

RADIO TRANSCRIPT #34

singing : “Thy mercy my GOD” #11

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

In the book of Daniel we read about the King of Babylon, Belshazzar, putting on a banquet, during which a HAND appeared and wrote three words upon the wall. Though he saw the “hand writing” on the wall he yet had no understanding of it until the prophet of GOD told him the meaning.

The judgment of GOD upon HIM was justly determined long before he saw this ominous occurrence. No doubt his flesh was stirred as the scripture indicates that his knees were knocking together and he lost the ability to control his bowels. In this same fashion are men sometimes stirred in their flesh whenever the judgments of GOD are set forth from the scripture and the certainty of coming judgment is declared.

Yet just like many who are thus stirred in “revival meetings”, “holy ghost outpourings”, “healing services”, and “hell fire and damnation” preaching; he brought forth no fruits “*meet for repentance*,” but rather when the meeting concluded, he went on about his business just as he always had, even appointing Daniel to a position of importance in his kingdom. In like fashion many believe that all will be well with them if they give of their money to those who preach to them.

Yet history tells us that the army of Cyrus came in by the very gates left open by the neglect of Belshazzar as he and his generals spent their time feasting and drinking in his banquet hall. All of this occurred according to the ordained purpose of GOD to render judgment upon Belshazzar and to demonstrate HIS just wrath upon the children of disobedience

Belshazzar’s grandfather, Nebuchadnezzar, had received a similar prophecy from the lips of Daniel, yet those words were meant for good to him, as one favored of GOD, since he was enabled to bring forth the fruits of repentance and caused to fall upon his face and worship before the true GOD, for at the end of his time of chastening the LORD restored his sanity and he testified of the glory and majesty of a sovereign GOD and HIS power to do as HE wills.

Belshazzar on the other hand was not so favored, but rather this judgment came upon him as a means unto his destruction as is evidenced by the events that took place, with his death, which led up to his kingdom being placed in the hands of Darius the Mede, who was the nephew of Cyrus, king of Persia whose armies invaded Babylon.

All men without exception are worthy of destruction because all men without exception are sinners by birth, by choice, and by action.. Belshazzar was no more of a pagan than Nebuchadnezzar, yet he was weighed in the balances of GOD’s justice and found wanting. Nebuchadnezzar, on the other hand, was as worthy of destruction as Belshazzar, yet the LORD showed HIM mercy and brought him to a place of repentance and subsequent worship, while he brought Belshazzar to hopeless ruin. “*Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?*”

The fact that GOD shows mercy to anyone is amazing considering the nature of man. The natural man grows angry when he reads “*Esau have I hated*”, because he assumes GOD is somehow obligated to love all men the same. Actually he should stand more in amazement when he reads, “*Jacob have I loved*”. There is far more reason that HE should hate the whole human race than there is that HE should love even one of us.

Yet it has pleased HIM to love a people which HE chose in CHRIST before the foundation of the world in order to demonstrate the glory of HIS grace and to make HIS mercy known in the heavens and the earth. This fact takes away all room for boasting among men and the objects of HIS mercy can do nothing but praise HIM for the glory of HIS grace. .

So why is there a difference between Belshazzar and Nebuchadnezzar. They were both sprung from the same heathen ancestry, were worshippers of the same pagan gods, and were full of their own self importance and the fulfilling of their carnal lusts. There is one word which sums up the only difference between them. Grace, the marvelous grace of a sovereign GOD. “For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive?”

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