

Next Week Sermon

Looking Further to
the Bright Horizon
of God's Reign

Isaiah 11:1-10

PREACHER

Wong Yi Khen

26 January 2025

**As For Me and
My House**

Joshua 24:15

PREACHER

Leong Yew Lum

02 February 2025

**God's Greatest
Plan, In Life's
Worst Pain**

Jeremiah 29:11

PREACHER

Raymond Raj



Good News to the Poor

Isaiah 58:6-10, 61:1-3

Isaiah – The Servant Songs

Isaiah 42:1–9

- 1st Servant Song - introduces us to the Servant of the LORD

Isaiah 49:1–13

- 2nd Servant Song - the Messiah's work in the world and His success

Isaiah 50:4–11

- 3rd Servant Song - contrasts Israel's sin with the Servant's obedience

Isaiah 52:13–53:12

- 4th Servant Song - the suffering and triumph of the Servant of the LORD

Isaiah 61:1–3

- Regarded by Bible scholars as the 5th Servant Song

Isaiah 61:1-3

1 “The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me,
Because the Lord has anointed Me
To preach good tidings to the poor;
He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
To proclaim liberty to the captives,
And the opening of the prison to those who are
bound;

2 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord,
And the day of vengeance of our God;
To comfort all who mourn,

3 To console those who mourn in Zion,
To give them beauty for ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of
heaviness;
That they may be called trees of
righteousness,
The planting of the Lord, that He may be
glorified.”

The First
Public
Sermon by
the Lord

‘The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor.

Luke 4 18



Luke 4:16-19, 21

- 16 So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. 17 And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:
 - 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me,
 - Because He has anointed Me
 - To preach the gospel to the poor;
 - He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted,
 - To proclaim liberty to the captives
 - And recovery of sight to the blind,
 - To set at liberty those who are oppressed;
 - 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.”
- 21 And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”



Why should a
believer in the
gospel of Jesus
Christ be
passionately
involved with the
poor?



A view of Earth from space, showing the planet's curvature and the blue oceans and green landmasses. The background is a dark blue space filled with stars and a nebula. A white wavy underline is positioned below the text.

Reason #1: The Future

Luke 4:16-19, 21

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The Year of the Lord's Favour

- Isaiah 61:1-2
- As the Messiah, I am anointed to come, and proclaim the year of the Lord's favour
- This is a reference to Leviticus 25 - The Year of Jubilee
 - In Leviticus 25 there was a fascinating law
 - Part of Israel's law code
 - The Mosaic legislation



The Year of Jubilee



Leviticus 25:8-9

- 8 'And you shall count seven sabbaths of years for yourself, seven times seven years; and the time of the seven sabbaths of years shall be to you forty-nine years.
- 9 Then you shall cause the trumpet of the Jubilee to sound on the tenth day of the seventh month; on the Day of Atonement you shall make the trumpet to sound throughout all your land.

Leviticus 25:10

- 10 And you shall consecrate the fiftieth year, and proclaim liberty throughout all the land to all its inhabitants. It shall be a Jubilee for you; and each of you shall return to his possession, and each of you shall return to his family.

Year of Jubilee – A Summary

- Every 50 years
- All debts were forgiven
- All slaves were freed
- All the land went back to its original allotments

Year of Jubilee – Some History...

- When Israel came into the Promised Land from Egypt, it was divided up
- Every clan, every tribe, every family got an equal amount of land

MAP 4 THE TWELVE TRIBES OF ISRAEL



Year of Jubilee – Some History... (cont.)

- As the years go by, what happens?
- Some people do better, some people do worse
- Some people partly through circumstances/choices/hard work
- Some people do better, and the number in their land grows
- Some people do worse, and they lose/sell their land



Year of Jubilee – A Chance to Reset

- And God says, every 50 years, no matter what's happened, all the land goes back to its original allotments
- One Bible scholar put it like this
 - On average, each person or family had at least once in a lifetime a chance to start afresh, no matter how irresponsibly they had handled their finances or how far into debt they had fallen



Year of Jubilee – In Malaysia?

- Can you imagine Malaysians being told that's the law of the land?
- Every 50 years, things go right back to the way they were 50 years ago



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Year of Jubilee – The Reason

- We could surmise that the reason God did that
 - He owns the land
 - He is the author of all our wealth
 - He does not want permanent poverty in His country
- The law of Jubilee was a fascinating one



Year of Jubilee – The Lord Jesus

- When the Messiah comes, he's going to say, I proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
- Not just a Jubilee (Jubilees came up every 50 years)
- THE Jubilee
- And what does that mean?

