

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

We have often heard men say that the GOD of the Old Testament is a GOD of wrath while the GOD of the New Testament is a GOD of love and forgiveness. The prevailing thought is that GOD has somehow “mellowed out” and is not quite so exacting in the present day as HE was in the days of old. This is a complete error since GOD reveals HIMSELF as immutable or unchangeable and is the same yesterday, today and forever. *“For I am the LORD, I change not; therefore ye sons of Jacob are not consumed.”* The very reason that HE does not consume HIS chosen people right along with those HE has appointed to destruction is that HE changes not.

This is the only basis upon which the elect might have the hope of salvation. HE is indeed a consuming fire and the fact that HE will not alter the thing which has gone out of HIS mouth is the very foundation of the hope of those who have been given faith to believe HIS word. The religion of the flesh and free will is built upon the notion that GOD makes salvation “available” to every one. All they have to do is bring their faith and complete the transaction which HE anxiously waits for them to do. The fly in the ointment with this scenario is that by nature man is dead in trespasses and sins, will not seek the LORD, nor will he come when called.

The scripture indicates that the love of GOD is demonstrated by the particular and peculiar nature of it saying, *“Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated.”* HE has not only set HIS particular love upon a people which HE chose in CHRIST before the foundation of the world but HE has determined to save them from their sins and deliver them from the destruction which they richly deserve. The sons of GOD have never been the objects of HIS wrath even though they are as guilty and worthy of condemnation as any of the rest of Adam’s offspring. They have been appointed as the heirs of salvation just as much so as the reprobate have been ordained unto destruction

Those who are the objects of HIS mercy, are brought to confess that they are worthy of destruction, they know that in themselves dwelleth no good thing and the only reason that they do not perish with the rest of the world is simply because of the goodness, grace, and mercy of HIM who changes not. They could have no confidence at all in HIS mercy if HE was not so. *“Wherefore we receiving a kingdom which cannot be moved, let us have grace, whereby we may serve God acceptably with reverence and godly fear: For our God is a consuming fire.”* HE does consume:

The accusers of HIS people. CHRIST JESUS has silenced the Law, *“To declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth in Jesus.”* *“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”* CHRIST JESUS has bound Satan and hears not his accusations, having been tempted in all points by him, HE did triumph over him. Though HE has loosed him for a season that HE might use him for HIS own purpose yet he is as a toothless lion who merely roars and can devour none of those for whom CHRIST has been made SURETY. *“Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.”* CHRIST JESUS does give the guilty conscience rest. *“How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?”* *“For if our heart condemn us, God is greater than our heart”.* HE does consume

The sin and guilt of HIS people. CHRIST came not simply to pay the sin debt of HIS people, which HE did absolutely by HIS death on Calvary’s cross, but HE was “made” sin for them. Their sin became HIS and HIS righteousness became theirs by imputation. As HE became sin so were they made righteous. They are justified, priests and kings, heirs and joint heirs with CHRIST. He consumes:

The enemies of HIS people. *“I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come.”* All of the enemies of GOD’s people are the enemies of GOD. HE has made a show of them openly. *“For he must reign, till he hath put all enemies under his feet. The last enemy that shall be destroyed is death.”* *“O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”* A CONSUMING FIRE indeed!

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