

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

Most church goers and “professed Christians” assume that they are indeed among the saved because most believe that their “salvation” is procured by an act of their own free will. Salvation has been reduced to a simple formula by many preachers of the present day. They tell us that GOD is anxious to save every man on the earth and that if men will just let HIM save them; HE is more than willing to do so. The god which is preached from most pulpits is more of a beggar than a SOVEREIGN.

Multitudes cram into “churches” which feed them a steady diet of how much the LORD needs their service, money, and souls. All the LORD asks for is a little bit of cooperation and for folks to accept what HE has provided for them, get a positive attitude and show the world how much faith they have. They are assured that they have within their own hands the golden key that can unlock the shackles on the hands of the LORD’s blessings. Thus it seems rather an outdated idea to ask *“are there few that be saved”*. It seems obvious to the religious rank and file, that there are vast multitudes who will be; since it is considered a matter which is left up to men: after all who wouldn’t choose heaven and immortal bliss over a pit of destruction?

A companion error which goes hand in hand with this “easy believeism” is the equally erroneous notion that men can be saved by fulfilling certain requirements and meeting certain conditions. Those who set forth these “conditions” and “requirements” scoff at the notion that mere “belief” in CHRIST is enough. They say that men must be baptized in water, speak in other tongues, wear their hair a certain way, adhere to some particular theological order or confession of faith, etc. Both of these errors share the same root; which is the belief that men are the ones who can determine their eternal destiny by their own choice and obedience. The LORD plainly destroyed this notion when HE said, *“Many will seek to enter in and shall not be able.”* HE said the same thing when HE told the Pharisees; *“Ye shall seek me, and shall not find me: and where I am, thither ye cannot come.”*

Yet of all the scriptures which lay the axe to the root of man’s notion that he has the power to bring about his own salvation, none is any more disturbing than this parable from Matthew’s gospel; *“And when the king came in to see the guests, he saw there a man which had not on a wedding garment: And he saith unto him, Friend, how camest thou in hither not having a wedding garment? And he was speechless. Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth. For many are called, but few are chosen.”*

The LORD painted a word picture of the Kingdom of GOD which HE likened to a wedding feast which a King had prepared for invited guests, who not only refused his overtures but slew his servants. Then he destroyed those original invitees and sent his servants into the countryside to compel men (good and bad) to come to the wedding feast. Many came into this feast but there was one who had gotten in with the rest who was not clothed in the proper garment and was cast out.

The salvation of sinners is not based on whether or not men choose the LORD but rather on whether or not a man is chosen by GOD. As David said, *“Blessed is the man whom thou chooseth, and causeth to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, even of thy holy temple.”* This Kingdom is one in which the grace of GOD alone is magnified and men are emptied of all hope except that which is based upon the finished work of CHRIST for sinners. The work of the SPIRIT of GOD in the sons of GOD causes them to flee from any other foundation than that which is laid by CHRIST.

The true children of GOD can find no comfort in their own actions, decisions, prayers, and devotions nor do they find any solace in the words of the “physicians of no value” who try to encourage men “not to doubt”. The true sons of GOD are made to cry out constantly for sustenance not having confidence in their own ability to believe, knowing the deceitfulness of their own heart and understanding that they are full of unbelief and wickedness. Peter confessed, *“Lord, to whom shall we go? thou hast the words of eternal life.”* So the sons of GOD are driven to CHRIST and are compelled and enabled to *“strive to enter in at the STRAIT gate.”* Yet they often find themselves in a dry and thirsty land where no water is. The thought of the preciousness and rarity of true faith in CHRIST is ever upon their mind and they have no rest in any except HIM who is TRUTH itself. They cannot be satisfied with substitutes for that faith, which is the gift of GOD, nor with platitudes spoken by the angels of light who would deceive the very elect if it were possible. In what do you trust?

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