

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

It is very apparent throughout the scriptures that CHRIST, alone, is the FOUNDATION of the FAITH once delivered to the saints. Paul testified of this when he said, *“For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.”* Peter gave testimony of the same when the lame man was healed at the temple gate, *“This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the head of the corner. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”* Nonetheless there are many who believe and teach that the apostles and prophets are an integral part of this “*foundation*”. They often say that Peter was the one upon whom the LORD would build HIS church. Yet the church is not built upon Peter but rather upon “*this ROCK*” (in contrast to Peter as a stone), which is CHRIST. And while the apostles and prophets both were used mightily by the LORD in the establishment of HIS Kingdom in the earth; they were as much resting upon this FOUNDATION as any other inhabitant of Zion. This is why Paul says, that the household of faith is built upon the “*FOUNDATION of the apostles and prophets.*” That is to say the same FOUNDATION which the apostles and prophets rest upon is that ONE to whom they point as the “*CHIEF CORNERSTONE.*”

Behold the sure foundation stone which God in Zion lays,
 To build our heavenly hopes upon, And his eternal praise.
 What though the gates of hell withstood? Yet must this building rise;
 'Tis thy own work almighty God, And wondrous in our eyes.

The Kingdom of GOD, manifested in HIS church, in the present day, does not simply consist of a FOUNDATION but rather is a building which is constructed by HIM who is the WISE MASTER-BUILDER. This building rests squarely upon its FOUNDATION and is tied to it with cords of love which cannot be broken. Paul says it is a building which is “*fitly framed together*”. HE has designed each part of this building and HE has used no unnecessary parts in its construction. *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.” “But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”* This “*fitly framed*” building is strengthened by that which every joint supplieth and no one member is more important than any other. Each part of the building is designed to be dependent upon one another, as each part rests in the LORD, and the whole edifice “*groweth into a holy temple in the LORD.*” *“For the body is not one member, but many. If the foot shall say, Because I am not the hand, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? And if the ear shall say, Because I am not the eye, I am not of the body; is it therefore not of the body? If the whole body were an eye, where were the hearing? -- But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.-- But now are they many members, yet but one body.”*

This “*fitly framed*” building is “*built together for a habitation of GOD through the SPIRIT.*” The only acceptable spiritual sacrifices that can be offered up unto GOD are those which are in and of CHRIST. The benefit that each of the “*parts*” of the body bestows or receives from or to the other “*parts*” is in the ministry of one to another, through the exaltation of CHRIST. For each “*part*” of the body is a “*living stone*”, made alive by CHRIST. *“And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. He that hath the Son hath life; and he that hath not the Son of God hath not life.”* This is the basis of all of the benefits of the brethren one to another. The fellowship of the LORD’s people is not in their shared interests in the things of this world. Rather their ministry one to another is in their testimony of the LIFE which is in CHRIST. In this they strengthen one another and bear one another’s burdens. In this they esteem one another better than themselves.

How sweet, how heavenly is the sight, When those that love the Lord,
 In one another’s peace delight, And so fulfil his word!
 When each can feel his brother’s sigh, And with him bear a part;
 When sorrow flows from eye to eye, And joy from heart to heart.
 When free from envy, scorn, and pride, Our wishes all above,
 Each can his brother’s failings hide, And show a brother’s love.
 When love in one delightful stream Through every bosom flows;
 When union sweet and dear esteem, In every action glows!
 Love is the golden chain that binds The happy souls above;
 And he’s an heir of heaven that finds His bosom glow with love.

Do you delight in the assembly of the saints which is the habitation of GOD?

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