

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

The LORD laid down a principle which defines the difference between the realm of flesh and blood and the Kingdom of GOD, when HE told Nicodemus; *“Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”* When men fail to see this stark divide they can in no wise have any understanding of either that which the LORD came to do nor how it is that men are made a part of that kingdom. Nicodemus, just like all religious men, figured that there was some activity which he could perform in the flesh which would enable him to find a place of favor with GOD. He assumed that he could learn the precepts of the LORD’s teaching just like he could learn the precepts of any other field of study and therefore he sought a private word with the LORD.

Yet the LORD plainly told HIM that unless he was “born again” with a birth which had its origin in heaven, just like he was born the first time in flesh and blood, he could neither enter nor comprehend that kingdom which the LORD came into the earth to establish. Paul told the Corinthians the same thing when he said, *“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.”*

All of Adam’s race are born with the “work of the law” written on their hearts. This is demonstrated each time a two year old child strikes back at another child who has struck him over some toy that they both want. By nature men believe in the fleshly principle of “an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.” Every man believes that stealing is wrong when he is the victim. The primary principle of the realm of flesh and blood is to meet force with force, hatred with hatred, and to exact “justice” against all perceived “injustices”. The LORD JESUS contrasts these natural principles with those of HIS kingdom. HE said, “resist not evil”, turn the other cheek when smitten, pray for those that mistreat you, and if a man demands something of you, give him more than he asks for.

Every man, by nature, recoils at these teachings and can no more “adopt” them than a leopard can change his spots or an Ethiopian, the color of his skin. Apart from supernatural revelation it is impossible that a man could ever embrace these teachings or comprehend the spiritual nature of them or the right application of them by the SPIRIT of GOD. GOD’s children are not called to be violent or vengeful, rather to be as harmless as doves; more ready to forgive than to demand “justice” or apologies. These principles are at the very heart of the LORD’s teaching of HIS disciples when HE said, *“But he that is greatest among you shall be your servant. And whosoever shall exalt himself shall be abased; and he that shall humble himself shall be exalted.”* Paul said the same, “Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.”

Even the man who is “born again”, will find that his flesh will chafe under these principles and constantly war against the “law of his mind” seeking to bring him under the bondage of the “law of sin and death”. Yet while his flesh rages against these principles there also burns within him a desire to be conformed to the image of CHRIST who alone HE sees as righteous before GOD.

Religious men assume that the LORD will be pleased by their efforts and deeds and will overlook any shortcomings which they might demonstrate since they are sincere in their quest. Yet in this endeavor they demonstrate an ignorance of the spiritual nature of these principles and despise the perfect righteousness of CHRIST by going about to establish their own righteousness.

The principles of the Kingdom of GOD are directly opposite to those of the realm of flesh and blood and are designed to demonstrate to the sons of GOD their absolute need of a PERFORMER. This is a Kingdom of Perfect Righteousness and only the Righteousness of CHRIST is sufficient. Fleshly endeavor and the effort of free-will, at its very best, will never be of any value here. As a good religious man Peter was willing to demonstrate a certain level of forgiveness but he was quite shocked at the extent of the forgiveness required in the Kingdom of GOD. “Jesus saith unto him, I say not unto thee, Until seven times: but, Until seventy times seven. “ The rich young ruler was a morally upright man who was interested in gaining “eternal life”, yet he was utterly dismayed when the LORD described to HIM the nature of “perfection” in HIS Kingdom. Thou lackest *“one thing: sell all that thou hast, and distribute unto the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come, follow me.”*

Modern religious merchandisers assure their hearers of great blessings which can be theirs by “tithing” and “sowing seeds of faith” (i.e.; money), yet the only acceptable principle of giving in this Kingdom is demonstrated by the widow who gave all that she had. Are you a part of this Kingdom?

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