

## RADIO TRANSCRIPT #24

singing : "The law demands a weighty debt." #49

### **Welcome friends to another broadcast of "Morsels for Zion's Poor"**

GOD has a purpose in all things, but that purpose is not always readily apparent. There is always a way which seems right to man but that way is never, the right way, and is that which leads to death when pursued. This is demonstrated quite clearly in the manner in which men approach the law of GOD and the purpose for which they think it was given.

The natural man looks at the law as a catalog of requirements which GOD has set forth, to give men a guideline as to how they should live their lives. There is no doubt that this law does set forth some very stringent guidelines, but the purpose of them is not to give men a simple rule to follow but rather to reveal to them, the depravity of their own hearts as they see the enmity of their mind against such rules and to teach them of their utter inability to keep the law.

The rich young ruler asked the LORD for a rule whereby he might inherit eternal life. The LORD simply said, "*Thou knowest the commandments, Do not commit adultery, Do not kill, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Honour thy father and thy mother.*" Then he ignorantly and self-righteously replied, "*All these have I kept from my youth up.*" He was quite satisfied with his performance as many are who claim that they keep the commandments of the LORD all the while shaking their heads in disgust at those who they consider to be lawbreakers.

Yet when the LORD revealed to this young ruler what the true nature of the law was, he went away sorrowing. What he thought the purpose of the law was and what the LORD showed him it was were two different things. The LORD used the law to teach him of the hardness of his heart. By this revelation HE manifested to him how far short of keeping the law that he actually was, and therefore how far he was from inheriting eternal life by his own effort.

It is a demonstration of GOD's mercy when a man is "slain by the law". As long as a man thinks that he can and does keep the law of GOD, that man will go about to establish his own righteousness before GOD and being unable to see himself for what he is, shall perish in his own righteousness being void of that one and only true righteousness which is found in CHRIST alone.

When the LORD in sovereign mercy acquaints a man with his own innate depravity and secret rebellion against the law of GOD, contrasted against the backdrop of the utter immutability and holiness of that law, then that man will fall down and confess of a truth that he is a sinner without any hope of being found righteous before the LORD by his own obedience.

There are many who would confess that they are true believers in CHRIST, who continue on with the notion that since they are now believers they are somehow able to perform deeds of righteousness. It is no less a principle of legalism for those who claim to be saved by grace, to look at the exhortations of the New Testament as a list of requirements which they faithfully work on keeping as obedient sons of GOD, than it was for the Jews to think that they could keep the Law of Moses and be justified thereby.

The exhortations of the New Testament must not be neglected in any wise, yet for a man to consider that he is able to perform them in his own power is the same error which the Jews were destroyed by. The reason that we are exhorted to perform acts of obedience, which we gladly confess are beneficial and good, is to drive us to CHRIST as our PERFORMER. The purpose of these exhortations is threefold:

To teach us that perfect law (or principle) of liberty to which the sons of GOD are called. "For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death." (Rom 8:2)

To remind us of our continual weakness in the flesh. "There is none good no not one" But most importantly these exhortations are given to us: .

To acquaint us with the character of CHRIST as that perfect MAN who did no sin neither was guile found in HIS mouth. All of those things we are exhorted to perform, HE has already demonstrated a complete obedience to. This is that "*peaceable fruit of righteousness*", when we see CHRIST as our ALL in all, working all things for our good according to HIS pleasure. May HE thus "*exercise*" us.

"Run, run, and work," the law commands," #49 **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email us at [forthe poor@windstream.net](mailto:forthe poor@windstream.net) ,**