

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

Nothing about the kingdom of GOD is in keeping with the logic and understanding of natural men. It is impossible that they should ever gain any knowledge of it apart from the goodness of GOD in revealing it to them. This is demonstrated quite clearly as the LORD spoke to the Pharisees who impudently made demands unto HIM to explain it. *“And when he was demanded of the Pharisees, when the kingdom of God should come, he answered them and said, The kingdom of God cometh not with observation: Neither shall they say, Lo here! or, lo there! for, behold, the kingdom of God is within you.”* HE plainly told them that the kingdom of GOD was already “in their midst” but that they could not “observe it”. Regardless of how diligently they might search for it, it was hidden from their view by their limited carnal understanding of what this kingdom consisted of and in what manner it was established.

Religious men presume that the Kingdom of GOD is a carnal kingdom. Some look at it as a future occurrence which will be seen by the real estate that it will occupy. Most are convinced that it is a Kingdom which can be entered or discovered by their adherence to certain principles, their acts of faithfulness and devotion, and their cooperation with GOD in securing unto themselves an interest therein. The latter is demonstrated in the minds of some by defining what is necessary for a man to believe in order to attain it and in the minds of others by the measured obedience which they might produce by their own free will. Both of these mindsets involve establishing a measure of personal righteousness, which these zealots presume that they possess especially as they compare themselves to others. The Kingdom of GOD cannot be inherited by flesh and blood since it is a Kingdom wherein dwelleth righteousness. Everything about the flesh is corruptible and every man in the flesh is corrupt. You cannot bring a clean thing out of that which is unclean, neither can a corrupt fountain bring forth pure water. Every thing in the earth produces after its own kind, and sinners produce sin, because they are conceived in sin and have no means whereby they can correct that situation, even if given a desire to do so as Paul points out in the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter of Romans.

Only as men are given an eye to behold HIM who is the GOVERNOR of this Kingdom, can they see it unfolded, desire to enter it, or to possess a LIVING HOPE of their acceptance therein. CHRIST is an absolute RULER over HIS Kingdom, and HE giveth it to whomsoever HE wills. HE is bound by nothing but HIS desire to do HIS FATHER’s will. In keeping with that desire HE will lose none which have been given to HIM as the subjects of HIS Kingdom. As HE said, *“And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.”*

Thus we see Zechariah given a prophecy concerning the LORD’s purpose to deliver those people, (given to HIM by HIS FATHER), which HE calls HIS own. They are called “prisoners of hope”. Now a man cannot know that he is a prisoner, until he is shown the walls which surround him. The natural man believes himself to be free to choose whatever might be brought before him. And the “free-will” mongers, masquerading as “gospel preachers” assure their hearers that they can of their own volition become the children of GOD. They do not consider themselves bound in any way. Yet the truth is that they are every one bound in the darkness and death of sin, without any means of escape. They are “prisoners” for sure, but they have no hope, except in the power of their own weak flesh and they warm themselves by a fire which they have kindled.

On the other hand there are a people in the earth who are *“the called according to HIS purpose.”* They are indeed in the exact same prison house as all of the sons of Adam, but they are made aware of their bondage, the impossibility of escape by their own power, and so are made to call upon HIM who is their only HOPE of deliverance. Thus they are called “prisoners of HOPE”. The “STRONG-HOLD” upon whom they rely, is not of their choosing or will but as they are made to see HIM who is the GOVERNOR of all things and the ONE who has led captivity captive and given gifts to men. They are compelled to hope in HIM. They have no other choice. The calling of GOD is without repentance. They have become willing bondslaves to HIM who is their RULER and they love to have it so. *“Thy free grace alone,” #11* **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email us at [forthepoor@windstream.net](mailto:forthepoor@windstream.net)**