

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

According to their nature, men like to compare themselves among themselves. Paul warns the sons of GOD of this very trait and speaks of the lack of wisdom that such a course of action most often indicates. Out of this natural state and propensity arises all manner of competition and the enjoyment of contests wherein men desire to get the best of their fellow competitor. This competitive spirit is not in itself wicked but it does give rise to wickedness when men pursue it to the point of not holding one another in a proper esteem or use it for self exaltation.

When a man is born from above (i.e.; born again) he does not automatically lose this competitive nature, (since he does not cease to dwell in the flesh) but as the LORD is pleased to give him a measure of faith, and the SPIRIT begins to work in him both to will and to do of HIS good pleasure, he can begin to see how contrary his fleshly nature is to that pure and perfect commandment from the LORD to love his neighbor as himself.

When the LORD convinces a man of his sin and unworthiness, HE often does so by bringing him to a place of weakness through trials and deprivations. In this state he is exercised in heart and mind and laments his fallen state which he can begin to see more clearly as he is given light. He might look around him and envy those without troubles like his own.

Just as the children of Israel murmured in the desert and pined for their lives in Egypt; so too do the sons of GOD sometimes, foolishly, consider that the way from which they have been delivered is actually to be preferred over their present state of trouble and conflict.

Was it not for the grace of GOD they would soon turn back from the arduous journey to which they have been called were it not that, the same gracious FATHER who has ordained that they should begin this journey will indeed keep them upon it, and their "chastening" along the way will serve not to ultimately weaken them but to cause them to be strong as they are taught in WHOM all of their HELP is to be found. HE will never forsake them and will sustain them until HE accomplishes HIS purpose in them. The goodness of GOD leads the children of GOD to repentance as HE reveals, to them, HIS willingness to forgive their transgressions and causes them to hope in HIS mercy in spite of their sinful flesh which would continually seek to turn them away.

This is the "portion" of the sons of GOD which is in complete contrast to the "portion" of the wicked. A "portion" is something that must be bestowed by someone else. A man cannot labor for his "portion" but it is that which he receives by decree. GOD in HIS sovereign purpose does indeed allot to every son of Adam a certain portion as it pleases HIM. To those whom HE has made HIS sons he bestows a certain portion and to those who are merely men of the flesh, HE bestows another portion as it hath pleased HIM. Who can question HIS doing or anyway accuse HIM of doing wrong with HIS own creation?

In HIS own time HE is pleased to manifest the portion of the righteous as well as the portion of the wicked. To those whom HE calls HIS children, chosen in CHRIST from before the foundation of the world, HE bestows a "portion" which can best be described as "dwelling in HIS presence" forever. Yet those who are not included in that privileged number receive a portion which is best described as being cast out of the presence of the LORD forever.

In all things which the LORD does, HE does according to HIS character and in keeping with HIS purpose which cannot be altered by any other. HE will do all things according to HIS justice and in keeping with HIS mercy. That man who is not born again cannot love the way of GOD anymore than those, who are, can despise it. The glory of GOD's grace is seen in HIS calling of sinners from their natural path towards destruction to a place of rejoicing in HIS mercy and confessing a lasting HOPE in CHRIST as their PORTION forever. The sons of GOD are discovered in the earth by this manifestation of faith and a love for the way of CHRIST. Do you love HIS WAY, having believed HIS precious promise. "*For whosoever believeth in HIM shall not perish.*"

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