

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

Israel as a nation is typical of that nation which is indeed made up of the true sons of GOD. *“A chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should show forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.”* That “nation” which is the LORD’s is comprised of those who were redeemed by the blood of the LAMB *“out of every kindred, and tongue, and people, and nation”* They are that people of whom HE said; *“For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people: And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest. For I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.* This is a nation whose GOD is the LORD. All of HIS promises to them are yea and amen and none of them are conditional except upon those conditions HE has promised to meet in their behalf.

The LORD has been pleased to demonstrate HIS everlasting love for HIS people both by contrasting the difference between them and natural Israel and also by many illustrations which describe HIS affectionate dealing with them which are pictures of HIS love to HIS saints. One of those illustrations that gives us a glorious picture of HIS mercy, care, and affection for those HE calls HIS own is found in the book of Ezekiel. We read HIS words to Jerusalem; *“Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine.”* HE said that she had nothing of her own which could add anything to HIM, rather the condition that she was in is likened to that of a helpless newborn infant still covered in the blood of its birth and cast out unwanted into a field to die. There is nothing more helpless than a newborn human. They have absolutely no power to do anything towards their survival and are completely at the mercy of someone else if they are to live and thrive.

HIS mercy to the castaway is an evidence of the great love wherewith HE has loved HIS people. HE said *“behold, thy time was the time of love”*. It most certainly could not have any reference to their love for HIM since they were left for dead and wholly incapable of loving HIM, yea HE even goes on to say how they demonstrated their rebellion against HIM in spite of HIS overtures and goodness to them. *“But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.”* GOD loves HIS people because HE loves them, not because of anything of worth foreseen in them, nor that they could in any wise be of value to HIM because of their actions.

That love which HE was pleased to demonstrate could not at all be appreciated by a newborn infant, yet that is the time when HE was pleased to show it. This demonstration of mercy brought on by eternal love is that wherein it pleased the LORD to cover the nakedness of HIS people. Paul said *“Blessed are they whose sins are covered.”* HE has spread HIS skirt over us:

That we might be covered in HIS righteousness. Not only did the LORD JESUS CHRIST die for us, that is not only did HE satisfy the law’s demands for our death in dying in our place, but HE has completely covered our nakedness that we might be presented *“to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.”*

That we might appear in HIS presence. David said *“Who shall ascend into the hill of the LORD? or who shall stand in his holy place? He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.”* None of us could ever enter into that holy place except that HE who has clean hands and a pure heart has covered us with HIS righteousness.

That our accusers might not be able to uncover our weakness. When the LORD designed the trial of Job, HE did not allow Satan to have free access to Job but only to afflict him according to that which HE designed for Job’s benefit. *“There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.”* *“Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God’s elect? It is God that justifieth.”*

A debtor to mercy alone, Of covenant mercy I sing;

Nor fear, with thy righteousness on, My person and offerings to bring.

The terrors of law and of God With me can have nothing to do;

My Saviour’s obedience and blood Hide all my transgressions from view.

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