

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

That “faith” which is the “gift of GOD” is not passive but is very active due to the fact that the same SPIRIT that bestows this gift also works in those, to whom HE is pleased to give it, both to will and to do of HIS good pleasure. This “faith” is manifested by causing those who have it to hunger and thirst after the ONE who is its OBJECT. Their greatest satisfaction comes as they see HIM exalted and triumphant over all HIS enemies; most especially as regards the complete payment for the sins of those for whom HE died and the hopeful expectation which they possess, of being found among them at the day of HIS appearing. The man who has no desire after CHRIST, nor any longing to be found included in that number of those HE comes to claim as HIS sheep, does not have faith; regardless of what religion he may be a part of, what doctrine he professes to believe, or how loudly he may tell others the way of salvation. Those who are the called in CHRIST, will be found “*looking for HIM*”.

They weep to think that they might ever grow weary of the preaching of JESUS CHRIST and HIM crucified. Their desire is rather, that such might be their constant source of delight. They rejoice in the accounts of HIS kindness and tender mercies towards unworthy sinners, knowing that they are such. To know that HE is the friend of sinners gives them encouragement. They find comfort in HIS teaching and the manifestation of HIS faithfulness towards those HE has chosen. They weep at the thought of their own dullness of understanding and coldness of heart and lament that they have caused HIS grief and contributed to HIS sorrow. That which is called “faith”, by the multitude is nothing more than presumption which is built upon the notion that a man can believe as a matter of his own free will. The average person which we hear talk of “faith” likens it to a form of “positive thinking”, by which they are able to perform all sorts of exploits, conquer any foe, effect great healings, and get any prayer answered according to their own desire.

The man with true faith, on the other hand, casts himself at the feet of CHRIST, all too aware of his own helpless state and cries out, “*Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.*” If he is enabled by the SPIRIT to accomplish any task to which he may be called, he acknowledges the SOURCE of his power, and is aware of the LORD’s authority and sustenance. If you ask the average person who calls himself a Christian; “What is the basis of your hope?”; most would reply, “I have believed”. Then they point to a time when they “joined the church”, “made a decision”, “got saved”, or were baptized” as the proof of such. True faith, on the other hand transcends such events and confesses; “CHRIST has died for sinners”, believing HIM to be the SON of GOD, able to effect their deliverance and merciful to them that call upon HIS name. They that have this faith look for HIM. The ONE who bled for wicked men is the very basis of their hope and expectation, and their longing desire is to be found in HIM. They look for HIM as those who can find no place of rest except there. As Peter said, “*Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.*”

When those who have been acquainted with their own depravity and unbelieving spirit, are given true faith, they are most amazed at the thought that such might be found in them. They are often encouraged as they see that “faith” manifested in others whom they call their brethren. They find assurance; not in their loud claims of faith, nor even the assurances which are spoken to them by others, but in the sweet promises of the gospel applied to their soul by the work of the HOLY GHOST.

Some carnal professors can point to much assurance given to them by those who promote “free will faith” while others rely upon an adherence to what they call “sound doctrine”. They can revel in the multiplicity of their good works and deeds, the strength of their religious affiliations, or the accuracy of their “confession of faith”. They are content to abide in these comfortable places and the soothing melodies of their “belief” serve as a suitable elixir. Those who are called by CHRIST, however, are compelled to look for HIM and rejoice in HIS appearing.

When the Aaronic high priest went into the holy of holies once a year with the blood of a bull, he went in as a sinner with sin and he came out in the same condition. When JESUS CHRIST entered into those holy places not made with hands, HE came as a LAMB without spot or blemish yet laden with the sins of HIS people which HE had imputed to HIMSELF by reason of HIS kinship to those who were hidden in HIM. HE entered upon that heavenly altar as their SUBSTITUTE and suffered the exact sentence of death which was due to each one as transgressors of the Holy Law of GOD. When CHRIST died, HE put away sin forever and to those that “look for HIM”, HE appears without sin unto salvation. They need look no further for it is with this perfect SACRIFICE that they are forever sanctified and satisfied. CHRIST is ALL.

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