

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

It was generally the consensus of opinion among the Jews that all who were born of Abraham’s natural seed would ultimately be saved. The message that the LORD JESUS taught, introduced questions about this in the minds of many and was part of the reason for many rejecting HIS teaching. It matters little whether or not we can determine exactly who will be saved, or whether it be few or many, if we ourselves are not found among those HE owns when HE comes to judge the quick (i.e.; living) and the dead. The LORD startled HIS hearers by saying *“Strive to enter in at the strait (i.e.; narrow, tightly constricted) gate: for many, I say unto you, will seek to enter in, and shall not be able.”* The LORD moves the attention of men away from a consideration of “if there be few saved” to the more sobering thought that there will be *“many”* who shall seek to enter in who shall not be able.

Both the word “few” and the word “many” are comparative numbers. One may have a family reunion and have “many” people present. Yet that same group of folks would be “few” if they were in a football stadium on New Year’s Day. The important lesson that the LORD taught and is reiterated in the faithful proclamation of the gospel is that there is only ONE WAY of salvation which has been manifested to men. HE said, *“I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.”* This is that “narrow way”. *“Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.”*

One can find little if any similarity to these words of CHRIST with that pabulum which is served up by the multitude of “so called” preachers peddling their wares in today’s religious marketplace. To listen to them one would have to conclude that a man would have to actively seek his own damnation in order to perish in the final conflagration prepared for the wicked. They tell us that GOD has done everything HE could possibly do to save every individual and all that a man has to do in order to be saved is just “believe”. This is something that they tell us is so easy that anyone can do it whenever he decides to and can even fill out a coupon to prove it.

There are numbers of other “gospel vendors” who tell us that “just believing is not enough”. Then they add all sorts of other actions that a man must take in order to be saved; from being baptized in water, jabbering in an unknown language, or fulfilling other sorts of duties and acts of obedience, or embracing various theological confessions drafted by men. The only thing that the first group and the second group have in common is that they believe that man’s salvation is the result of his own free will and that salvation in CHRIST is dependent on the action of the man to complete it.

The prevailing thought, that the natural man is born with, is that there is a cosmic struggle between the forces of good and evil. This notion is common in just about all societies and cultures. Out of this innate error arises the idea, that GOD has offered up a plan or method of snatching as many folks as possible from the snares of the devil. This teaching says that GOD is desperately trying to get men to do something that many are unwilling to do and thus HE is left with a partially fulfilled desire. The deceivers tell us, HE can only save those who let HIM save them though HE wants to save everybody.

Any teaching that purports that the ABSOLUTE GOD of the universe, can in anywise fail to fulfill HIS own purpose and desire, flies in the face of the scriptures and is an absolutely blasphemous notion. HE has plainly declared that HE measures HIS own success in the performance of HIS own purpose. *“Remember this, and shew yourselves men: bring it again to mind, O ye transgressors. Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me,-- I have purposed it, I will also do it. -- I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.”*

What folly is exhibited by men in trying to determine who it is that the LORD will save or if there are ultimately many or few (as they would judge). *“the salvation of the righteous is of the LORD: he is their strength in the time of trouble.”* There is no help for trembling sinners in the creeds and confessions of faith, drawn up by well-educated and well meaning “preachers” and “teachers”. There is no help for them in a GOD who can only stand by and watch them slowly drift into hell, powerless to save them apart from their cooperation. There is no help for them in the baptismal waters, membership in proud religious organizations, regardless of their heritage or longevity. The only place that a sinner, who finds himself terrified at the thought of standing before an all consuming GOD, can find any comfort is in the words of that same GOD who says, *“Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”* *“I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save.”*

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