

THE POOR AND NEEDY

OLD TESTAMENT

POOR - afflicted, humble, lowly, needy, poor

NEW TESTAMENT

POOR - beggar - pauper - destitute - poor

By

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WHY ARE THERE SO MANY POOR PEOPLE?

1 SAMUEL 2:7

7 **The LORD sends poverty and wealth.**
He humbles and he exalts. (NIV)

1 SAMUEL 2:7

7 **The LORD makes poor and makes rich.**
He brings low and lifts up. (NKJ)

WHAT ABOUT EVERY SEVENTH YEAR?

EXODUS 23:10-11

10 Six years you shall sow your land and gather in its produce,

11 But **the seventh year you shall let it rest and lie fallow**, that **the poor of your people may eat**; and what they leave, the beasts of the field may eat. **In like manner you shall do with your vineyard and your olive grove.**

HOW SHALL YOU REAP YOUR LAND?

LEVITICUS 19:9-10

- 9 When you reap the harvest of your land, **you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field, nor shall you gather the gleanings of your harvest.**
- 10 **You shall not glean your vineyard, nor shall you gather every grape of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the stranger: I am the LORD your God.**
(NKJ)

LEVITICUS 23:22

- 22 When you reap the harvest of your land, **you shall not wholly reap the corners of your field when you reap, nor shall you gather any gleanings from your harvest. You shall leave them for the poor and for the stranger: I am the LORD your God.** (NKJ)

CAN YOU CHARGE THE POOR INTEREST?

EXODUS 22:25-27

25 If you lend money to any of My people who are poor among you, you shall not be like a moneylender to him; **you shall not charge him interest.**

26 If you ever take your neighbor's garment as a pledge, you shall return it to him before the sun goes down.

27 For that is his only covering, it is his garment for his skin. What will he sleep in? And it will be that when he cries to Me, I will hear, for I am gracious. (NKJ)

CAN YOU CHARGE THE POOR INTEREST?

LEVITICUS 25:35-38

- 35 **If one of your brethren becomes poor, and falls into poverty among you**, then you shall help him, like a stranger or a sojourner, that he may live with you.
- 36 **Take no usury or interest from him**; but fear your God, that your brother may live with you.
- 37 **You shall not lend him your money for usury, nor lend him your food at a profit.**
- 38 I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, to give you the land of Canaan and to be your God. (NKJ)

HOW DO YOU TREAT YOUR HIRED SERVANTS?

LEVITICUS 25:39-40

- 39 **If one of your brethren who dwells by you becomes poor, and sells himself to you, you shall not compel him to serve as a slave.**
- 40 **As a hired servant and a sojourner he shall be with you, and shall serve you until the Year of Jubilee.**
- 41 **Then he shall depart from you-- he and his children with him-- and shall return to his own family. He shall return to the possession of his fathers.**
- 42 **For they are My servants, whom I brought out of the land of Egypt; they shall not be sold as slaves.**
- 43 **You shall not rule over him with rigor, but you shall fear your God. (NKJ)**

WHEN MUST YOU CANCEL ALL DEBTS?

DEUTERONOMY 15:1-3

- 1 **At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release of debts.**
- 2 **This is the form of the release: Every creditor who has lent anything to his neighbor shall release it; he shall not require it of his neighbor or his brother, because it is called the LORD'S release.**
- 3 **Of a foreigner you may require it; but you shall give up your claim to what is owed by your brother,**
(NKJ)

SHOULD WE BORROW FROM OTHER NATIONS?

DEUTERONOMY 15:4-6

- 4 However, **there should be no poor among you**, for in the land **the LORD your God** is giving you to possess as your inheritance, he **will richly bless you**,
- 5 If only you fully obey the LORD your God and are careful to follow all these commands I am giving you today.
- 6 For the LORD your God will bless you as he has promised, and **you will lend to many nations but will borrow from none**. You will rule over many nations but none will rule over you. (NIV)

HOW SHOULD YOU TREAT THE POOR?

DEUTERONOMY 15:7-9

- 7 If there is among you a poor man of your brethren, within any of the gates in your land which the LORD your God is giving you, **you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother,**
- 8 **But you shall open your hand wide to him and willingly lend him sufficient for his need,** whatever he needs.
- 9 Beware lest there be a wicked thought in your heart, saying, The seventh year, the year of release, is at hand, and your eye be evil against your poor brother and you give him nothing, and he cry out to the LORD against you, and it become sin among you. (NKJ)

HOW SHOULD YOU TREAT THE POOR?

DEUTERONOMY 15:10-11

- 10 **You shall surely give to him, and your heart should not be grieved when you give to him, because for this thing the LORD your God will bless you in all your works and in all to which you put your hand.**
- 11 **For the poor will never cease from the land; therefore I command you, saying, You shall open your hand wide to your brother, to your poor and your needy, in your land. (NKJ)**

WHAT MUST YOU DO IN THE SEVENTH YEAR?

