

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

There is an old conundrum which asks, "which came first the chicken or the egg?" Of course anyone who has even a small knowledge of the scriptural record of creation understands the folly of such human reason, since HE who made the worlds out of nothing, created the chicken, immediately, just exactly like HE intended it to be and not by some natural process. There are some believe the LORD created the earth and all living creatures over a long period of time through the process of evolution. Such theories are designed by men who seek to make the scriptural record more palatable to the natural thinking of men seeking to have a mixture of the science of the worldly wise and the revealed truth of the scriptures. In so doing they wind up denying both and only proving the confusion and rebellion that is in the heart of man by nature. A man actually has to deny his own personal observations of the intricacies of the world around him in order to deny the work of creation by a Sovereign GOD.

While a man can be taught the "facts" of such a "creation", it is only by grace that this same man can be brought to embrace the glory which surrounds his CREATOR and to bow before HIM as he worships in SPIRIT and TRUTH. This "faith" is the gift of GOD and cannot be arrived at by natural reason or understanding. *"Ye must be born again."*

The true Gospel springs from ONE SOURCE. Paul says that he received it by the "*revelation of JESUS CHRIST*" (see v.12) Now surely he is speaking of his own personal experience as an annointed "apostle", yet every man who has ever received any understanding of the Gospel, has gotten it from the exact same SOURCE. The LORD does indeed use human instrumentality in the declaration of the gospel, but all knowledge of it and the calling thereto comes directly from HIM who is the AUTHOR and FINISHER of our FAITH.

The primary purpose of preaching the gospel, is not the salvation or benefit of mankind, but rather to testify of the glory of the grace of the blessed GOD who sent HIS only begotten SON into the world to redeem HIS people, justifying them in the sight of the law. The gospel of HIS grace, as HE is pleased to make it known, is completely at odds with the thinking of the natural man and his worldly religious pursuits. By nature men are convinced that they can choose to follow the way of GOD by an action of their "free-will", and by their own efforts, cause HIM to take notice of them. Thus the natural man will grow angry and rebel against the truth of GOD's sovereign and unconditional election of a people in CHRIST.

The fact that HE shows mercy to the undeserving and those who do not measure up to the standards which men regard as being worthy of HIS favor is galling to the man who entertains notions of his own worthiness. Man in his natural religious state desires to raise a certain standard of moral behavior which would make a man to be accepted before the LORD. If such were the case who among us could stand? A sinner would have no grounds to hope in HIS mercy.

The SUBJECT of this gospel is a STONE OF STUMBLING to the natural man. While man is in natural revolt against the laws and precepts of GOD, his greatest point of rebellion is seen in his hatred of CHRIST JESUS. The natural religious tendencies of men cause some of them to pay lip service to HIM, but in reality they will not have this MAN to rule over them. They will observe times and seasons in supposed worship of HIM, but they receive not the love of the TRUTH that they might be saved.

By nature men will often have regard and respect unto religion of one sort or another and its requirements as a means of making peace with GOD. Yet the LORD was quite clear that it is impossible that any man could know or approach unto GOD apart from believing the gospel. To believe the gospel is not simply to endorse the moral teachings of CHRIST, but rather is to see HIS glory and embrace HIS LORDSHIP. That man who believes the gospel despises and rejects any other ground of hope but that which he finds in CHRIST, for the success of CHRIST in no way rests upon the ability and action of those who are by grace the recipients of faith. Are you a believer?

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