Isaiah 61:1-3

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The planting of the Lord, that He may be
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Year of THE Jubilee – The Description

- I'm going to release the prisoners from darkness
- I'm going to proclaim freedom for the captives
- I'm going to bind up the brokenhearted
- I'm going to preach good news to the poor

- I'm going to get rid of all mourning
- I'm going to get rid of all grief
- I'm going to get rid of all sorrow

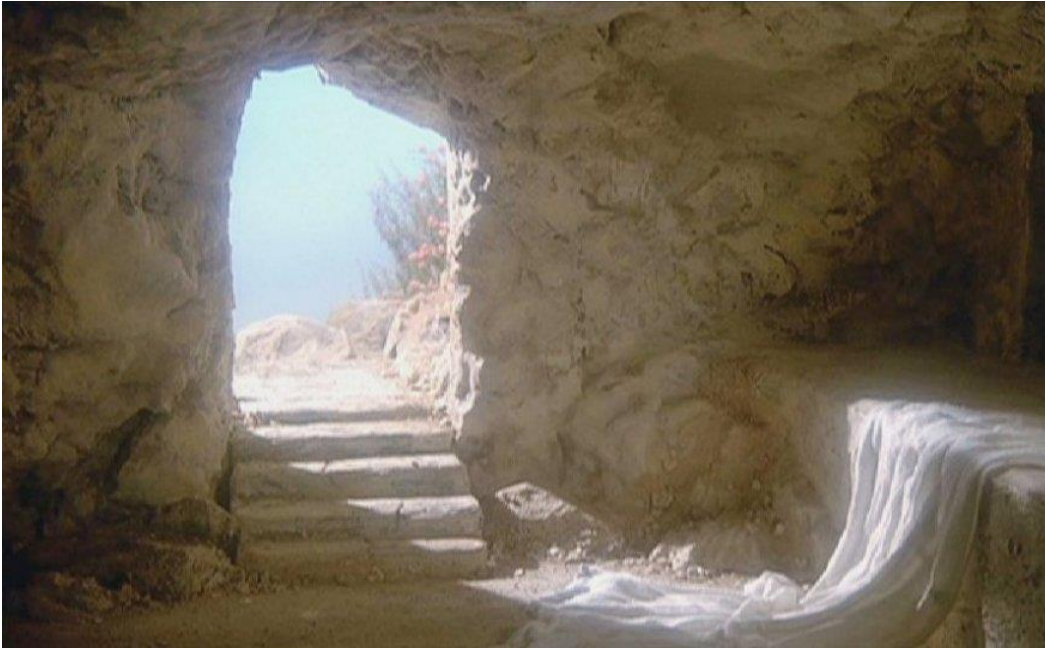
- This is telling us about the future that the Messiah is going to bring

Year of THE Jubilee – The Future

- This is telling us about the future that God has provided
- Someday, the new heavens and new earth, this world is going to be wiped clean
 - of all problems
 - of all flaws
 - of all blemishes
 - of all poverty
 - of injustice
 - of hunger
 - of disease
 - of death
 - of suffering
- And that's the future God is promising

