



Help me praise Him
Help them praise Him
Theo Potgieter



“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed,

(Luke 4:18-19)



Jehovah Jireh

**“The Lord whose provision shall
be seen”**

Gen 22:11-14



**Who executes justice for the
oppressed, Who gives food to
the hungry. The Lord sets free
the prisoners,**

Ps 146:7



- **Origin is sin, i.e. demonic**
- **Oppressive regimes**
- **Kingdoms**
- **Solution is not only economical**
- **Supernatural problem**



- 1. It has Supernatural Origin**
 - Kingdom of God vs Satan**
 - Starts in the mind, then
behaviour, actions, societies**



2. It is a moral and ethical issue

- **Moral laws are broken**
- **Example of Moses delivering God's people**
- **Had laws to obey with prosperity as promise**



- **Martin Luther example**
- **Paul example**
- **Not overthrow of regime, but the regime becoming subject to Christ our Lord.**
- **Rulers subject to the law**



**For it is written, As I live, saith
the Lord, every knee shall bow
to me, and every tongue shall
confess to God.**

Rom 14:117



- **Material needs**
- **Dependency**
- **Bereft of alternatives**
- **Exploitation**
- **Cycle of poverty**



**Woe to those who decree
unrighteous decrees, Who write
misfortune, Which they have
prescribed. 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.”**

Is 10:1-2



**“defend the poor and fatherless,
do justice to the poor and needy.
Deliver the poor and needy...”.**

Ps 82:3



**Whoever shuts his ears to the
cry of the poor will also cry
himself and not be heard.**

Prov 21:13



**He who oppresses the poor
reproaches his Maker, But he
who honours Him has mercy on
the needy.**

Prov 14:31



**Then the word of God spread,
and the number of the disciples
multiplied greatly in Jerusalem,
and a great many of the priests
were obedient to the faith.**

Acts 6:1-7



**They desired only that we
should remember the poor, the
very thing which I also was
eager to do.**

Gal 2:10



Implications for Church and Believer

- Dictates of the Holy Spirit to be followed
- Expose ourselves to the plight of the poor
- Empower



**Therefore, as we have
opportunity, let us do good to all,
especially to those who are of
the household of faith.**

Gal 6: 10



14 What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? 15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 16 and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what good[a] is that? 17 So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead. [James 2: 14-17]



- **Basic needs – food, clothing**
- **Shelter**
- **Belonging**

“Help them worship”

James 2: 14-17



**External religious worship
[religion as it is expressed in
outward acts] that is pure and
unblemished in the sight of God
the Father is this:**

James 1: 27



**to visit and help and care for the
orphans and widows in their
affliction and need, and to keep
oneself unspotted and
uncontaminated from the world.**

“Help me worship”

James 1: 27



Daniel 4:27; “Therefore, O king, let my advice be acceptable to you; break off your sins by being righteous, and your iniquities by showing mercy to the poor. Perhaps there may be a lengthening of your prosperity.”



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Proverbs 19:4, 7; “Wealth makes many friends, but the poor is separated from his friend. All the brothers of the poor hate him; How much more do his friends go far from him! He may pursue them with words, yet they abandon him.”