

RADIO TRANSCRIPT #35

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

Rugged individualism is the most prevailing characteristic that would have been found among those who founded this nation. The concept of individual accountability and self reliance was the very basis upon which our constitution was believed to rest. No one should expect the government to curtail their individual freedoms and no one should desire that the government would provide for their needs.

There is much benefit to be had in this carnal world, by having such an attitude since this fits well with the fleshly nature of men. Sadly, though, men, because of that same innate sinful nature, quickly developed the understanding that by the manipulation of government that they could feed their own individualistic desire for gain, by framing laws which gave them unfair advantages in one way or another. The very self centered attitude that framed the constitution ultimately led to its weakening until the present day where most depend on the government and gladly relinquish individual freedoms for the promise of security of one type or another.

The Kingdom of GOD which is manifested in the establishment of the church of CHRIST in the earth, is built upon the exact opposite principle. The LORD established this principle when HE declared, "*But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.*" The LORD demonstrated this very principle when HE gave HIMSELF as an offering for the sin of those whom HE loved with an everlasting love.

It is commonly conceived, by the natural religious bent of men, that the manner in which the world might bear witness to the manifestation of CHRIST's people in the earth, is by the establishment of distinctive doctrinal creeds and denominations. Thus many who have claimed to be HIS followers have set about to wrangle and war with one another over various distinctive points of doctrine which they each are convinced will prove them to be the true followers of CHRIST.

Yet of all the things which the LORD could have said, to define the manner in which HE would bear witness to the world of those who are HIS disciples; HE said this; "*A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another.*" While anyone can learn doctrines and follow after patterns of various practices and ordinances, it is only by the operation of the SPIRIT of GOD in men that they can truly love one another as brethren, in the fashion which HE is pleased to describe in HIS word.

GOD is the epitome of love and all true love must be spiritually given. This true love is not that which is demonstrated in the carnal desires and natural relations of mankind. The love of a man for his family is noble, even as is the love of men for their fellowman in general. Yet this love of which the LORD spoke is a supernatural love which cannot be attributed to any natural inclination, yet one which is stronger than any which might arise from such natural bent.

The relationship which the LORD is pleased to demonstrate in those whom HE is not ashamed to call HIS brethren is after the same pattern which HE has manifested in laying down HIS own life for theirs. Thus the apostle Paul speaks of the saints as being "*knit together in love.*"

The church is the "body of CHRIST" and this body has its earthly manifestation in the local assemblies where HIS people are gathered together to remember HIS death until HE comes and to strengthen one another in the most holy faith. It is the manifestations of love one for the other that is the bond or glue that holds the sons of GOD together in the local church. The body of CHRIST is not knit together by "preaching" however true and faithful to sound doctrine it may be, rather it is the body ministering to one another, with every joint supplying that which the body is in need of. This is that "compacting" or "knitting together" which is only performed as the SPIRIT of GOD is pleased to manifest HIS power as HE walks among the candlesticks. (see Rev.1:20) This is a rare sight in our day. May the LORD visit us in our prayer.

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