

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

The men who asked the LORD this question, *“What shall we do that we might work the works of GOD,”* assumed that it was possible for men to “work the works of GOD.” They unblushingly asked the LORD what deeds they could perform in order to curry favor with GOD. They, no doubt, expected to be instructed to adopt some regimen of religious activity or to offer some sacrifice which would be pleasing in HIS sight. In this they were not much different than the average “religious” person today who is convinced that by some faithful activity they can win the blessings of GOD or gain favor in HIS sight. Modern “churches” (so called) primarily operate on this principle. All sorts of programs and activities are promoted for the purpose of occupying their members with busy work so that they can consider themselves faithful. There are classes to teach, youth programs to run, and of course the ever present offering plate and tithe envelope. They promise men that they will receive blessings from GOD for such activity and even greater rewards in heaven to come. They are encouraged to “win souls” and “bring in the lost” to expand the ever increasing membership in their religious clubs to assure that they will always be able to have an ample budget with which to do the “Lord’s work”. And on and on it goes and where it stops nobody knows. There seems to be a never ending supply of men who can dream up more and more of the “Lord’s work” which is to be done by men.

The GOD of the Bible nowhere indicates that HE has any of HIS “work” that men can perform or that HE intends that they should perform it. HE asked Job, *“Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.”* HE said, *“If I were hungry, I would not tell thee: for the world is mine, and the fullness thereof.”* GOD is quite capable of performing HIS own work without the aid of man as Nebuchadnezzar discovered when he said, *“I blessed the most High, and I praised and honored him that liveth forever, whose dominion is an everlasting dominion, and his kingdom is from generation to generation: And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing: and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?”* GOD is still performing HIS own work as HE has done in every age and shall continue to do so when the mountains have crumbled and the seas have become dry land. Some of that work which HE performs is:

HE humbles the pride of HIS elect. Nebuchadnezzar confessed, *“Now I praise and extol and honor the King of heaven, all whose works are truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase.”* One word from HIS lips can bring down the mightiest of men.

HE awakens HIS own from the deadness of their sin in HIS own time. *“Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, by (grace ye are saved;)”* GOD does not use any means but HIS own SPIRIT’s power to raise up dead sinners to life even in the same fashion as HE raised up JESUS CHRIST from the dead on the third day. No man can in any way participate in this work which is wholly and completely accomplished by HIM alone.

HE sends HIS messengers with the gospel. Nothing can overturn either the mission or the message of anyone whom HE has sent. *“So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.”* Sometimes HE may send a man with a message to harden men’s hearts or that they might hear and believe. In either case it is the work of the LORD accomplished by HIS hand and according to HIS purpose which cannot in any wise be thwarted.

HE gives faith to believe the gospel. *“For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast.”* The gift of faith is the manifestation of GOD’s work in HIS elect and is an evidence that they are the sons of GOD. *“Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.”*

HE indwells HIS people through HIS HOLY SPIRIT and performs in them by that same power. *“I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.”*

HE shall keep HIS elect from falling and preserve them faultless to the end. *“And I give unto them eternal life; and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.”*

HE has redeemed HIS elect with HIS own blood which HE shed for the remission of their sins. *“Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot.”*

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