

THE POOR AND NEEDY

OLD TESTAMENT

POOR - afflicted, humble, lowly, needy

NEW TESTAMENT

POOR - beggar - pauper – destitute

By

HAROLD HARSTVEDT

POOR AND NEEDY

**DEUTERONOMY 15:4
THERE SHOULD BE NO POOR AMONG YOU**

**DEUTERONOMY 15:11
THERE WILL ALWAYS BE POOR PEOPLE AMONG YOU**

HOW SHOULD THEY TREAT THE POOR

CHARGE NO INTEREST

EXODUS 22:25-27

LEAVE THE GLEANINGS FOR THE POOR

LEVITICUS 19:9-15

DO NOT REAP THE EDGES OF YOUR FIELD

LEVITICUS 23:22

DO NOT SELL FOOD TO THE POOR

LEVITICUS 25:35-38

DO NOT TREAT THE POOR AS SLAVES

LEVITICUS 25:39-43

CANCEL ALL DEBTS EVERY 7 YEARS

DEUTERONOMY 15:1-3

SLAVES SET FREE IN THE 7TH YEAR

DEUTERONOMY 15:12-15

DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE POOR

DEUTERONOMY 24:14-18

EVERY 3RD YEAR (TITHE FOR THE POOR)

DEUTERONOMY 26:12-13

POOR AND NEEDY

JOB TOOK CARE OF THE POOR AND NEEDY

JOB 31:16-22

RESCUE THE WEAK AND NEEDY

PSALMS 82:3-4

BLESSED IS HE WHO IS KIND TO THE NEEDY

PROVERBS 14:21

SHARE YOUR FOOD WITH THE POOR

PROVERBS 22:9

DO NOT EXPLOIT THE POOR

PROVERBS 22:22

DEFEND THE POOR AND NEEDY

PROVERBS 31:9

SHARE YOUR FOOD WITH THE HUNGRY

ISAIAH 58:5-7

DEFEND THE POOR AND NEEDY

JEREMIAH 22:16

SHOW MERCY & COMPASSION

ZECHARIAH 7:9-12

THE GOOD NEWS IS PREACHED TO THE POOR

LUKE 4:16-18

18 "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed,

LUKE 7:22

22 So he replied to the messengers, "Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard: The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.

WHEN YOU GIVE A BANQUET INVITE THE POOR

LUKE 14:12-14

- 12** Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid.
- 13** But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind,
- 14** and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS THE BEGGAR

LUKE 16:19-25

- 19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.
- 20 At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores
- 21 and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.
- 22 "The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried.

THE RICH MAN AND LAZARUS THE BEGGAR

LUKE 16:19-25

- 23** In hell, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.
- 24** So he called to him, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.'
- 25** "But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.'

THE RICH YOUNG RULER

LUKE 18:18-21

- 18 A certain ruler asked him, "Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"
- 19 "Why do you call me good?" Jesus answered. "No one is good-- except God alone.
- 20 You know the commandments: 'Do not commit adultery, do not murder, do not steal, do not give false testimony, honor your father and mother.'"
- 21 "All these I have kept since I was a boy," he said.

THE RICH YOUNG RULER

LUKE 18:22-24

- 22** When Jesus heard this, he said to him, "You still lack one thing. Sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."
- 23** When he heard this, he became very sad, because he was a man of great wealth.
- 24** Jesus looked at him and said, "How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!
(MATTHEW 19:16-23 & MARK 10:17-23)

WE HAVE LEFT EVERYTHING

MARK 10:28-30

- 28 Peter said to him, "We have left everything to follow you!"**
- 29 "I tell you the truth," Jesus replied, "no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel**
- 30 will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age (homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields-- and with them, persecutions) and in the age to come, eternal life.**
(LUKE 18:28-30)

ZACCHAEUS

WAS WEALTHY

LUKE 19:1-10

- 1 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through.**
- 2 A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.**
- 3 He wanted to see who Jesus was, but being a short man he could not, because of the crowd.**
- 4 So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.**

ZACCHAEUS

LUKE 19:1-10

- 5 When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."
- 6 So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.
- 7 All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a 'sinner.'"

