

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

The mercy of GOD is displayed in HIS sovereign election of a people in CHRIST before the foundation of the world. The mercy of GOD is displayed in providing a LAMB for a sacrifice for HIS people’s sin. Also the mercy of GOD is displayed in revealing the work, (which HE has done for HIS elect,) to them in this present world as HE causes them to hear the sweet words of reconciliation in the gospel and gives them faith to believe it. But the atoning work of CHRIST is strictly a legal work which cannot be overturned because the ONE who became our SUBSTITUTE has entered into a legal contract in our behalf and has fully paid the price that the law demanded for our redemption. Even as the words of Toplady’s hymn says:

Complete atonement thou hast made, And to the utmost farthing paid
 Whate’er thy people owed; How then can wrath on me take place,
 If sheltered in thy righteousness, And sprinkled with thy blood?
 If thou hast my discharge procured, And freely in my room endured
 The whole of wrath divine, Payment God cannot twice demand,
 First at my bleeding Surety’s hand, And then again at mine.

So while we marvel that the mercy of GOD should be bestowed on such worthless creatures as ourselves, (having been given eyes to see and behold the wonders of redemption which HIS hand has wrought in our behalf,) the foundation of our hope rests on our confidence in HIS unfailing justice. We know we have no merit of our own but all of our hope is built on HIS righteousness and we can trust in no other. We may often doubt our own inclusion in HIS covenant of grace but we are unshakeably certain that what JESUS CHRIST has done in the behalf of HIS elect is totally sufficient and efficient to satisfy every claim which the law could bring forth against them.

In the Mosaic law, a husband had the power to cause the words which his wife spoke to be held against her or he could by owning her as his wife, cause her to be absolved of their consequences. He did this by becoming guilty for her iniquity. Whatever words she had spoken were still binding, but because he was her husband and gladly owned her as his wife. He became her substitute. We see the glory of redemption played out as the LORD JESUS CHRIST has:

Declared HIS love for HIS bride. Some picture the atoning work of CHRIST as being some kind of general payment for sin which men can avail themselves of according to their choice. The work which CHRIST did, HE did for a specific group of people known in scripture as the elect. The basis in law under which a man might take the iniquity of a woman was that she be his wife either in fact or by betrothal. Before the foundation of the world the SON of GOD was given a bride and she has been hidden in HIM ever since. HE has gladly owned her as HIS own and by HIS actions to bear her sin has proved it for all to see. She reaps the benefits of this relationship which she had absolutely no participation in establishing. *“The LORD did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: But because the LORD loved you, and because he would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your fathers, hath the LORD brought you out with a mighty hand.”*

Taken her iniquity as HIS own. The scripture is very plain that HE *“did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth.”* HE was *“in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.”* Yet the same scripture tells us that GOD *“hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”* HE has transferred HIS righteousness to HIS bride as HE has taken her iniquity upon HIMSELF, as only a HUSBAND could do for HIS bride.

Fulfilled the law for her. The husband’s decision (under Moses’ law) to bear his wife’s blame did not make the iniquity which she was guilty of disappear. The law demands satisfaction and the scripture is plain in its declaration that GOD *“will by no means clear the guilty;”* nor will HE *“at all acquit the wicked.”* So when a husband heard his wife’s vow and owned her as his wife, the vow was not canceled but rather had to be fulfilled by the husband as if he had made the vow himself. Our HUSBAND has gladly owned HIS bride and has willingly undertaken all of her responsibilities and accountability and made them HIS own. HE has fulfilled the law completely for her in such a fashion that any and all condemnation is forever abrogated. *“And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses; Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross”.* Are you hidden in CHRIST?

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