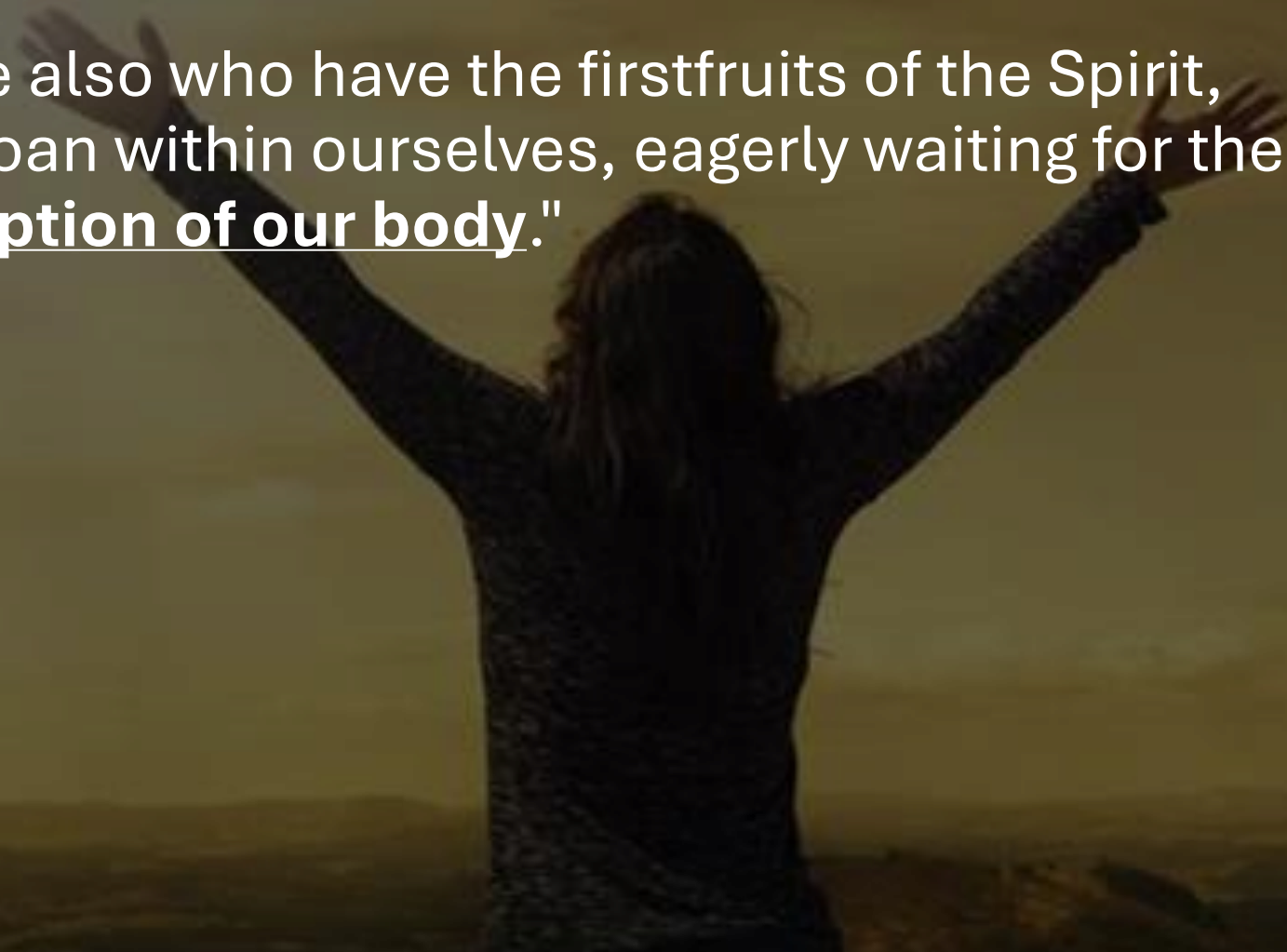


Year of THE Jubilee – The Implications



- If God invented both your body and your soul
 - And if he's going to redeem both body and soul
 - That's what the resurrection is all about
 - Not just taking us to heaven - He's resurrecting us
- Romans 8 says we're longing for the redemption of our bodies
- If he invented body and soul, and he's going to redeem body and soul
 - if He's going to remove both physical and spiritual darkness
 - then that has to be reflected in our lives as believers

Romans 8:23

- "Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, **the redemption of our body.**"
- 

Year of THE Jubilee – The Implications



- If we believe that God, at infinite cost, is going for the end of disease/poverty/death/sickness:-
 - We should be healing the sick where we can
 - We should be feeding the hungry where we can
- It is our way of showing that we believe in that future
 - In other words, we have to reflect that



Reason #1: The Future

So the first reason why we care about the
poor/injustice/sickness/disease is because of the future

A bronze statue of Lady Justice, blindfolded and holding scales of justice, is the background of the image. The statue is positioned on the left side, with its right arm raised holding the top of the scales. The scales are visible on the right side of the image. The text "Reason #2: The Present" is centered in the middle of the image, with a white wavy underline below it.

Reason #2: The Present

Isaiah 58:6-7

- 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?

- 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?"

Isaiah 58:10

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.

Justice... Or Injustice?

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Woman claims trial to stealing 2 packets of Milo

V Anbalagan - 19 Jul 2022, 10:30 PM

Lawyer Naran Singh urges the attorney-general to drop the charge against his client.

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Lawyer Naran Singh with Suhaini Mohd at the Kuala Terengganu High Court.

PETALING JAYA: A woman has claimed trial in the Marang magistrates' court after she was charged again with stealing two packets of Milo valued at RM74.

Suhaini Mohd, 43, is alleged to have committed the offence at a local supermarket in Marang on May 25.

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Most Viewed Last 2 Days

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- 3 I did not see house arrest addendum, says Zaliha
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09 Jan 2025, 01:35 PM

Special Features

Dzulkefly: Show mercy for Milo thief

The case has since attracted the attention of former Health Minister Dzulkefly Ahmad, who pleaded for leniency and said that the court's decision was "barren of the concept of proportionality and reasonableness", reported [Malaysiakini](#).

“ It worries me a lot when heavy sentences are handed down for petty offences involving only food items, while the accused in serious criminal cases are still free to roam, with some even living a luxurious lifestyle. It seems there are two different standards.

“The 'justice' implemented in this case involving the Milo packets clearly lacks humanitarianism, especially for the public who are already facing issues with the cost of living that many are living hand to mouth,” he said in a statement.

