

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

It is impossible for a man to be free if he does not understand what it is that has him bound. Many men have spent years in prison and having been released, ultimately wound up right back in prison. While they were in prison they were convinced that those walls were what had them bound and if they could get out of the bondage of that cell, then they could really be free. Yet soon they demonstrate that it is not the walls of the prison that form the bounds of their habitation but rather the very habits and behavior which got them incarcerated in the first place.

Liberty is a state which is desired by all men. Yet multitudes of those who inhabit the earth will never enjoy true liberty because they cannot identify what it is that has them bound and even when they do, they have no power to cast off their captor or enter into freedom.

Every schoolboy and girl who has studied American History, has been taught that, prior to the signing of the Declaration of Independence, Patrick Henry is purported to have said, "I know not, what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death." Many have striven with other men over the years in a quest to be free from various kinds of tyranny imposed by those who have power, but not one of them, have in this fashion ever gained one day of true liberty. It is sheer folly for those who claim to be preachers of the gospel, to counsel men that they can enjoy freedom by taking up arms and engaging in carnal warfare with other men.

Such "freedom" is fleeting at best, and given the course of time and the natural bent of men, all carnal governments are destined to fall and the "liberty" so desperately sought, and paid for by the blood of "patriots", overturned in time, and those who thought themselves to be "free", find themselves bound at the last.

Paul writes to the Romans about a "*glorious liberty*" which is enjoyed by those who are called the "*children of GOD*". It is interesting that most men would express a belief that all of mankind are the "*children of GOD*", yet Paul, here, speaks of a group of people who are set apart from the rank and file of mankind and identified particularly by this description.

Many consider that "sin" is the "captor" of the "*creature*" (i.e.; the flesh). The reality is that the "captor" is this "corruptible body." The LORD JESUS CHRIST, was made in the likeness of sinful flesh, being born of a woman, and taking on the same form as all other "creatures", with one exception, HE was completely "incorruptible", born of virgin birth, so that HE was tempted in all points as we are, yet was never inclined towards sin nor did HE ever entertain any thought of deceit or guile. Though sin is indeed our "stumbling block", our corruptible and corrupted bodies continually embrace sin.

The same ONE who subjected the creature unto vanity, is HE who also ordained the glorious liberty of the children of GOD. HE did not do this upon a whim but rather to magnify the glory of HIS grace. HE did not subject the creature unto bondage as an end in itself but rather that HE might also give them HOPE.

This "*hope*" is not in itself the "*glorious liberty*" of the children of GOD, but it is the precursor or pledge of it which is given unto those sons when they are granted faith to believe the gospel of the glory of the blessed GOD. Thus the scripture speaks of this "*hope*" as the salvation of those privileged sons. "*For we are saved by hope.*"

Thus, we find that those who are granted this precious "HOPE", are yet in a corruptible state, and thereby groan and travail "*within themselves*" as they await a complete deliverance from that which holds them captive.

The "*glorious liberty*" of which Paul says the sons of GOD wait for, is a change of this body in which they dwell into an incorruptible one, such as is occupied by their LORD JESUS CHRIST. The day is coming when we shall be "changed" and corruption shall put on incorruption, and the true freedom of the sons of GOD shall be made manifest. We do with patience wait for it saying, "*even so come LORD JESUS.*"

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