

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

There is no shortage of skillful “preachers” in the present day. There are schools and seminaries (of every stripe) which churn out “trained” and “qualified” preachers with the regularity of a cookie machine at the Keebler bakery. They all have the proper credentials to get jobs as mercenaries in the “army of god”. Many are great orators who would probably even rival one like Apollos, but just like him, yet need the way of GOD, expounded unto them more perfectly.

Some of them are no doubt wolves in sheep’s clothing who deceive others, being deceived themselves. There are also some of these silver tongued “angels of light” who are intent on gathering to themselves a following and are willing to tell men exactly what they want to hear in order to have preeminence and enrich themselves with this world’s goods. They are able to expound upon many texts and produce polished and powerful orations which leave their hearers spellbound or in some cases, rolling around on the floor and foaming at the mouth.

Paul was well “qualified”, having been taught “of GOD” and needed not that any man should teach him, since CHRIST HIMSELF was his INSTRUCTOR. He confessed that his skills as an orator were lacking, yet he left an indelible mark upon all who heard him because his message always centered on the one truth that the preaching of the true gospel always does, “JESUS CHRIST and HIM crucified”. Paul could have drawn from the vast compendium of the knowledge which he possessed on a multitude of topics which could actually all be profitable to the children of GOD in one way or another. Yet he declared without equivocation, *“I determined not to know any thing among you, save Jesus Christ, and him crucified.”*

He “determined” that this was crux of the matter. Regardless of what else he could say, he would declare the finished work of CHRIST. There are many “issues” upon which men may go to the right and to the left but by equivocating on that which CHRIST has performed in the behalf of HIS elect is to miss the “one thing needful.” We are sometimes accused of thinking that all men are lost who do not agree with us doctrinally. Such is not the case. However, we are convinced that there is not more than one true gospel, and this true gospel is that which declares that the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD. We have not looked upon the LAMB’s book of life, to see whose name is recorded there, but we have “determined” along with Paul that any message which attributes the salvation of the people of GOD to anything other than the work of CHRIST cannot be the true gospel.

It does not matter what else a man may preach or how sincerely he may do so, if he misses or misrepresents the sufficiency and efficiency of the blood of CHRIST to atone for the sins of HIS people; he has missed the true gospel and is guilty of declaring “another gospel”.

Paul determined to preach JESUS CHRIST, the eternal SON of GOD; *“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross. Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:”* *“Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him: And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence. For it pleased the Father that in him should all fullness dwell.”* Paul determined to preach the atoning work of CHRIST as the sum total of the sinner’s hope. *“Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.”* Paul determined to preach CHRIST as the SAVIOR of HIS people and not one who offers salvation to all but actually procures it for none. *“This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”*

How high a privilege ’tis to know Our sins are all forgiven
To bear about this pledge below, This special grant of heaven!
To look on this when sunk in fears, While each repeated sight,
Like some reviving cordial, cheers, And makes temptations light!
This is a treasure rich indeed, Which none but Christ can give;
Of this the best of men have need; This I, the worst, receive

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