Dzulkefly also said that Suhaini should be given help so that she can escape the vicious cycle of poverty.



**We Cry for
Justice**



Justice vs Charity

- Justice is not an option
- But Isaiah is also saying...
 - If we do not feed the hungry, we are being unjust
- Or do we think
 - "I don't owe the poor anything"
 - "If I want to give it to them, I can but I don't owe them anything"
 - "It's not unjust"
 - "Maybe uncharitable, but not unjust"



"And not hide yourself from your own flesh?"

- Share your food with the hungry
- Provide the poor wanderer with shelter
- See the naked and cloth him
- **Don't turn away from your own flesh and blood**

- Flesh and blood?
 - Your family, someone we are related to
 - What God is saying is that poor wanderer is your own flesh and blood

"The poor who are cast out"

- "the homeless poor"
- "the poor wanderer"
- Meaning
 - An impoverished person of another race
 - Stranger
 - Alien



Turning away from your own flesh and blood

- God is saying, when we turn away from a poor person of another race, it's like turning away from your own flesh and blood
- Why?
 - Every human being is in the image of God



To not help the poor... Is to be Unjust

- In fact, you are turning away from your own flesh and blood,
 - and therefore, you are responsible for their needs,
 - and to turn away from your own flesh and blood is wrong
- It is not just uncharitable
- It is wrong - unjust





The Counterargument "I earned it"

- What we have, to some degree, it's because we worked hard for it
 - but only to some degree, and not to the main degree
- The main reason is because you were born with certain advantages
 - the country you were born in
 - the century you were born in
 - the talent you are born with
 - the health you are born with



Afghanistan, Madagascar, Malawi...

**The 25 poorest
countries in the
world**

<https://www.usatoday.com/picture-gallery/money/2019/07/07/poorest-countries-in-the-world/39636251/>

What we have – Gift(s) from God

- Without them, we would be nowhere, and therefore, mainly what we have is a gift of God
- If we act as if it's ours, that shows we do not understand:
 - Our real relationship to God
 - And the rest of the human race
- What we have is a gift from God



Deuteronomy 10:14

- "14 Indeed heaven and the highest heavens belong to the Lord your God, also the earth with all that is in it."



Ecclesiastes 5:15

"As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return,
To go as he came;
And he shall take nothing from his labor
Which he may carry away in his hand."





Being Unkind... is to be Unjust

- And what this means is, if you are unkind to the poor
 - you don't understand the actual relationship you have with God
 - or the actual relationship you have to other people
- To be unkind... is to be unjust

1 Timothy 6:17-19

- 17 Command those who are rich in this present age not to be haughty, nor to trust in uncertain riches but in the living God, who gives us richly all things to enjoy.
- 18 Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share,
- 19 storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.





Reason #2: The Present

- First, we should take care of the poor because of the future
- Second, we should take care of the poor because of our present
 - because of our present relationship with God
 - and with one another



If we ended
here...



Reason #3: The Past

- A third reason that the Bible gives
- That believers in the gospel of Jesus Christ ought to be involved with the poor
- And that third reason is the primary one in the Bible

A large wooden cross silhouette stands prominently on the right side of the frame, set against a dramatic sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow and casting long, soft rays of light through the clouds. The foreground shows the dark silhouettes of rolling hills and mountains. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

Reason #3: The Past

atonement

BOUGHT BY THE BLOOD



The Atoning Sacrifice

- If you understand the atoning sacrifice
- If you understand what has been done for you
- You'll want to be involved with the poor
- More than that, it'll change your very understanding of the poor



"Is not this the fast I have chosen?"

- At the very beginning of the passage,
- it says, is not this the fast I choose?

