

**SINGING:** 259:1,5 – 316 – 402: 1,4,6 – 88: 1 – 271: 1,3

**READING:** Exodus 20: 1 -17; Isaiah 29: 13 – 24

## **THE ONLY TRUE GROUND OF REJOICING**

*By John Kershaw*

*Text Isaiah 29: 19b*

*".... the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel."*

### **The poor among men**

- The doctrine of God's election is clearly revealed in the sacred Scriptures.
- God's religion in the soul of a poor sinner always lays that sinner low; and that God's religion in the sinner's soul always lifts the Lord Jesus Christ very high.
- It is a great blessing, feelingly and experimentally to know our poverty and destitution before God.
- He will regard the cry of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer.

### **They shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel**

- There is no rejoicing in our wretchedness, nor any triumphing in our sinfulness and vileness.
- The Holy Ghost leads them away from self to a precious Jesus.
- The more sick we are made of ourselves, the more we are brought to feel our own weakness and inability.

- Do you not find that he describes your feelings in Romans 7?

### **Application**

- Instead of attaining to holiness and unblameableness, I saw myself to be more and more unholy.
- Blessed be God, we have a holiness and unblameableness in the Lord Jesus Christ.

*"And lest the shadow of a spot  
Should on my soul be found,  
He took the robe the Saviour wrought,  
And cast it all around."*

- The Lord enable us, then, to trust alone in a precious Christ, and not to attempt to cleanse ourselves from our defilement.
- When the Lord appears in the conscience, bringing light and gladness, it is a day season to our souls.
- How are we to rejoice, then, in "the Holy One of Israel"?
- Son, or daughter, thy sins which are many are all forgiven thee."