added” in order to demonstrate to the children of promise the utter impossibility of their gaining any blessing from GOD on the basis of their own righteousness. Paul said; *“For if the inheritance be of the law, it is no more of promise: but God gave it to Abraham by promise.”* He goes on to say that this promise was made to CHRIST who is the SEED of promise and that those who are hidden in HIM are the recipients of this manifest promise based upon the redemptive work which HE has performed for them as their SUBSTITUTE and elder BROTHER.

*“And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life.” “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.”* Only those who are found in CHRIST are the recipients of this LIFE, and this life is manifested by the work of the SPIRIT in making them new creatures. *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.”* A man cannot inherit the kingdom of GOD by mere natural birth but must experience a supernatural work of the HOLY GHOST to give him “eternal life”. This is the early rain which comes upon the sons of GOD at the planting of the SEED in them by the power of the HOLY GHOST.

The natural man cannot receive spiritual things. *“Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; neither doth corruption inherit incorruption.” “But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.”* Therefore it is necessary that he be “made alive” in order to enter into this kingdom, which is not one of flesh and blood. *“And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins.”*

Therefore, we are quite certain that natural men cannot embrace the eternal truths of GOD nor enter into HIS righteousness by any power which they possess. This very truth overturns the religions of men which are all built upon the free will of men. Apart from a supernatural work of GOD in a man by HIS free and sovereign grace, it is impossible that any man could possibly approach the throne of GOD. Though the born again sons of GOD do presently enjoy the life of CHRIST which is given to them, they have this treasure in an earthen vessel which is both mortal and corruptible, and consequently temporary. Therefore, they are given the promise which can be likened to the “latter rain” which is the hope of the resurrection and life in a body which is spiritual and not susceptible to sin and consequently decay. Just as the Israelites of old planted their seeds and waited upon the LORD to water the ground and bring forth the full kernel in the ear, so do the sons of GOD wait with expectation upon that “latter rain” which causes that seed which is cast into the ground to bring forth fruit unto everlasting life.

There are many today who teach that all men, have “eternal life” since it is quite common to hear men speak of man as having an “immortal soul” which cannot die. This concept cannot be found in the scriptures and its basis is at the root of Satan’s very first lie to Eve, *“Ye shall not surely die.”* The LORD gave this warning, *“fear him which is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.”* There is an everlasting destruction in the fiery pit of hell for those who are the enemies of CHRIST and not numbered among those HE has loved with an everlasting love.

The promise of everlasting life is given only to those who are made one with CHRIST in the present time and who groan in travail having, *“the firstfruits of the Spirit”* *“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 life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”* *“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”* *“Thy free grace alone,” #11* **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email us at**

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