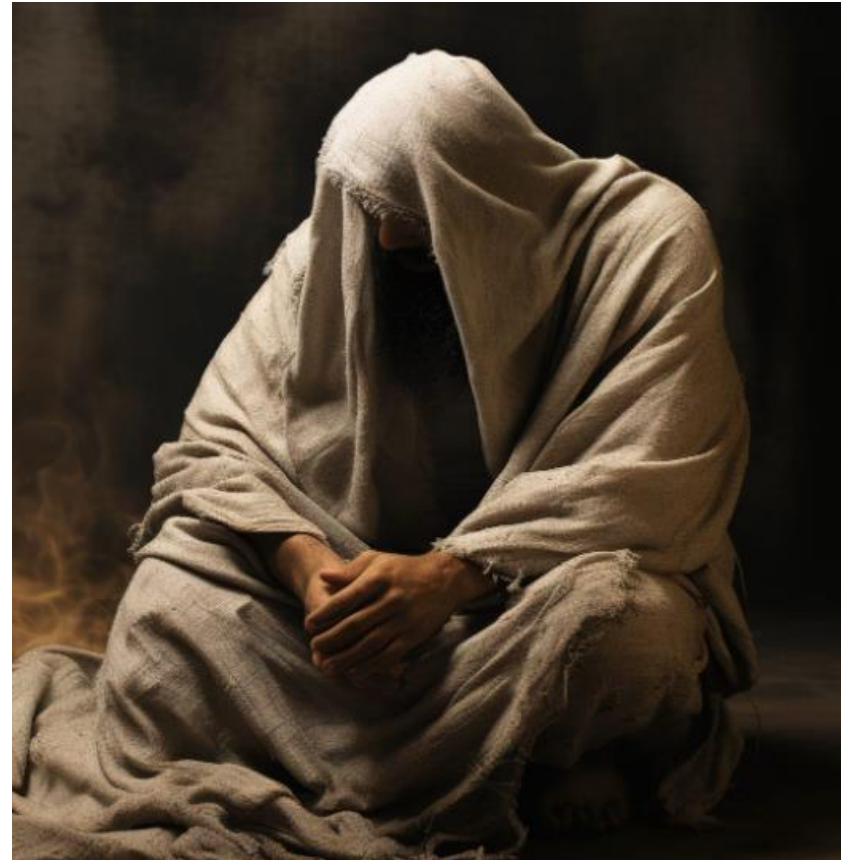
- In that part, the Israelites are complaining
 - because they fast and they fast and they fast
 - but God isn't answering their prayers

Isaiah 58:3, 5

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.

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?



Yom Kippur
(Lev. 23:27)



Yom Kippur – The Day of Atonement



- One day a year, the Israelites came together for a blood sacrifice to atone for their sins
- That's what Yom Kippur means - the Day of Atonement

The Day of Atonement – A Reminder of their Failure



- And it really was a way for God to say
- even though the Israelites all during the year
- have been trying very hard to live a good life
- they've been trying to obey God's law
- trying to obey the Ten Commandments
- every year they're going to look back and realize they failed

The Day of Atonement - Its Meaning

- Yom Kippur was God's way of saying and reminding:
 - There is no way that anyone can be in a relationship with Me through their moral excellence
 - The only way anybody can be in a relationship with Me is through atonement, forgiveness, grace
- Hebrews 10:3-4
 - "3 But in those sacrifices **there is a reminder of sins every year.**
 - 4 For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins."



The Day of Atonement – Fasting



- And on the day of Yom Kippur
- In order to show that they understood that God was a God of grace and that they had been forgiven
- The Israelites fasted (Lev. 16:29)

The Day of Atonement – Fasting



- Why?
- Fasting is a way of humbling/denying yourself
- A way of saying and acknowledging:
 - I am a sinner saved by grace

Leviticus 16:29-31

- 29 “This shall be a statute forever for you: In the seventh month, on the tenth day of the month, **you shall afflict your souls**, and do no work at all, whether a native of your own country or a stranger who dwells among you.
- 30 For on that day the priest shall make atonement for you, to cleanse you, that you may be clean from all your sins before the Lord.
- 31 It is a sabbath of solemn rest for you, and you shall afflict your souls. It is a statute forever.

Fasting - Their Hypocrisy

- But God noticed something
- Eventhough the Israelites would fast and deny themselves food
- They continued to exploit their employees
 - By not paying them well



Fasting – Misunderstood

- What God is saying here :
 - you do not understand what kind of fasting I want
 - i.e. you do not understand what kind of life I want to result from the knowledge that you're saved by grace
 - That you are saved only because of the atoning sacrifice



Fasting – Genuine, without Hypocrisy

- The kind of life that should come from a knowledge of grace
- The fasting God want is this:
 - to spend yourselves for the poor
 - to pour yourself out for the poor
 - to give yourself to the poor

Fasting = To Deny Oneself?

Fasting – Understood

- If you really, really understood God's grace
 - when you see the **hungry**, you would **feed** them
 - when you see the **naked**, you would **clothe** them
 - when you see the **homeless**, you would **shelter** them



Fasting – Understood

- Pour yourself out for your whole life
- That's the kind of life that should come from a knowledge of atonement
- If we're not caring for them, that shows we don't understand God's grace



Reality Check

- Let us try to be understanding to the Israelites because:-
 - To what degree could they have really understood the meaning of that blood sacrifice on Yom Kippur?
 - To what degree could they have understood what it was really pointing to?
- They knew that in general it meant that they could only be in a relationship with God through His mercy
- They couldn't really understand what the sacrifice was pointing to
 - But WE can



Reality Check

- John Piper

- "So the point is clear: the prescribed repetition of sacrifices for sin in the Old Testament Law was a built-in testimony to their inadequacy. They did not perfect the people. They did not deal with sin decisively, finally, once for all."



