

singing : "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

Human infants are some of the most helpless creatures in the world. They have no survival instincts other than hunger and the ability to suckle their mother's breast if placed upon it. Yet they are born with certain innate traits and concepts which show the work of the law written in their hearts. It does not take long for these traits to make themselves known even as the Psalmist said, *"The wicked are estranged from the womb: they go astray as soon as they be born, speaking lies."*

The LORD created mankind in an upright, but fallible state which was susceptible to the leanings of their nature and in keeping with HIS ordained purpose. In order to fulfill the purpose of GOD in manifesting the glory of HIS grace in the redemption of HIS elect bride, it was according to that purpose, for man to act according to this corruptible nature, disobeying the clear commandment of GOD as the woman was deceived by the serpent and the man knowingly embraced that which was forbidden to him.

Thus sin entered into the world, and death by sin was passed on to all of Adam's race as the justice and judgment of GOD against sin was demonstrated. Men sin because they are sinners, both by choice and by nature. Thus it comes as no surprise that we discover, in them many preconceived notions and errors of judgment which are consistent with a corrupted state of mind and an inability to comprehend spiritual truth as Paul points out to the Corinthians. *"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned."*

So we might say that sin, began as a small seed which has flourished in the fertile ground of man's wicked imaginations and his innate corruption is manifested in those traits which are contrary to the law of GOD. The principle (i.e.; the law) of sin and death rules in and over men by nature.

Some think that sin is a set of activities which a man might choose to avoid, and much teaching is done to either instruct men in how to shun various "sins" or to strike fear in them about the coming judgment so that they might steer clear of this or that activity in order to keep themselves from such a sad fate. The truth of the matter is that "sin" is a condition of the natural man which is manifested by the very principles which form the basis of his understanding.

These principles are in men from their birth and do manifest themselves in time, they are:

The principle of self will which shows itself in the self-centered thought process of men. When Adam sinned, he did so because he desired to choose that which benefited him (as far as he could tell with his limited understanding). He desired to be "the god". Every man knows what it is to "love himself". Self pity is the epitome of self-love. Out of this very trait of self-will arises practically all of the other manifestations of sin which are discovered in the sons of Adam.

The principle of "free will". By nature man considers that he can control his destiny and by his own power and ability, choose to do whatever he decides to do. By nature men believe that they can both seek out GOD and discover HIM according to their natural understanding. Most so called "preaching" today is geared towards this notion.

The principle of "fairness". I am not sure at what age a young child first recognizes something as "not being fair" but it happens quite early. Being the father of four sons, I heard it quite often. I have never observed a young child objecting to some advantage they might have over their siblings, or arguing for fairness to be exhibited to others at their own expense, but they readily recognize what they perceive as their own disadvantage. This forms the very basis of man's natural rebellion against the sovereign right of GOD to create one vessel unto honor and another to dishonor as it pleases HIM.

The principle of "relative righteousness". We see this manifested quite readily as men look on in disgust at the heinous crimes which are committed by others yet seldom do we hear men lament their own wickedness with the same disgust. Suppose ye that these are greater sinners, *"I tell you, Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish."* (Luke 13:3

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