

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

There are various errors of doctrine which arise out of faulty principles of philosophy which have their appeal to the religiosity which is rooted in the sinful flesh of men. These errors become so entrenched in the thinking of men, that to oppose them (even with the plain scriptural truth) is to be thought (by that religious flesh) as to be propagators of false doctrine.

One of the most egregious of those errors that has wrought untold heartache to those who would claim to be the followers of CHRIST; is a doctrine which is called by some, "progressive sanctification" or in its fullest (and foulest) form, "entire sanctification." This doctrine has its roots in the notion that man's service and obedience to GOD arises out of his own free will, and that he has the ability (in his flesh) to improve himself even to the point of ceasing from sin.

Thus the proponents of this doctrine (and they are multitude) begin their error, by supposing that a man is "born again", when he "chooses" to become a follower of CHRIST. This is often called, "making a decision" or "letting the LORD into your heart." If one begins with this notion it is impossible that he could have a true understanding of the depraved nature of man in his natural state or of his absolute deadness in trespasses and sins.

In fact such a notion denies the very description and illustration of the "new birth" which is set forth by our LORD, "That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit." John had begun his epistle with this plain truth, as he describes the origin of this "new birth" of those who believe, "*Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.*" (John 1:13)

It is absolutely necessary that a man have an understanding of the SOURCE of this "birth" if he is ever to have any understanding of the "results" of it. If a man is "born again" by his own free will choice, then he must be its author and all power which might arise out of it must of necessity be subservient to the "will" of the one doing the choosing. This is the foundation for the errors which follow and result in the error of the Galatians, "Are ye so foolish? having begun in the Spirit, are ye now made perfect by the flesh?" (Gal 3:3)

Thus those who think this power resides in the free will of man, must also believe that it is up to him to either bring about a "progression" of "spirituality" (as they might describe it) or to flounder around in mediocrity, backsliding, and/or disobedience.

The sanctification of the LORD's people is not a "progressive work" but is rather an accomplished work that is imputed to them through no effort of their own. "*That no flesh should glory in his presence. 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.*" (1Cor 1:29-31)

Those who are made free from sin by the blood (i.e.; death) of CHRIST are not the servants of sin nor can they in any wise be condemned by any activity arising from a broken law. Because CHRIST has died in their behalf. HE has not left them some unfinished work yet to do nor does HE expect that they could perfect something which is already perfect. We know that CHRIST has submitted HIMSELF to the condemnation of sin (i.e.; ours) once. "*by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us.*" If HE has brought finality to condemnation, standing in the room and stead of HIS elect, how can any charge be laid against them? Most especially since HE has now made them righteous. To the same degree that we were guilty sinners, worthy of death and destruction, we are now made to inherit the essence of GOD's righteousness in CHRIST, according to the same power of imputation.

Only those who are still alive unto sin could possibly think that it is fitting, proper, and/or desirable to approve the wickedness of their own flesh. Yet those who are in CHRIST are not now the "servants of sin", for they are dead and their life is hid with CHRIST in GOD,

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