

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

The Apostle Paul was a man given a mission from which he would not be deterred as he told Timothy that his preaching was "*According to the glorious gospel of the blessed God, which was committed to my trust.*" He recounted his calling to the Galatians, "*But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb, and called me by his grace, To reveal his Son in me, that I might preach him among the heathen.*" There are many in the present day who believe that men can decide to preach the gospel whenever they want to. They look at it as a vocation which a man chooses, prepares for, and obtaining the proper "credentials" then pursues just like any other profession which a man might undertake.

This notion is foreign to any example or instruction which is found in the scriptures. If a man is to be a proclaimer of the gospel, he must be called and equipped for it by HIM whose gifts and calling are without repentance. Many are those who have mistaken oratory for "prophecy" and charisma for calling. And there are multitudes of "teachers" who have sought a following and pursued their "ministry" by selling themselves to the highest bidder. Paul had no concern for payment for his "services", his first priority was preventing any hindrances to the accomplishment of his purpose.

Thus he instructed the Ephesian elders with tears, "*I have coveted no man's silver, or gold, or apparel.* This is the exact teaching which Peter also set forth saying, "*Feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples to the flock.*"

We could characterize Paul's "ministry" among the saints as being done in true "sincerity" As Paul ministered to the saints he expected that those who claimed to be the followers of CHRIST would be those who "*love the LORD JESUS CHRIST in sincerity.*" For such are the true disciples of CHRIST. Those who do not love HIM in "sincerity" are in reality false brethren or those who have a name that they live but are dead.

The manifestation of the SPIRIT in the sons of GOD will be done "*in sincerity.*" There are no still born sons of GOD and none who despise the work which HE would perform in them. The work of the SPIRIT in the sons of GOD produces a love for the TRUTH of GOD. To reject the TRUTH and embrace a lie concerning the PERSON and work of CHRIST is to be without a love of the truth, and without the sincerity which Paul speaks of here.

The work of the SPIRIT causes them to recognize the truth, when they are enabled to hear it. "*My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.*" The work of the SPIRIT in the sons of GOD produces an unfeigned love of their brethren in CHRIST. "*We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death.*" The work of the SPIRIT in the sons of GOD manifests a faith which is also "unfeigned" or not corrupted. This unfeigned faith is discovered in saints of every station and calling in life and is the source of much encouragement of one to the other as each esteems the other better than themselves. This is why the saints are exhorted to bear one another's burdens, "*And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.*" This work of the SPIRIT in the sons of GOD produces in them the fruit of the SPIRIT just as Paul expresses his desire for them; "*And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ; Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.*" "*Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.*" This is the demonstration of a "sincere love of CHRIST" who gave us HIS EXAMPLE that we should follow in HIS steps.

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