

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

Welcome friends to another broadcast of "Morsels for Zion's Poor"

As I study through the scriptures, there are many passages in the Bible, that cause me great consternation and leave me puzzled as to the exact meaning of them. This is no where any more starkly manifested than in a perusal of the book of the Revelation. There are a multitude of so called teachers and prophets down through the ages and especially in the present day who have "discovered" all of the answers for us, if we will just listen to them.

They know the meaning of every hair on the tail of the white horse and the significance of each toenail on the beast which rises from the sea. They can tell us an exact timeline of the occurrence of all events which are yet to unfold in the history of this earth. Times and seasons, and the rise and fall of this kingdom or that are their specialties and they are able to keep their audiences (or readers) in rapt attention as they describe what the "mark of the beast is", when the "antichrist" is going to break upon the scene, or how to avoid the "great tribulation".

They consider their wild speculations to be matters of fact and have chapter and verse to "prove it", along with their carnal explanations of deep mysteries which they can unfold to the willing listener if they will but "support" their "ministry" with a love gift or at least purchase their books at a very reasonable price, considering the "depth" of their study and their willingness to impart these jewels of wisdom as they make merchandise of men.

The LORD has not sent HIS preachers into the earth to make a "profit" but rather to be "prophets" of a message which has but one SUBJECT, which is the glory of JESUS CHRIST, unfolded in HIS redemptive work in the behalf of those whom HE has loved from before the foundation of the world.

So as we read about HIM who has the key to the bottomless pit, it seems clear that this ONE to whom this key was given is none other than the LORD JESUS CHRIST. Of this I am certain, and that is that this whole book is the Revelation of JESUS CHRIST. HE is the central figure in it all and the unfolding of HIS glory is its purpose.

Many approach this book as though it is exactly "chronological" according to the carnal understanding of men, or that it reveals a certain "timetable" of future events. I would not deny that, there are not some future events foretold in it, but it does seem that this book is more accurately viewed as a manifestation of the work of CHRIST from various perspectives.

The opening of the seventh seal was done by the only ONE in heaven or earth, who had the power or right to open it. *"And they sung a new song, saying, Thou art worthy to take the book, and to open the seals thereof: for thou wast slain, and hast redeemed us to God by thy blood out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation."* (Rev 5:9) *"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved."* (Acts 4:12) This seventh seal is the last one to be opened. There is no further work of CHRIST to be accomplished for HE has finished HIS work of redemption, and yet merely awaits the moment when HE shall make manifest HIS purchased possession to the creation.

John tells us that he saw a "STAR" fall from heaven. *"I Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, and the bright and morning star."* (Rev 22:16) CHRIST JESUS is the STAR of heaven, HE is the ONE, around whom, all creation revolves, and the SOURCE of all LIGHT and LIFE. Some tell us that this star, spoken of here, must be Satan; yet, Satan has not been given the "key" to the bottomless pit for HE is put there by HIM who does have the key. Satan can do nothing that is not ordained by the ALMIGHTY.

This "*bottomless pit*" is a place of everlasting destruction and is the final abode of Satan, when the LORD is through with him according to HIS purpose, as well as all of those who are not found written in the book of LIFE. Satan has no power to cast men into that pit or to escape it himself, so he most certainly does not have its key. *"I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore, Amen; and have the keys of hell and of death."* (Rev 1:18) *Fear HIM.*

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