

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

Woven throughout the pages of scripture are many vignettes of GOD's provision and deliverance of that people that HE loves with an everlasting love. This is nowhere more vividly illustrated than in the account that we have of Joseph being sold as a slave into Egypt for the specific purpose of ministering deliverance to the household of Israel.. In this particular account we see layer upon layer of various "circumstances" and "occurrences" which manifest the absolute predestination of all things by the hand of an all wise and Absolute GOD. In man's natural understanding he would attribute such things to "luck", "coincidence", or "karma". Yet to those to whom it is given to rejoice in a Sovereign GOD, they see GOD's hand demonstrated. *"And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."*

Every incident that occurs during this unfolding saga has its own set of "circumstances" which define each particular occurrence. When analyzed separately, they can each be attributed to various "causes" and "effects", such as the animosity and jealousy which arose among Joseph's brothers that led to their decision to sell him into slavery to the dreams which Joseph was enabled to interpret for the baker and the butler which ultimately led to his interpreting Pharaoh's dream and arriving at a place of honor and power in the kingdom of Egypt.

While each one of these events produced its individual results and in a measure accomplished a specific and particular purpose of its own; it is as we see the whole unfolded and each of these episodes woven into a greater fabric of an overall purpose that we are made to rejoice and give glory to HIM who does all things well and for the benefit of those whom HE loves. It is impossible for men to predict (or understand) the outcome of every step that the LORD is pleased to design in the unfolding of HIS purpose , as we read *"For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts."*

Surely, Job would not have known nor could he have foreseen that the loss of all that he held dear was the result of the LORD's challenge to Satan. He could not have known that the whole scenario was designed by the LORD, to bring him to a true understanding of the majesty of the MOST HIGH GOD and that every trial in that journey was ordained by the hand of HIM who loved him before he ever drew his first breath. He did not enjoy each step of that sojourn but by the grace of GOD he could afterwards reflect upon it and give glory to HIM is worthy of all glory.

We see Pharaoh, instructing that wagons be sent to gather the household of Jacob from the land of Canaan to deliver them from the famine. In order that they might have ease of journey to the land of Egypt he also sent asses laden with "good things", simply, because of his great love and regard unto Joseph. Jacob nor any of his family would have a standing or regard in his sight were it not that he had regard unto Joseph. Now in this we see illustrated the regard which the FATHER has for those whom HE has chosen "in CHRIST", from before the foundation of the world. They are precious in HIS sight because they are hidden in CHRIST and HE is their MEDIATOR and DELIVERER even as Joseph stood as such for his kinsman. The FATHER has respect to all who are seen in the RIGHTEOUSNESS of CHRIST, and none for those who are not.

The GRACE of GOD is the SUFFICIENCY of the saints of GOD. There is no other conveyance which can bring the saints out of the land of famine and barrenness and into the land of plenty. HE supplies all that is necessary for them to arrive safely at their destination. The biggest hindrance to the entrance of men into the Kingdom of GOD is self-righteousness, which is having any sort of regard to ones own actions, merits, or obedience as a means of gaining the favor of GOD.

Nothing makes a religious man angrier than when he is told that he has no power or ability to gain the favor of GOD and that he cannot even believe apart from the gift of faith from the LORD. This is the message which the LORD preached to the Pharisees and they hated HIM and HIS message. Yet to those sinners for whom CHRIST came, it is a welcome sight even as the wagons of Pharaoh were to Jacob and his family. "HIS grace is sufficient".

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