

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

It is common to the religious nature of men to place emphasis on that which is external and carnal and miss that which is truly spiritual. The most easily counterfeited and falsified spiritual gift is that of “tongues”. Paul told us not to forbid others from speaking in tongues but he also said when I became a man I put away childish things. The greatest miracle that occurred on the day of Pentecost was not that some spoke in tongues but that men were enabled to hear the declaration of the Gospel by Peter. Yet even this miracle was not an end in itself but rather served a greater purpose. It is that purpose we are concerned with and not the means by which that purpose was carried out. Preaching is not an end in itself but is a blessing given to men for the purpose of exalting JESUS CHRIST and HIM crucified, which Peter plainly did on the Day of Pentecost. GOD was pleased to use that Gospel which Peter preached to the natural ears of his hearers. All men present heard the words which Peter spoke but not all had the same reaction to it. *“Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?”*

The preachers of free will tell us that the difference between those who received the word that day and those who did not was just a choice on their part. Yet Peter plainly declares that something else was involved. *“For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”* The promises of GOD are not for everyone, but they are clearly reserved for those whom the LORD “calls”.

The LORD JESUS said, *“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.”* This call which the LORD gives to HIS sheep is spoken of as a “holy calling”. That which is “holy” is set apart from that which is common. It is a special and specific calling and is not in any sense generic or general. HE says in John 10:3 ; *“He calleth his own sheep by name, and leadeth them out.”*

It is a “heavenly calling” which denotes its origin, to be sure, but also speaks of the authority which accompanies it. When I was but a lad, my mother would often call me in for supper and since I was busy about many things I would often ignore that “call”. However when she used my first, middle, and last name I knew it was time to come, and her authoritative call was effectual to accomplish her purpose. Such is the call of CHRIST to HIS children, it never fails to accomplish HIS purpose.

It is a “high calling” which has reference to that place of blessing to which we are called and the great privilege which is given to those so called. *“Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God”*.

Peter said that the promises of GOD were for all those who are called. Paul speaks in Romans of the same thing. Many quote this verse and leave off the most important part of it. *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.”* Those who are “the called” are none other than those who are referred to as the “elect” or those *“ordained unto eternal life”*. *“All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out.”*

The power and effectiveness of any decree stands or falls according to the authority of the ONE who is making the decree. This ONE who will not *“break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax”* issues the tender call to HIS children saying *“Ho, every one that thirsteth, come ye to the waters, and he that hath no money; come ye, buy, and eat; yea, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Wherefore do ye spend money for that which is not bread? and your labor for that which satisfieth not? hearken diligently unto me, and eat ye that which is good, and let your soul delight itself in fatness. Incline your ear, and come unto me: hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you, even the sure mercies of David.”* is also the ONE who says *“Remember the former things of old: for I am God, and there is none else; I am God, and there is none like me, Declaring the end from the beginning, and from ancient times the things that are not yet done, saying, My counsel shall stand, and I will do all my pleasure: Calling a ravenous bird from the east, the man that executeth my counsel from a far country: yea, I have spoken it, I will also bring it to pass; I have purposed it, I will also do it. Harken unto me, ye stouthearted, that are far from righteousness: I bring near my righteousness; it shall not be far off, and my salvation shall not tarry: and I will place salvation in Zion for Israel my glory.”* HE is indeed “Mighty to save.” Have you heard HIS call?

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