

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

Satan has a counterfeit of every spiritual activity. Those who promote a religion which appeals to the flesh of men generally deal in these counterfeits. Where this “fools gold” appears in all of its “glory” is where the emissaries of darkness will be found, peddling their wares to the simple and those who seek a religion which fits their own design. These purveyors of error generally appear in many ways to be genuine. Yet the fact that they glory in something other than JESUS CHRIST and HIM crucified, rejoicing in and promoting signs and wonders, while busily gathering a following, shows them to be those of whom the apostle speaks, *“For such are false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ. And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.”* When Paul said, *“But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world”*, he is not simply expressing a personal preference but is defining the very nature of gospel truth and the preaching of it.

The corruption of the truth is most often found in very subtle errors which in time grow to epic proportions, along the way, causing multitudes who may have some sort of confession of salvation in CHRIST to be completely blinded to the truth and unable to discern between good and evil. The prophet Isaiah spoke of this situation, saying, *“Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! Woe unto them that are wise in their own eyes, and prudent in their own sight!”* The sin and iniquity of which he speaks is not necessarily that of immorality or debauchery, but rather a perversion of truth which allows men free reign to glory in their own freewill and to disregard the inability of the flesh to either know the way of GOD or to walk therein. When the central message of any form of ministry is not the glory and preeminence of CHRIST in all things, then that ministry must be viewed as false.

One of the most prolific “parlor tricks” of these “angels of light” is that of making a theatrical display which is described by them as being “slain in the spirit.” I find no scriptural example of anything remotely like the performances of these charlatans and religious hucksters. There is always a willing crowd ready to submit themselves to these shamans who are more than happy to bask in the spotlight as they demonstrate their prowess and proficiency in the “gifts of the spirit”, as they would have us believe, all the while babbling away in their own confusion. There are genuine cases in the scriptures where men were “slain in the SPIRIT”, but there was never someone prancing about with a microphone in their hand when these occurred. In fact there was no one even present most of the time other than the LORD and the person slain. In the book of Daniel we read, *“Therefore I was left alone, and saw this great vision, and there remained no strength in me: for my comeliness was turned in me into corruption, and I retained no strength. Yet heard I the voice of his words: and when I heard the voice of his words, then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground.”*

John tells of a similar experience, *“And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth went a sharp twoedged sword: and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength. And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead.”* We also read of the experiences of the disciples at the mount of transfiguration, and of course the apostle Paul. It is interesting that the direction of the fall of these who are slain in the SPIRIT in the scriptures is “face down”, yet the “babbling slayers” victims always fall backwards for more theatrical effect. We read of the true worshippers of GOD falling upon their faces in obeisance to the LORD of lords and KING of kings. The only record in the scriptures that we have of those who fell backwards at the manifestation of HIS glory is those who were intent on betraying HIM and bringing HIM to judgment. *“And Judas also, which betrayed him, stood with them. As soon then as he had said unto them, I am he, they went backward, and fell to the ground.”*

When a man is truly “slain in the SPIRIT” he will fall upon his face in worship at the overwhelming glory of the true and living GOD which can only be seen in JESUS CHRIST, and then only by those whose blind eyes are opened by HIS SPIRIT. *“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.”* When a man is truly “slain in the SPIRIT”, CHRIST alone will be the object of his desire and praise. *Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself;-- He shall glorify me:* When a man is truly “slain in the SPIRIT” he will be brought to a place of self loathing and repentance even as Job. True repentance always acknowledges the Holiness of GOD, the Justice of GOD, and one’s own abject wickedness and unworthiness to stand in HIS presence. Have you thus been slain?

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