

RADIO TRANSCRIPT #29

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

Many bible teachers oppose the preaching of free grace because they believe that the preaching of salvation by grace alone, will cause men to sin without restraint. The reason that they feel this way is twofold. The main one is that they do not understand the pervasive nature of sin, man's inherent love of it and his complete inability to avoid it. The other is that they think men can be delivered from sin by the promotion of the law as either a threat or as a guideline by which to order his steps. It is this same line of thinking that causes men (in natural matters) to think that the passing of laws which outlaw guns or drugs will keep outlaws from obtaining and using them.

When a man is born again by the SPIRIT of GOD, he is confronted with his own innate depravity and acquainted with the spiritual nature of the law, it does not take him long to realize the sheer impossibility of his ever keeping that law partially, let alone without any mixture of error.

Then as he comes to understand the power of the law to condemn all who do not keep its every jot and tittle, he is even further terrified and brought to despair of ever standing before the LORD in anything but the perfect righteousness of JESUS CHRIST.

Few religious folks would actually say that they could be justified by the law, yet in practice, they actually deny that the righteousness of CHRIST is completely sufficient and efficient to address the issue of sin in the children of GOD. They turn back to the law as a hedge against unrighteousness in the flesh and believe that the preaching of the law is a necessity, if sin is to be subdued. Religious men will always promote the "keeping of the law" because they are trying to cause natural men to abide by a spiritual law, having no understanding of the depravity of the natural man nor the lofty nature of the law.

When the LORD told Nicodemus, "*ye must be born again*" HE set forth the only ground upon which true righteousness can be entered into. The Kingdom of Heaven cannot be gained in any sense or fashion by the efforts of the flesh, however noble, sincere, or timely they may be. There can be no mixture therefore of that which is carnal with that which is spiritual, and a man cannot be justified by CHRIST if he is seeking any form of righteousness by the principle of law.

This error, which Paul discovered in the Galatian church is still prevalent today and can usually be identified by religious demands that men keep particular days (such as the Sabbath) and fulfill other requirements that may be set forth under the umbrella of lawkeeping, such as tithing, manner of dress, abstaining from the use of various substances, etc.

The notion among them is that CHRIST is sufficient for a standing of justification in the court of heaven as far as eternal salvation is concerned but that in order for them to be "sanctified" in the present time and earn blessings, it is required of them to meet various demands which are set forth in the law of Moses or other religious standards may even exceed the demands of Moses' law.

Paul addresses this issue head on when he asks; "*Is therefore CHRIST the minister of sin?*" This is in response to his hypothesis that if we seek to be justified by CHRIST alone, are we then judged to be in sin because we believe that CHRIST alone is our sufficiency, in both sanctification and justification. Paul was often accused of encouraging men to sin because he preached salvation by grace alone. He administered the death blow these legalist deceivers when he said "*For I through the law am dead to the law, that I might live unto God. 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. I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.*" (Gal 2:19-21)

The very foundational principle of salvation by the free grace of GOD is that HE will perform all requirements unto our legal acceptance with GOD. HE is our LIFE, HE is our HOPE, HE is our SALVATION. Those who assail the gospel of free and sovereign grace in reality assail CHRIST HIMSELF, by contending that HIS righteousness alone is not sufficient for the perfect acceptance of HIS elect bride. Is CHRIST the minister of sin? GOD forbid that such a question should even be asked.

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