ZACCHAEUS

GIVE HALF OF MY POSSESSIONS TO THE POOR

LUKE 19:1-10

- 8 But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."
- 9 Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham.
- 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

YOU DID IT FOR ME

MATTHEW 25:31-40

- 31** "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.
- 32** All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.
- 33** He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

YOU DID IT FOR ME

MATTHEW 25:31-40

- 34** "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.
- 35** For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,
- 36** I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

YOU DID IT FOR ME

MATTHEW 25:31-40

- 37** "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?
- 38** When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?
- 39** When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'
- 40** "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'

YOU DID NOT DO IT FOR ME

MATTHEW 25:41-46

- 41** "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
- 42** For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,
- 43** I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

YOU DID NOT DO IT FOR ME

MATTHEW 25:41-46

- 44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'**
- 45 "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'**
- 46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."**

THE MONEY COULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE POOR

MARK 14:3-8

- 3 While he was in Bethany, reclining at the table in the home of a man known as Simon the Leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very expensive perfume, made of pure nard. She broke the jar and poured the perfume on his head.**
- 4 Some of those present were saying indignantly to one another, "Why this waste of perfume?"**
- 5 It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor." And they rebuked her harshly.**

THE MONEY COULD HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO THE POOR

MARK 14:3-8

- 6 "Leave her alone," said Jesus. "Why are you bothering her? She has done a beautiful thing to me.**
- 7 The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me.**
- 8 She did what she could. She poured perfume on my body beforehand to prepare for my burial.**

(MATTHEW 26:7-12)

WHY WASN'T THIS MONEY GIVEN TO THE POOR?

JOHN 12:1-8

- 1 Six days before the Passover, Jesus arrived at Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.
- 2 Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him.
- 3 Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

WHY WASN'T THIS MONEY GIVEN TO THE POOR?

JOHN 12:1-8

- 4 But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected,
- 5 "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages."
- 6 He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

YOU WILL ALWAYS HAVE POOR AMONG YOU

JOHN 12:1-8

- 7 "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "[It was intended] that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial.
- 8 You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

FIRST CENTURY CHRISTIANS

THEY GAVE TO ANYONE AS HE HAD NEED

ACTS 2:44-45

- 44 All the believers were together and had everything in common.**
- 45 Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as he had need.**

FIRST CENTURY CHRISTIANS

THERE WERE NO NEEDY AMONG THEM

ACTS 4:34-37

- 34** There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales
- 35** and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need.

FIRST CENTURY CHRISTIANS

BARNABAS

ACTS 4:34-37

- 36** Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement),
- 37** sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet.



**DORCAS WAS ALWAYS DOING GOOD
AND HELPING THE POOR**

ACTS 9:36

36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas), who was always doing good and helping the poor.

CORNELIUS GAVE GENEROUSLY TO THOSE IN NEED

ACTS 10:1-4

- 1 At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion in what was known as the Italian Regiment.**
- 2 He and all his family were devout and God-fearing; he gave generously to those in need and prayed to God regularly.**

CORNELIUS GAVE GENEROUSLY TO THOSE IN NEED

ACTS 10:1-4

- 3 One day at about three in the afternoon he had a vision. He distinctly saw an angel of God, who came to him and said, "Cornelius!"**
- 4 Cornelius stared at him in fear. "What is it, Lord?" he asked. The angel answered, "Your prayers and gifts to the poor have come up as a memorial offering before God.**

EACH ACCORDING TO HIS ABILITY

ACTS 11:29-30

- 29** The disciples, each according to his ability, decided to provide help for the brothers living in Judea.
- 30** This they did, sending their gift to the elders by Barnabas and Saul.

ACTS 24:17

- 17** "After an absence of several years, I came to Jerusalem to bring my people gifts for the poor and to present offerings.

CONTRIBUTION FOR THE POOR IN JERUSALEM

ROMANS 15:25-27

- 25** Now, however, I am on my way to Jerusalem in the service of the saints there.
- 26** For Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor among the saints in Jerusalem.
- 27** They were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in the Jews' spiritual blessings, they owe it to the Jews to share with them their material blessings.

ON THE FIRST DAY OF EVERY WEEK

1 CORINTHIANS 16:1-3

- 1 Now about the collection for God's people: Do what I told the Galatian churches to do.**
- 2 On the first day of every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income, saving it up, so that when I come no collections will have to be made.**
- 3 Then, when I arrive, I will give letters of introduction to the men you approve and send them with your gift to Jerusalem.**

REMEMBER THE POOR

GALATIANS 2:9-10

- 9 James, Peter and John, those reputed to be pillars, gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship when they recognized the grace given to me. They agreed that we should go to the Gentiles, and they to the Jews.**
- 10 All they asked was that we should continue to remember the poor, the very thing I was eager to do.**



**AS WE HAVE OPPORTUNITY
LET US DO GOOD UNTO ALL MEN**

GALATIANS 6:9-10

- 9** Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
- 10** Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

AS YOU HELPED HIS PEOPLE

HEBREWS 6:10

10 God is not unjust; he will not forget your work and the love you have shown him as you have helped his people and continue to help them.

