

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

Mercy is the sovereign prerogative of GOD as HE has made it clear in HIS word saying, “*I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will shew mercy on whom I will shew mercy.*” Mercy is not bestowed upon men based upon any activity which they may perform, else GOD’s favor would be no mercy at all, but rather the payment of a debt. Paul clearly defined the basis upon which the LORD is pleased to grant it. “*As it is written, Jacob have I loved, but Esau have I hated. What shall we say then? Is there unrighteousness with God? God forbid. For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. --Therefore hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth.*”

Paul writes to Titus of the manifestation of the results of this mercy “*Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost; Which he shed on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Saviour.*” We read of the many aspects of HIS mercy, which is bestowed upon the hopeless and powerless of the earth. HE does cause men to fear HIM. “*And his mercy is on them that fear him from generation to generation.*” The moving cause of the “fear of GOD” which is in the sons of GOD is HIS mercy. “*He hath holpen his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy.*” HIS mercy is bestowed according to the Eternal Covenant made with HIM who is the SEED of Abraham as HE promises “*To perform the mercy promised to our fathers, and to remember his holy covenant.*” This mercy is visited upon the sons of GOD in real time and is not a theoretical concept. “*Which in time past were not a people, but are now the people of God: which had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy.*”

Though there has never been a time when the sons of GOD have not been the objects of HIS mercy, HE is pleased to visit them in the day of SALVATION and to fulfill HIS purpose in their redemption and salvation according to that same mercy. This is that which Peter declared on the day of Pentecost. “*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 mercy of GOD in the understanding of men is necessarily contrasted with HIS justice and judgement. “*To me belongeth vengeance, and recompence; “For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.”*

The religious and self-righteous men of the earth take great delight as they read that HE will render “*to every man according to his work*”. They suppose this means that they shall receive great blessing from HIS hand for their good deeds, acts of devotion, and obedience. In this they are much like the rich young ruler, the Pharisee who prayed in the temple, and those who point out their many works of “righteousness” in Matthew 7:22. Yet when a man is awakened to see himself a wicked sinner with no righteousness of his own, he is struck with fear to contemplate receiving from the LORD’s hand “*according to his work*”. He is then like the publican who prayed in the temple saying, “*GOD be merciful to me a sinner*”. He knows he has no “good works” to plead before the throne of GOD and knows himself to surely perish if he is called to stand upon his own merits. “*Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me.*” The LORD’s mercy is demonstrated in:

The SALVATION of HIS people. “*Salvation belongeth unto the LORD: thy blessing is upon thy people.*”

That RIGHTEOUSNESS which alone is acceptable before HIM. “*O Lord, righteousness belongeth unto thee.*” How else can a man come before GOD?

The VICTORY which HE has wrought in the behalf of HIS people and given unto them. “*Be not afraid nor dismayed by reason of this great multitude; for the battle is not yours, but God’s.*” This is illustrated in David’s triumph over Goliath. “*This day will the LORD deliver thee into mine hand; and I will smite thee, and take thine head from thee; and I will give the carcasses of the host of the Philistines this day unto the fowls of the air, and to the wild beasts of the earth; that all the earth may know that there is a God in Israel. And all this assembly shall know that the LORD saveth not with sword and spear: for the battle is the LORD’S, and he will give you into our hands.*” CHRIST has undertaken our redemption. “*Blotting out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, nailing it to his cross; And having spoiled principalities and powers, he made a shew of them openly, triumphing over them in it.*” HIS glorious victory indeed, may HE ever be praised. Do you rejoice in HIS mercy?

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