DEUTERONOMY 15:12-13

- 12 **If your brother**, a Hebrew man, or a Hebrew woman, **is sold to you and serves you six years**, then **in the seventh year you shall let him go free from you**.
- 13 **And when you send him away free from you, you shall not let him go away empty-handed;**
- 14 **You shall supply him liberally from your flock**, from **your threshing floor**, and **from your winepress**. From what the LORD has blessed you with, you shall give to him.
- 15 **You shall remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt, and the LORD your God redeemed you; therefore I command you this thing today. (NKJ)**

HOW SHOULD YOU LEND TO YOUR BROTHER?

DEUTERONOMY 24:10-13

- 10 When you lend your brother anything, **you shall not go into his house to get his pledge.**
- 11 You shall stand outside, and **the man to whom you lend shall bring the pledge out to you.**
- 12 **And if the man is poor, you shall not keep his pledge overnight.**
- 13 **You shall in any case return the pledge to him again when the sun goes down, that he may sleep in his own garment and bless you; and it shall be righteousness to you before the LORD your God. (NKJ)**

HOW SHOULD YOU TREAT A HIRED SERVANT?

DEUTERONOMY 24:14-15

- 14 **You shall not oppress a hired servant who is poor and needy**, whether one of your brethren or one of the aliens who is in your land within your gates.
- 15 **Each day you shall give him his wages**, and **not let the sun go down on it**, for **he is poor** and **has set his heart on it**; lest he cry out against you to the LORD, and it be sin to you. (NKJ)

HOW DID JOB TAKE CARE OF THE POOR?

JOB 31:16-18

- 16 If I have kept the poor from their desire, or caused
the eyes of the widow to fail,
- 17 Or eaten my morsel by myself, so that the fatherless
may not eat of it
- 18 (But from my youth I reared him as a father, and from
my mother's womb I guided the widow)
- 19 If I have seen anyone perishing for lack of clothing,
Or a needy man without a garment,
- 20 And his heart did not bless me for warming him
with the fleece from my sheep,
- 21 If I have raised my hand against the fatherless,
knowing that I had influence in court,
- 22 Then let my arm fall from the shoulder.
Let it be broken off at the joint. (NIV)

WHAT SHOULD WE DO FOR THE POOR?

PSALMS 82:3-4

- 3 Defend **the poor and fatherless**. Do **justice to the afflicted and needy**.
- 4 Deliver **the poor and needy**. Free them from the hand of the wicked. (NKJ)

PROVERBS 14:-21

- 21 He who despises his neighbor sins. But **he who has mercy on the poor, happy is he**. (NKJ)

DOES GOD SEE THE CARING FOR THE NEEDY?

PROVERBS 14:31

**31 He who oppresses the poor reproaches his Maker.
BUT he who honors Him has mercy on the needy.
(NKJ)**

PROVERBS 19:17

**17 He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD.
And He will pay back what he has given. (NKJ)**

DOES GOD SEE THE CARING FOR THE NEEDY?

PROVERBS 22:9

- 9 **He who has a generous eye will be blessed, for he gives of his bread to the poor. (NKJ)**

PROVERBS 22:22-23

- 22 **Do not rob the poor because he is poor, nor oppress the afflicted at the gate;**
- 23 **For the LORD will plead their cause, and plunder the soul of those who plunder them. (NKJ)**

DOES GOD SEE THE CARING FOR THE NEEDY?

PROVERBS 28:27

27 He who gives to the poor will not lack. BUT he who hides his eyes will have many curses. (NKJ)

PROVERBS 31:9

9 Open your mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy. (NKJ)

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

ISAIAH 3:14-15

- 14 The LORD will enter into judgment with the elders of His people and His princes: For **you have eaten up the vineyard; the plunder of the poor is in your houses.**
- 15 **What do you mean by crushing My people and grinding the faces of the poor?** Says the Lord GOD of hosts.
- (NKJ)

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

ISAIAH 10:1-2

- 1 **Woe to those who decree unrighteous decrees, who write misfortune, which they have prescribed**
- 2 **To rob the needy of justice, and to take what is right from the poor of My people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless. (NKJ)**

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

ISAIAH 58:1-11

- 1 Cry aloud, spare not; lift up your voice like a trumpet; tell My people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.
- 2 Yet **they seek Me daily**, and **delight to know My ways**, as a nation that did righteousness, and **did not forsake the ordinance of their God**. They ask of Me the ordinances of justice; **they take delight in approaching God**.
- 3 Why have we fasted, they say, and **You have not seen?** Why have we afflicted our souls, and **You take no notice?** In fact, in the day of your fast you find pleasure, and exploit all your laborers.

