

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

One of the characteristics or evidences of the grace of GOD at work in the lives of GOD's people is humility. To this end we see the words of the Apostle Paul, *"For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith."* (Rom 12:3) Thus we see Jude identifying himself as the *"servant of JESUS CHRIST"*. A man cannot be the servant of CHRIST unless he is the servant of his fellow saints.

Even as the LORD had said, *"And whosoever will be chief among you, let him be your servant: Even as the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many. And as they departed from Jericho, a great multitude followed him."* (Mat 20:27-29) Many who are given places of leadership, clamor to occupy the chief seats among the saints, desiring the accolades of men, and to be esteemed highly for their gifts and calling. Some even glory in titles bestowed upon them.

Yet the LORD demonstrated HIS own "mastery", not by demanding servitude, but by girding HIMSELF with a towel and washing the feet of HIS disciples. HE set an example which is completely contrary to the reason of the flesh.

Most problems that arise in the assemblies of the saints are solved by the manifestation of GOD's grace, as the SPIRIT moves the saints to demonstrate humility before one another, By the same token when the SPIRIT's work of humility is absent from an assembly, there will be a clamoring for position and influence, backbiting (i.e.; criticism) one against another, and a general disregard of the very essence of what it is to walk in a CHRIST-like fashion. *"If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?"* (1John 4:20) To love the brethren is to hold them in high esteem, and to regard their needs and desires above our own.

Some think that sound doctrine is a substitute for humility, but any doctrine which does not promote humility cannot be the doctrine of CHRIST. Regardless of what a man "knows", he cannot be walking in "truth", if he is not desiring the fruits of righteousness which are bestowed by HIM who has demonstrated a meek and humble SPIRIT.

Jude says the saints are sanctified by the "FATHER." He does not speak of some ongoing, incomplete work, but rather refers to an action taken by the ONE true and living GOD, to set apart a people whom HE has loved everlastingly, unto salvation. Thus the sons of GOD are completely "sanctified" by an activity entirely outside of themselves. Paul refers to this when he says, *"But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord."* (1Cor 1:30-31)

Then Jude says that these same saints are *"preserved"* in JESUS CHRIST. This "preservation" is rooted in the past and had its beginning from before the foundation of the world. It does not begin when a man believes, but rather a man will be caused to believe as a result of this preservation. The saints are "preserved", unto the obtaining of glory and then kept from falling by the faithfulness of HIM who is their KEEPER.

Jude says they are *"preserved in JESUS CHRIST"*. HE is the LIFE of HIS people, he that hath the SON hath life. They are "preserved" according to the covenant promise which was given to the SON by the FATHER. They are "preserved" from the condemnation of the law, since HE has stood as their SUBSTITUTE in satisfying the justice of a broken law. They are preserved from the darkness of death because HE has triumphed over the grave and they are kept from it, by the imputation of HIS righteousness and HIS resurrection. Who can overturn it?

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