

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

Despair is a very empty feeling and one which a man cannot deliver himself out of. If the LORD is not pleased to deliver a man from utter despair that man will surely perish. Judas is a good example of a man in the anteroom of hell with no deliverer. All that he could do was to destroy himself and then to endure an even greater torment. How sad it is to look upon the once great king Saul as he sits in the house of the witch of Endor and contemplates the fact that he has been cast off from being king of Israel. The LORD describes HIS own actions in such seasons as these *“Because I have called, and ye refused; I have stretched out my hand, and no man regarded; But ye have set at naught all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD.”*

To be made mindful that there is no source of help for a man in himself is naturally that which brings men to despair. Now it would appear to the natural mind that such a state of despair is to be avoided at all costs. This is exactly the purpose that man’s natural religion serves in his own mind. He can rest better at night if he thinks that he is fulfilling some purpose which is greater than the simple fulfillment of his own carnal desires. What he cannot see is that those things which he counts as “spiritual” are most often simply a device of his mind to label his carnal pursuits as holy and good because he has clothed himself in the garments of religion of one type or another and gone about to establish his own righteousness. To be awakened to the fact that there is not one thing in this world that can befall us that is of any consequence, nor can it prevent our service to HIM who has bought us, since our hope is CHRIST alone. *“For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.”*

The natural man would be horrified to learn that he had been given a “sentence of death”. Yet Paul rejoiced in it saying “For me to live is CHRIST, to die is gain.” Our sentence of death is :

**Currently being experienced.** We are not waiting until some future time for this to occur, but all of those who have been made alive in CHRIST, have also “died” in HIM. Paul said, *“Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin” “How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?” “There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.*

**The source of great freedom.** Paul says, *“that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead.”* What a glorious revelation to the freeborn sons of GOD when they are shown that HE is their PERFORMER. All of their confidence is in HIM who has never failed in one jot or tittle to fulfill all righteousness in their behalf.

**A deliverance from the fear of men.** *“So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me.”* When we have been made to clearly see our standing with CHRIST who can be against us? What power on earth can overcome us? Even if these bodies in which we currently reside are beaten, hanged, or burnt beyond recognition we are not moved. *“For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.”*

**A reminder of HIM who died in our behalf.** *“Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you;”* We are called to follow in HIS steps but we are ever mindful that HE endured the curse of the law for us when we were unable to even recognize the sin which separated us from HIM. O the depths of HIS love and mercy that such a ONE as HE is, should suffer and bleed for such a wretched people as we are. *“For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die. But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life. And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.”* Do you feel your sentence of death?

*“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)**