

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

One of the subtle testimonies to the veracity of the Bible is seen in the stark honesty and detail which is often recorded concerning the weakness, sin, and failure of those who frequently are in the center of its narrative. There is no attempt to gloss over their faults or to try to present them in a more “righteous” light than they are by nature. Judah was the fourth son of Jacob, yet it was to him that the mantle of the “first-born” fell since his older brothers all fell out of Jacob’s favor. It is from Judah’s loins that the LORD JESUS was prophesied to come as pertaining to the flesh. It was of necessity that all of these events occurred through the subsequent wicked acts of Judah and the product of his incestuous fornication with Tamar, his own daughter-in-law.

Tamar gives birth to the sons of Judah, as twins are born to her. Those two sons were Zarah, which literally means “to return”, and Pharez which literally means “the BREAKER.” They are both Judah’s sons but one is ordained to “return” to the dust from whence it came and the OTHER is ordained to conquer death. Pharez, who is representative of CHRIST, is that one whose birth signaled the triumphant entry of the “*LION of the tribe of Judah*” which could in no wise be superceded or prevented by flesh and blood. Though CHRIST was born in the flesh, HE was in no sense less than the GOD of heaven and earth, that ONE whose hand cannot be stayed, nor HIS purpose questioned.

We read of HIM in the prophecy of Micah, as HE is referred to by the very name given to Pharez, “*The breaker is come up before them: they have broken up, and have passed through the gate, and are gone out by it: and their king shall pass before them, and the LORD on the head of them.*” HE is that same ONE spoken of by Isaiah, “*Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.*” CHRIST is the BREAKER and who can stand before HIM? HE has triumphed gloriously, the horse and the rider hath HE thrown into the sea. HE is indeed mighty to save as HE has trod the winepress of GOD’s wrath alone, no man did stand with HIM. “*And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me.*”

HE has “broken” the power of the law to condemn those who were by nature the children of wrath even as others, who were yet those loved by HIM from before the foundation of the world. “*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.*” HE has “broken” the ability of the “accuser of the brethren” to bring any charge against HIS elect in whom HE delights. “*And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*” HE has “broken” the power of death, removed the source of its fear, and brought life and immortality to light. “*And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.*” “*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead*”

HE has broken the chains of “slavery to sin”. “*Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind, Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God. And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.” “*For which things’ sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience: In the which ye also walked some time, when ye lived in them. But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth. Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds; And have put on the new man, which is renewed in knowledge after the image of him that created him.” “*So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God.*”**

Just as Pharez is representative of the LORD JESUS CHRIST as the mighty and conquering SAVIOR who cannot fail, so too we see Zarah, his brother, as representative of those sons of Adam upon which the grace of CHRIST has been bestowed. They are the brethren of CHRIST for HE partook of the same flesh and blood. HE is their BROTHER by divine appointment and familial ties. This is manifested in time by the power of HIS quickening SPIRIT which gives them LIFE. They are marked by the scarlet thread of HIS redeeming blood before they were ever born and manifest their sonship by the operation of the gift of faith. Do you have this faith?

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