

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

Almost everyone enjoys a good story which keeps them in suspense, waiting for the unveiling of a mystery; keeping them occupied with anticipation, as they dwell on various solutions to the riddle in their own mind. The best of these mysteries cannot be fully solved apart from the author's full explanation as he masterfully plays out the sequences of events which work together to make the solution so clear, that when it is finally revealed, one wonders why they could not solve the conundrum before the finale.

Paul declares to the Corinthians that he was sent into the world to set forth "a mystery", which the LORD had kept hidden from the beginning of the world. In a measure the whole of the gospel is a "mystery", since man by nature cannot comprehend it, nor receive it apart from DIVINE revelation. As the LORD told Nicodemus, *"Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God."*

Thus it is true that unless men are given the ability to grasp and desire the message set forth in the preaching of the gospel of the glory of the blessed GOD, then they cannot and will not receive it nor can they believe it. The LORD explained to HIS disciples why HE taught in parables; *"And he said, Unto you it is given to know the mysteries of the kingdom of God: but to others in parables; that seeing they might not see, and hearing they might not understand."*

Men in their natural pride believe that they can arrive at the truth of GOD through their own efforts, philosophy, and study of the scriptures. This is illustrated by those Jews whom Paul describes as *"going about to establish their own righteousness, (and) have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God."* Religious men are convinced that they can, not only, follow the way of CHRIST, but that they possess the power to teach other men to do the same. They are quite proud of their efforts in this endeavor and often publish various statistics which demonstrate their effectiveness. These published results are used to build followings and raise the much needed cash to keep their various enterprises rolling. The Psalmist said, *"Except the LORD build the house, they labour in vain that build it."* The LORD must reveal HIS truth to a man and give him a love for it, in order that the man might receive it

The "mystery" which Paul speaks of contains many "mysteries", each of which cannot be discerned apart from the work of the SPIRIT of GOD in a man. As a point of beginning we would consider the very "mystery" of GOD HIMSELF. Any man who thinks that HE has a complete knowledge of GOD in all of HIS ways and purposes is foolish. Then there is the *"mystery of the Kingdom"*. This is a Kingdom which is not inherited by flesh and blood. It is not bound by any geographical borders, nor inhabited by any particular nationality. Its KING sits upon no earthly throne nor has any limitations. There is the "mystery" of Jew and Gentile being gathered together in CHRIST. It is now apparent that the natural descendants of Abraham, in the Old Testament were but the foreshadowing of that elect people which were hidden in CHRIST from the foundation of the world. There is the "mystery" of marriage. While marriage (between a man and a woman) was indeed ordained for the benefit of the human race, the greater purpose of marriage was to illustrate the everlasting, perfect, and unbreakable love which the REDEEMER has for HIS elect Bride, the church of CHRIST. For her HE came, and for her HE died and arose again.

We read of the *"mystery of the faith"*. How could any man ever possess faith, were it not the gift of GOD? Or how could any man delight in the *"mystery of the faith"* if the LORD did not cause a man to love the gospel and desire to remain faithful to it? Then the ultimate embodiment of all "mysteries" which are revealed to the awakened sons of GOD, is wrapped up in Paul's declaration to Timothy, *"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."* This is the very basis of the faith which we profess. Herein we stand and magnify the glory of HIS grace and the blessing of HIS mercy revealed to sinners

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