Reality Check

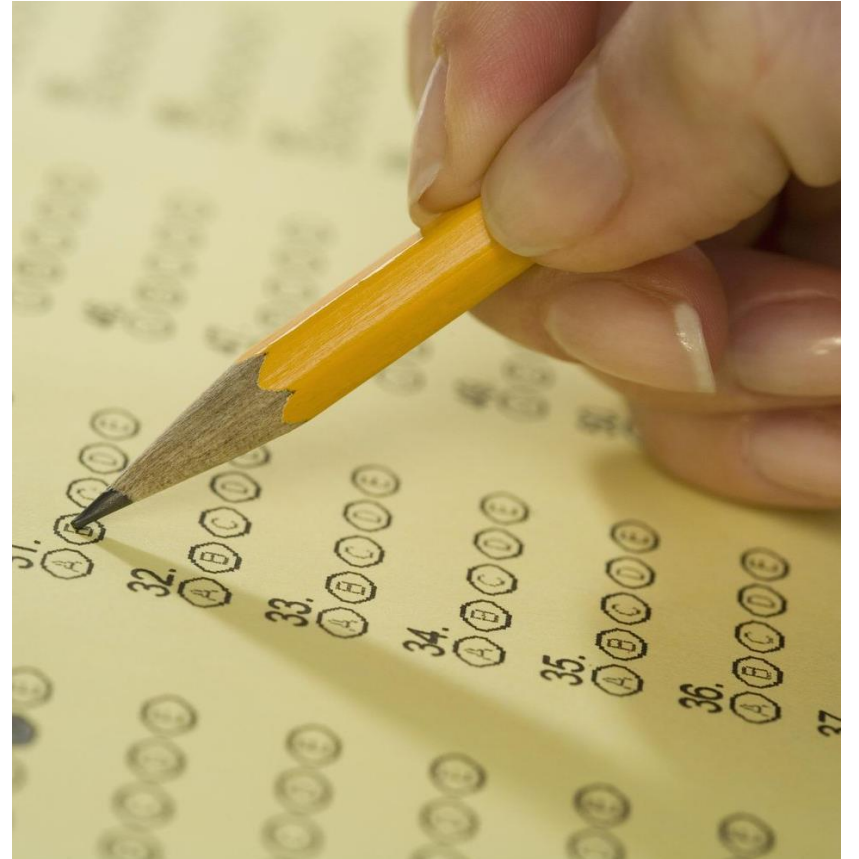
- And you know what that means?
- It means we have even less excuse
- Centuries later, Jesus Christ in Matthew 25 took Isaiah 58 and reworked it

Our Claims

- Remember what Isaiah 58 is saying?
- You say you know that I have atoned for your sin
- You say you know about the blood sacrifice
- You say you know that you are saved by grace

Our Claims – Put to the Test

- But if you see the homeless/naked/hungry and you don't do anything about it, that proves you don't know
- In Matthew 25, listen to what the Lord Jesus does
- He takes Isaiah 58, almost verbatim, but he twists it, turns it, and reworks it



Matthew 25:34-40

- 34 Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:
- 35 for I was hungry and you gave Me food;
- I was thirsty and you gave Me drink;
- I was a stranger and you took Me in;
- 36 I was naked and you clothed Me;
- I was sick and you visited Me;
- I was in prison and you came to Me.’
- 37 “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 38 When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 39 Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’
- 40 And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.’

Matthew 25:41-46

- 41 “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:
- 42 for I was hungry and you gave Me no food;
- I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink;
- 43 I was a stranger and you did not take Me in,
- naked and you did not clothe Me,
- sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’
- 44 “Then they also will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?’
- 45 Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.’ 46 And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Love for the Poor – A Consequence of Salvation

- If you love me and know My love (what I have done for you), then when you see the poor, you will love the poor
- He is **not** saying
 - You will be saved if you care for the poor
- He is saying
 - You will care for the poor **if you are saved**

You shall love your neighbor as
yourself.

Leviticus
19:18

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Do we know what it means when the Lord Jesus says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit"?

"Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."
-Matthew 5:3



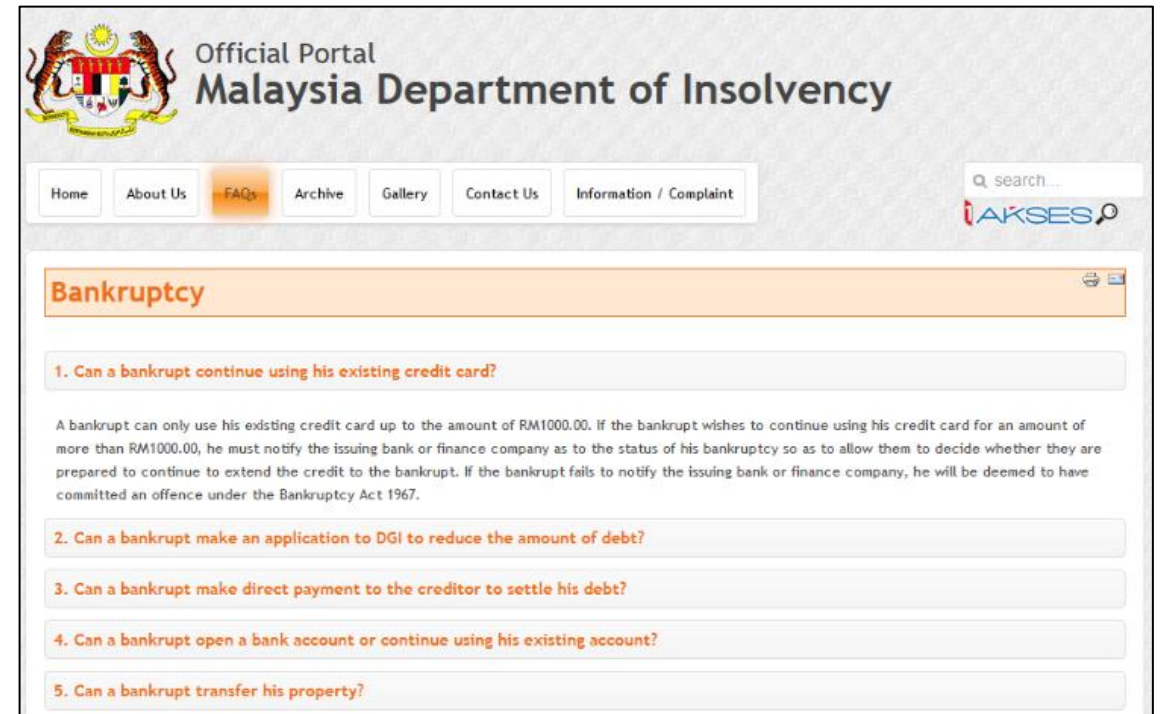
Spiritual Bankruptcy

- If you were to stand before God right now, would you be willing to admit
 - That there's absolutely nothing that you have ever done that is good enough (even best deeds have bad motives)
 - That you have never loved God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind
 - That you have never loved your neighbour as yourself
- That you actually have nothing that you could say to God except:
 - You are bankrupt - Morally and spiritually



Declaring Spiritual Bankruptcy

- Do you believe that the only possible way you could have any relationship with God is through the absolute free generosity of God?
- If you believe that
 - Then you are spiritually poor
 - You're spiritually bankrupt
 - You've declared spiritual bankruptcy
- The only way the Bible says to be saved is through the charity of God



The screenshot shows the official portal of the Malaysia Department of Insolvency. The header includes the national emblem and the text "Official Portal Malaysia Department of Insolvency". A navigation menu contains links for Home, About Us, FAQs (highlighted), Archive, Gallery, Contact Us, and Information / Complaint. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled "Bankruptcy" and lists five frequently asked questions:

1. Can a bankrupt continue using his existing credit card?
A bankrupt can only use his existing credit card up to the amount of RM1000.00. If the bankrupt wishes to continue using his credit card for an amount of more than RM1000.00, he must notify the issuing bank or finance company as to the status of his bankruptcy so as to allow them to decide whether they are prepared to continue to extend the credit to the bankrupt. If the bankrupt fails to notify the issuing bank or finance company, he will be deemed to have committed an offence under the Bankruptcy Act 1967.
2. Can a bankrupt make an application to DGI to reduce the amount of debt?
3. Can a bankrupt make direct payment to the creditor to settle his debt?
4. Can a bankrupt open a bank account or continue using his existing account?
5. Can a bankrupt transfer his property?

Spiritual Charity for the Spiritually Poor

- The only way you can be saved, the only way you can get charity is if you are humble enough to ask for it
- If you are too proud to ask for charity, you will never get it
- Now, what Jesus is saying is, only the poor in spirit can be saved
 - That's why he came to declare liberation for the spiritually poor
- Only the spiritually poor can receive his salvation



Looking at Material Poverty through the Lens of Spiritual Poverty

- But if you are spiritually poor and you receive God's salvation, the Gospel
 - That will completely change the way you look at materially poor people for the rest of your life
- You can never look down at them
- You can never be condescending
- You can never say you just need work harder because you didn't
- You could never say you are undeserving



Looking at Material Poverty through the Lens of Spiritual Poverty

- If you truly are poor in spirit (spiritually poor), you will love the materially poor
- When you look at them, you will feel like you are looking in a mirror
- You will realize this is what you look like to God
- And yet he gave everything to help you



Spiritually Middle Class


- Some may feel...
- I've lived a pretty good life
 - I've lived a pretty decent life
 - better than many people
- Do you believe that if you were to appear before God, would He owe you?
- That means you are not poor in spirit
 - You're middle class in spirit
 - Spiritually speaking, I've paid my taxes and I have my rights





Spiritually Middle Class – Indifference

- If you're middle class in spirit, Jesus says, you're going to be indifferent to the plight of the materially poor
- Because you'll say, pull yourself up with hard work like I did
- You will be a Pharisee





How do we escape the
Spiritual Middle Class Trap?







