

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

While it is very comforting to lay blame for the failures and decline of our nation on the lack of leadership or the absence of this or that law, the sad reality is that the state of our nation and its decayed moral fiber is being manifested by the choice of the leaders we elect. Abortion is a terrible practice, drug and alcohol abuse is certainly extremely harmful to individuals and society alike, and homosexuality is an unnatural and decadent practice, which is an evidence of GOD’s judgment upon a nation. Yet it is sheer folly to think that even the most conservative of leaders can “solve” these problems through legislation. The rise of these “problems” is but an indicator of the innate wickedness of a society that wants to pick and choose the “vices” that it is willing to allow.

The Pharisees were upset that the disciples of the LORD ate without washing their hands. Being Jews they were very strict “legalists”, yet they were more interested in washing the outside of the cup, while neglecting the inside. So, the LORD told them that the things that men take in do not defile them, but rather the wickedness which is within defiles them as it is manifested. The LORD was very clear that men are not sinners because of any substance or activity which is external, but rather that men demonstrate their innate sinfulness because they are inwardly corrupt and unfit for the kingdom of heaven. Men sin because they are sinners. Men would like to think that by engaging in various religious activities or refraining from certain indulgences that they can become holy. It is this principle which is at the heart of the notion that by making a profession of faith, being baptized in water, or by performing good deeds that they can merit the favor of GOD or alter their eternal destiny. This is the very basis upon which Paul pointed out the folly of going about to establish our own righteousness and the fatal results thereof.

The law exists because men are by nature corrupt and to every good work reprobate. No law against sin is necessary among those who are not sinners. The love of wickedness is that which causes wickedness and it is bound in the heart of every man. *“As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one: There is none that understandeth, there is none that seeketh after God. They are all gone out of the way, they are together become unprofitable; there is none that doeth good, no, not one.”* So men are in a condition from which they cannot escape. They are sliding towards their just destruction with no remedy in their hand. They have abused themselves, despised the way of GOD, and lapped up iniquity like water. Yet, the false prophets encourage men to solve their problems by “accepting” the LORD as if the power to do so is a product of their own free will.

There is only one MAN who has ever “accomplished” salvation. HIS name is JESUS CHRIST. No man by whatever “endeavor” he may attempt can ever add to or gain this “salvation” because every man is dead in trespasses and sins and utterly defiled thereby. Men cannot and will not “change” themselves into something which they are not by nature. Apart from being made a “new creature” by the operation of free and sovereign grace, all men shall perish in their own sin and receive the just recompense of reward for being rebel, alien sinners. *“Marvel not that I said unto thee, Ye must be born again.”*

Salvation is a gift which is secured by CHRIST and then applied by the HOLY GHOST to the most undeserving of men. There is no place wherein a man can boast of any accomplishment thereto. Paul said he would glory in nothing but the cross of CHRIST whereon the LORD alone obtained eternal redemption for HIS people.

- 1 What wisdom, majesty, and grace Through all the gospel shine!  
'Tis God that speaks, and we confess The doctrine most divine.
- 2 Down from his shining throne on high The Almighty Saviour comes,  
Lays his bright robes of glory by, And feeble flesh assumes.
- 3 The mighty debt his chosen owed Upon the cross he pays;  
Then through the clouds ascends to God, 'Midst shouts of loftiest praise.
- 4 There he, our great High Priest, appears Before his Father’s throne;  
There on his breast our names he wears, And counts our cause his own.

Oh sinner! Contemplate your dire situation. Trust not in your own supposed ability to believe or obey the commandments of CHRIST. May GOD give you grace to find REFUGE from the wrath to come upon all who are defiled without remedy. CHRIST alone is the sinner’s hope.

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