RADIO TRANSCRIPT #761

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

Usually, when we hear faithfulness discussed by most Bible teachers, it is in the context of promoting and encouraging the children of GOD to be faithful to HIM. Sometimes the term is used to describe those whose actions are of a more devoted nature than is commonly seen. It is also used to describe some who have spent many years of service to the LORD. But all of these uses of the word are comparative in nature. The term faithfulness, in its absolute sense, can never be used to describe man, because of the changeable and fickle nature of the flesh. Biblical faithfulness is that which allows no lapses. It does not wax or wane and it never experiences failure. It is said of the LORD JESUS, *"having loved HIS own which were in the world, HE loved them unto the end."* This is the standard by which all who would be called "faithful" must be judged.

There is no shadow of turning with HIM of whom Jeremiah wrote, "It is of the LORD's mercies that we are not consumed, because HIS compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is THY faithfulness." So before we go admiring men for their "faithfulness" let us be reminded that there really is no such thing among men. The godliness and the upright nature of the walk of others may exceed ours by a mile but no man is worthy of such a portrayal which the scripture reserves for a description of the nature of our GOD. Though the bible does indeed describe some believers as faithful, the emphasis is on the object of their faith rather than their complete fidelity to that faith. Faithful Abraham for instance is not mentioned because he flawlessly believed GOD but because he believed the GOD who was flawless. How flawlessly a man performs that which GOD calls him to do is not nearly as important as being stayed on HIM who is the rock of our salvation and the light of our path. Samson is not a portrait of faithfulness yet he is mentioned in the hall of fame of those "Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens." The true believers faith is not based on the amount or steadfastness of that belief, but rather what that faith relies upon. Peter testified, "LORD, to whom shall we go? THOU hast the words of eternal life. And we believe and are sure that THOU art that CHRIST, the SON of the living GOD." The "faithfulness" of the ONE whose blood was shed for sinners: HIM, who cannot fail: and HIM, whose word cannot be overturned is that faithfulness upon which our hopes rest. HIS faithfulness:

Covers the earth. "THY mercy, O LORD, is in the heavens; and THY faithfulness reacheth unto the clouds" **Reaches to the LORD's children in all ages.** "I will sing of the mercies of the LORD for ever: with my mouth will I make known THY faithfulness to all generations."

Is established in the gathering together of HIS people. *"And the heavens shall praise Thy wonders, O LORD: THY faithfulness also in the congregation of the saints."*

Is made manifest to those who fear HIM. "GOD is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be had in reverence of all them that are about HIM. O LORD GOD of hosts, who is a strong LORD like unto thee? or to THY faithfulness round about THEE?"

Is set forth in the Kingship of HIS SON. *"But MY faithfulness and MY mercy shall be with HIM: and in MY name shall HIS horn be exalted."* **Never fails, even when HIS people do.** *"Nevertheless MY lovingkindness will I not utterly take from him, nor suffer MY faithfulness to fail."*

Is constant and continual. *"To shew forth THY lovingkindness in the morning, and THY faithfulness every night."* **Is demonstrated by HIS chastening of those who belong to HIM.** *"I know, O LORD, that THY judgments are right, and that THOU in faithfulness hast afflicted me."* **Is manifested in hearing and answering the prayers of HIS people.** *"Hear my prayer, O*

LORD, give ear to my supplications: in THY faithfulness answer me, and in THY righteousness."

Is seen in the revelation of HIS word. *"O LORD, thou art my GOD; I will exalt THEE, I will praise THY name; for THOU hast done wonderful things; THY counsels of old are faithfulness and truth."*

"And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and HE that sat upon him was called FAITHFUL and TRUE, and in righteousness HE doth judge and make war."

Thy free grace alone,"#11 **If you would like a free transcript of this broadcast email** us at <u>forthepoor@windstream.net</u>