

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

The LORD will demonstrate that HE does indeed put a difference between HIS sons and the children of wrath as they pass through this world of sin and sorrow . They are a “holy people” (i.e.; set apart) unto the LORD. They are a “peculiar” people, in that HE works in them both to will and to do of HIS good pleasure, quite in contrast to the men of this world who are left to pursue their own way unto that very end, manifesting their appointment unto destruction. *“For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?”*

The evidence of this work in the sons of GOD is seen as they are embroiled in a life and death struggle with their sinful flesh. That “new nature” which HE has given them, does ever strive against that flesh which once had free reign over them. *“Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.” “For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.”* Paul describes this warfare and its outcome quite clearly, *“For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death? I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God; but with the flesh the law of sin.”*

Because of this continuing conflict, which often leaves the sons of GOD, discouraged and mindful of their great weakness, the LORD does bring great encouragement to them by the recognition of the mutual faith which is shared by those in whom HE is pleased to work and causes them to have fellowship with one another. Thus, we read in Paul’s letter to the Colossians his great joy in considering the “steadfastness” of their faith in CHRIST.

The term “steadfast” means to stand one’s ground, to be resolute, or unmovable. The “FAITH” of GOD’s elect is CHRIST. Not CHRIST plus something nor anything less than CHRIST. HE is the “ROCK” of their SALVATION who cannot be moved. Thus, when Paul speaks of the “steadfastness” of their faith, he is primarily considering the OBJECT of their FAITH. It is impossible to have “steadfast” faith if the basis upon which that faith rests is not “steadfast”. Having established this FOUNDATION, he then considers the faithful work of the HOLY GHOST in keeping them from falling, which men left to themselves will surely do.

The saints of GOD are encouraged and built up in the FAITH by the mutual and shared belief in CHRIST and HIM crucified. When we see brethren faithfully following on to know the LORD and walking in obedience to HIS precepts, we cannot help but be strengthened and reminded of the goodness of the LORD to lead HIS sheep. We sometimes doubt our own standing in the LORD (since we are acquainted first hand with the self-deception we are prone to) yet we are encouraged by the work of the LORD in our brethren whom HE has given us great esteem for. This is why a regular assembling of ourselves together is of such vital need.

Over the course of his life, Paul, saw many walk away from the faith which they once professed. This is why he often warned those to whom he wrote, to watch and pray; to be diligent in that to which the LORD called them. This is why he warned the Ephesian elders, with tears, to beware of wolves in sheep’s clothing. There are multitudes of avenues down which false professors may be turned aside, but there is only ONE PATH wherein the DAYSTAR shines and the TRUTH is manifest. So, when the LORD is pleased to enable us to behold the “steadfastness” of the FAITH of HIS elect, we cannot help but be inspired to fight the good fight and lay hold upon ETERNAL LIFE. As we see “faithful” brethren, we are encouraged and made to rejoice in the LORD whose faithfulness is new every morning.

The brethren’s steadfast faith reminds us that it is *“Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us.”* If HE faithfully keeps our brethren from falling, will HE not do so for us, and all who tremble before HIM, though we declare our own weakness in faith, confessing with him who said, *“Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.” “But ye are come unto mount Sion, -- To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven, --- And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood of sprinkling, that speaketh better things than that of Abel.* Have you come unto HIM?

*“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)**