

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

There is nothing more delightful and at the same time comforting to the sons of GOD than a contemplation of the perfections and accomplishments of their REDEEMER and LORD. It is in HIM that every shred of their hope rests and by HIM that all of their expectations in this world or that to come are fully met. The religious world finds great delight in pursuing and discovering their own descriptions of obedience unto the precepts which HE has taught.

Ever since Cain sought to bring an offering to the LORD of his own design, men have followed in his footsteps in thinking that they are able in some fashion to contribute their own righteousness as a suitable gift to HIM. It is quite common to hear religious men speak of performing acts of obedience and service to HIM as a means of gaining HIS favor or at the very least of seeking to repay a debt that they owe unto HIM, as if they possessed some currency which would be recognized in that Kingdom which cannot be inherited by flesh and blood..

Yet that man who is convinced by the SPIRIT of GOD that he is a hopeless and helpless sinner with not one shred of righteousness to bring before the LORD, can find no help at all in exhortations unto obedience which do not find their perfect fulfillment in the obedience and work of that ONE who is the SAVIOR of sinners. He must cringe in despair when he hears men say “Salvation is all of grace, BUT----”; and then any number of additions are made describing this or that activity which men must perform in order to “receive” it and/or maintain it.

The mention of grace which is accompanied with a “BUT” is no “grace” at all but is rather a “deal” which is offered to men wherein they can fulfill the terms and gain that which they seek. Such an arrangement is fine for religious men who are convinced that they are able to meet those terms in their own power and can exercise faith by the operation of their own free will. Yet such an “offer”, “plan”, or “arrangement” can do nothing but minister fear in the heart of that man who is convinced that he is bereft of faith or any ability to fulfill any terms requiring true righteousness. He knows he must believe and be obedient but finds no power in himself to do so.

What such a helpless and hopeless sinner can find comfort and solace in, is a description and ministry of a perfect SAVIOR who has completed the work of salvation having obtained eternal redemption for all of those who are called by HIS grace. His consolation is found as he reads the clear declaration of free grace which says, *“But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.”* Such a place as this is truly the holy ground upon which he can live and prosper. The more that the SPIRIT teaches him about himself the more lovely do all of the perfections of CHRIST appear unto him, by way of contrast. And all the more vital is Paul’s declaration, *“There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.”*

Peter says that HE is the “GOD of all grace”. Grace that is not sovereignly dispensed cannot be “grace” at all. *“But unto every one of us is given grace according to the measure of the gift of Christ.”* *“For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory, as if thou hadst not received it?”*

Peter says that HE is the “GOD of all grace” Grace can be found nowhere else. Men need faith but have none. “Faith is the gift of GOD”. The only FAITH that is acceptable in the sight of a holy GOD is perfect and unwavering. A sinful man cannot produce that which is perfect, but HE who is perfect already has produced that which HE has required. The sole basis upon which the sons of GOD are seen as righteous is the imputation of the righteousness of CHRIST to them. HIS account has become theirs, through HIS grace. They cannot attain it any other way. Not only have they not merited HIS favor but they have actively warred against HIS goodness and despised HIS overtures of goodwill towards them. They are worthy of destruction, yet HE has shown them kindness.

Grace must be purely grace. There can be no mixture of grace and works or else grace is no longer grace. The same GOD who “calls” a people out of darkness provides all things necessary unto their salvation. The gospel is a message for sinners. Are you convinced of your own worthiness of destruction and your lack of ability to remedy your situation. CHRIST is the SAVIOR of sinners. *“The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit.”* HE is the “GOD of all grace

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