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

ISAIAH 58:1-11

- 4 Indeed **you fast for strife and debate**, and to **strike with the fist of wickedness**. You will not fast as you do this day, to make your voice heard on high.
- 5 **Is it a fast that I have chosen**, a day for a man to afflict his soul? Is it to bow down his head like a bulrush, and to spread out sackcloth and ashes? Would you call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the LORD?
- 6 **Is this not the fast that I have chosen: to loose the bonds of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, to let the oppressed go free, and that you break every yoke?**

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

ISAIAH 58:1-11

- 7 Is it not to **share your bread with the hungry**, and that you **bring to your house the poor** who are cast out; when you **see the naked**, that you **cover him**, and not hide yourself from your own flesh?
- 8 Then your light shall break forth like the morning, your healing shall spring forth speedily, and your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
- 9 **Then you shall call and the LORD will answer**; you shall cry, and **He will say, Here I am**. If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

ISAIAH 58:1-11

- 10 If you **extend your soul to the hungry** and **satisfy the afflicted soul**, then your light shall dawn in the darkness, and your darkness shall be as the noonday.
- 11 **The LORD will guide you continually**, and **satisfy your soul** in drought, and **strengthen your bones**. You shall be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters do not fail. (NKJ)

DOES GOD SEE HOW WE TREAT THE POOR?

JEREMIAH 22:15-16

- 15 Shall you reign because you enclose yourself in cedar? **Did not your father eat and drink, and do justice and righteousness? Then it was well with him.**
- 16 **He judged the cause of the poor and needy; then it was well. Was not this knowing Me?** says the LORD. (NKJ)

WHAT SODOM NOT DO?

EZEKIEL 16:49-50

- 49 **This was the sin of your sister Sodom: She and her daughters were arrogant, overfed and unconcerned. They did not help the poor and needy.**
- 50 **They were haughty and did detestable things before me. Therefore I did away with them as you have seen.**
(NIV)

WHAT IS A RIGHTEOUS MAN?

EZEKIEL 18:5-9

- 5 If a man is just and does what is lawful and right;
- 6 If he has not eaten on the mountains, nor lifted up his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, nor defiled his neighbor's wife, nor approached a woman during her impurity;
- 7 If he **has not oppressed anyone**, but **has restored to the debtor his pledge**; **has robbed no one** by violence, but **has given his bread to the hungry** and **covered the naked with clothing**;
- 8 If he **has not exacted usury** nor **taken any increase**, but has withdrawn his hand from iniquity and **executed true judgment between man and man**;
- 9 If he has walked in My statutes and kept My judgments faithfully-- he is just; **he shall surely live!** Says the Lord GOD. (NKJ)

WHAT ABOUT HIS SINFUL SON?

EZEKIEL 18:10-13

- 10 If **he begets a son** who is a robber or a shedder of blood, who does any of these things
- 11 And does none of those duties, but **has eaten on the mountains** or **defiled his neighbor's wife**;
- 12 If **he has oppressed the poor and needy**, robbed by violence, **restored not the pledge**, lifted his eyes to the idols, or committed abomination;
- 13 If **he has exacted usury** or **taken increase--** shall he then live? He shall not live! If he has done any of these abominations, **he shall surely die**; his blood shall be upon him. (NKJ)

WHAT ABOUT THE SON OF A SINFUL MAN?

EZEKIEL 18:14-17

- 14 If, however, he begets a son who sees all the sins which his father has done, and considers but does not do likewise;
- 15 Who has not eaten on the mountains, nor lifted his eyes to the idols of the house of Israel, nor defiled his neighbor's wife;
- 16 Has not oppressed anyone, nor withheld a pledge, nor robbed by violence, but has given his bread to the hungry and covered the naked with clothing;
- 17 Who has withdrawn his hand from the poor and not received usury or increase, but has executed My judgments and walked in My statutes-- he shall not die for the iniquity of his father; he shall surely live! (NKJ)

WHAT DID GOD DO TO THE SINFUL PEOPLE?

EZEKIEL 22:29-31

- 29 **The people of the land have used oppressions, committed robbery, and mistreated the poor and needy; and they wrongfully oppress the stranger.**
- 30 **So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall, and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.**
- 31 **Therefore I have poured out My indignation on them; I have consumed them with the fire of My wrath; and I have recompensed their deeds on their own heads, says the Lord GOD. (NKJ)**

WHAT DID THE LORD TELL THEM TO DO?

ZECHARIAH 7:9-12

- 9 Thus says the LORD of hosts: **Execute true justice, show mercy and compassion everyone to his brother.**
- 10 **Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the alien or the poor. Let none of you plan evil in his heart against his brother.**
- 11 But they refused to heed, shrugged their shoulders, and stopped their ears so that they could not hear.
- 12 Yes, **they made their hearts like flint, refusing to hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets. Thus great wrath came from the LORD of hosts. (NKJ)**

