singing: "Thy mercy my GOD" #11

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

Solomon was greatly blessed to be chosen to build the earthly temple even though David was denied that privilege. We understand that such an earthly temple was intended by the LORD to be temporary and its destruction was ordained before the first stone was ever laid. Though it took Solomon seven years to build that temple, its valuable contents were pillaged by Nebuchadnezzar about 350 years later, and its riches taken by him to Babylon in less than a year There are lessons to be learned from the construction and glory of this Temple even as there are lessons to be learned from its utter destruction.

The one true and living GOD does not need any temples or edifices of religion fashioned by the hands of men, since HE, alone is the ONE who is eternal and the AUTHOR of all that is made. HE inhabits eternity and cannot in any wise be made the servant of men. The gods of man's imagination have many "needs", not the least of which is a place to reside.

The men of this world seek to build great temples and edifices for those gods which they choose even the supposed god which bows before the free will of men hoping that some folks will worship him, and let him bless them. The god of this age, resides in religious Babylon and goes by many names and has followers and prophets of many stripes.

He is a god who constantly stands in need of man's money, time, talents, and service. Many are those who are constantly about the business of enlisting men to come to his aid in one fashion or another. They sometimes tell us that he has no hands but ours and no feet but ours either. Such a god is only fit for a wheelchair or the place of an impotent invalid. This is not the GOD who inhabiteth eternity and rules the heavens and the earth.. It is impossible that men could in any wise aid HIM who needs no assistance or assist HIM who needs no aid.

Solomon's temple, was not built to satisfy the needs of GOD, but rather the LORD condescended to allow Solomon to build it so that HE might demonstrate the true nature of HIS kingdom and the glory of HIS own habitation. Therefore it was necessary that it be temporary that men might be assured that HE is not affected by the things which men do, however marvelous they may appear in the eyes of men.

This grandiose edifice was returned to the dust from which it was made, even as the flesh of all men shall be brought to the same. The sons of GOD confess that they have here no continuing city but that they seek a Kingdom which is from above, a temple not made with hands eternal in the heavens.

This is a <u>kingdom of Grace</u>, wherein the right to dwell in it must be bestowed upon every inhabitant that is enabled to enter therein. "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

This is a <u>Kingdom of Faith</u>. Faith is "the gift of GOD, not of works lest any man should boast." Faith is the currency of this kingdom and none shall enter into it without it.

This is a <u>Kingdom of Love</u>. For it is by the manifestation of this LOVE, that this Temple, not made with hands, is constructed of "*lively stones*; those whose redemption is purchased by the blood of the LAMB without spot or blemish. For while HE inhabits eternity, HE is also pleased to dwell with those of a "contrite and humble spirit" No greater love has been or could be demonstrated than that of CHRIST. HE, having loved HIS people from before the foundation of the world did bleed and die, in the plain sight of men, pouring out HIS very life that they as sinners might be justified by the same law which would have condemned them otherwise.

This is a <u>Kingdom of Good works</u>. "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good" (Acts 10:38 HE is our PERFORMER and our KING.

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