

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

To say that we live in a day when the gospel has been subverted, perverted, and distorted, would be an understatement of the highest order. Most organized religion in the present time is quite content to rest upon its laurels of past “glory”, (i.e.; their creeds, confessions, traditions and liturgies) having little desire or need to examine whether or not the message that they are proclaiming, far and wide, is indeed the same gospel which was declared by Paul and the rest of the Apostles. Since the vast majority of so called “christendom”, is convinced of the ability of man’s “free will”, to choose to follow the LORD or not, we are not surprised to see the message of the present time to be a mixture of psychology and entertainment.

The Psalmist speaks of a people who are highly blessed, because they have “known” the “joyful sound”. We believe that this “joyful sound”, must indeed be a reference to the Gospel which literally means “a good or delightful message.” This “joyful sound” has gone into all the earth, but it has been “known” by relatively few. *“But I say, Have they not heard? Yes verily, their sound went into all the earth, and their words unto the ends of the world.” “But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Esaias saith, Lord, who hath believed our report?”*

We do not point this out in order to try to stir men up to some activity of “faith”, but rather to emphasize the necessity of a work of Grace, which must take place in order for a man to be gladdened in his heart and soul, upon “hearing” this “joyful sound”. This is that dawning of “light” (*“And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.”*) which is visited upon the elect of GOD when HE is pleased to give them eyes to see and ears to hear.

Those who are blessed by GOD do indeed rejoice in “knowing” the “joyful sound”. That which is a “joyful” message to a man who is convinced of his inability to bring anything of value to the LORD, is a declaration of the complete work of salvation which is wrought by CHRIST for such sinners. How can a man who feels that he has no faith, bring faith to the LORD? Yet what a joyous relief it is to such a man to hear that CHRIST is the GIVER of faith, and that whatever HE requires HE has provided. This is indeed a “joyful sound”.

When the Philippian jailer cried out, *“sirs what must I do to be saved”*, he was not given a checklist or a decision card. Rather Paul said, *“Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.”* This was not a “formula” which if the man followed, he would gain salvation. This was a command by Paul for him to cast himself upon the mercy of CHRIST, whom he had little if any knowledge of. Thus, Paul was given grace to declare unto him the unsearchable riches of CHRIST, and as the LORD gave him faith, he did indeed believe “on” CHRIST. He rejoiced in the “joyful sound.”

The Gospel is a “joyful sound” because it is a declaration of the supremacy of CHRIST; *“Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men-- That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”*

The Gospel is a “joyful sound” because it is a manifestation of the complete work of CHRIST in the salvation of that people which HE has loved with an everlasting love. HIS choice of a people and HIS work in their behalf insures that every one for whom HE came into the world to redeem shall “obtain the glory” to which they are ordained. *“And this is the Father’s will which hath sent me, that of all which he hath given me I should lose nothing, but should raise it up again at the last day.”*

The Gospel is a “joyful sound” because HE who tasted death as every man, has triumphed over it, *“But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept”* The sting of death is forever taken away in CHRIST.

The Gospel is a “joyful sound” because HE who came into the world to save sinners shall so come again in like fashion as HE ascended into the heavens, to gather HIS purchased possession from every kindred, tribe and tongue upon the Earth. *“For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.”*

Have you heard and known this joyful sound? CHRIST is the SAVIOR of sinners.

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