Look Deeply
at what Jesus
Did

Will we say to the Lord Jesus
on the last day:

When did we see You naked?



They cast lots for My
garment

Will we say:

When did we see You thirsty?

I thirst.



Will we say:

Lord, when did we see You in prison?



On the cross

- I, who deserved acceptance, got condemnation
- So that you, who deserved condemnation, could be accepted by grace

Look Deeply at what Jesus Did

- And when you see Jesus Christ becoming:
 - Poor for you
 - Powerless for you
 - Marginalized for you
 - Becoming a victim of injustice for you
 - Paying the penalty of your sins for you
- You will never look at poor, marginalized, victims of injustice the same way again



HE WAS RICH
YET FOR YOUR SAKES HE BECAME POOR
THAT YOU THROUGH HIS POVERTY MIGHT BECOME RICH

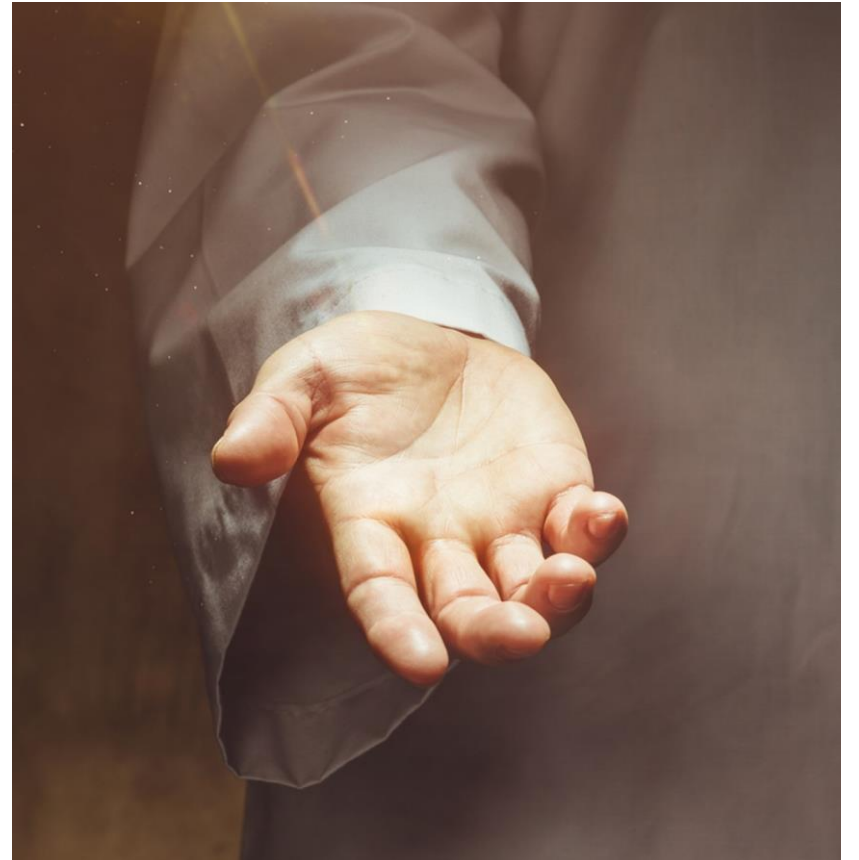
- 2 Corinthians 8:9 -



C H O S E N Y O U T H

We can love others because He loved us

- If Jesus loved us so much as to
 - become poor
 - become a victim of injustice
 - become powerless
- We can love those people the way He loved us



He came to fulfill Isaiah 61

- Jesus' heart was broken on the cross
- Jesus was plunged into darkness on the cross
- Jesus was bound so that we could be free
- Jesus got the ashes so that we could have the crown of beauty
- Jesus got stripped naked so we could have garments of praise



Grace, Not Guilt

- This is the incredible truth that an understanding of the grace of God and of how Jesus Christ, though he was rich, became poor so that through his poverty, we might become spiritually rich
- Radically changes your way of looking at poor people
- Gives you this passionate, loving desire to do something for them as Jesus Christ did for you
- That's not guilt, that's grace

The Caveat

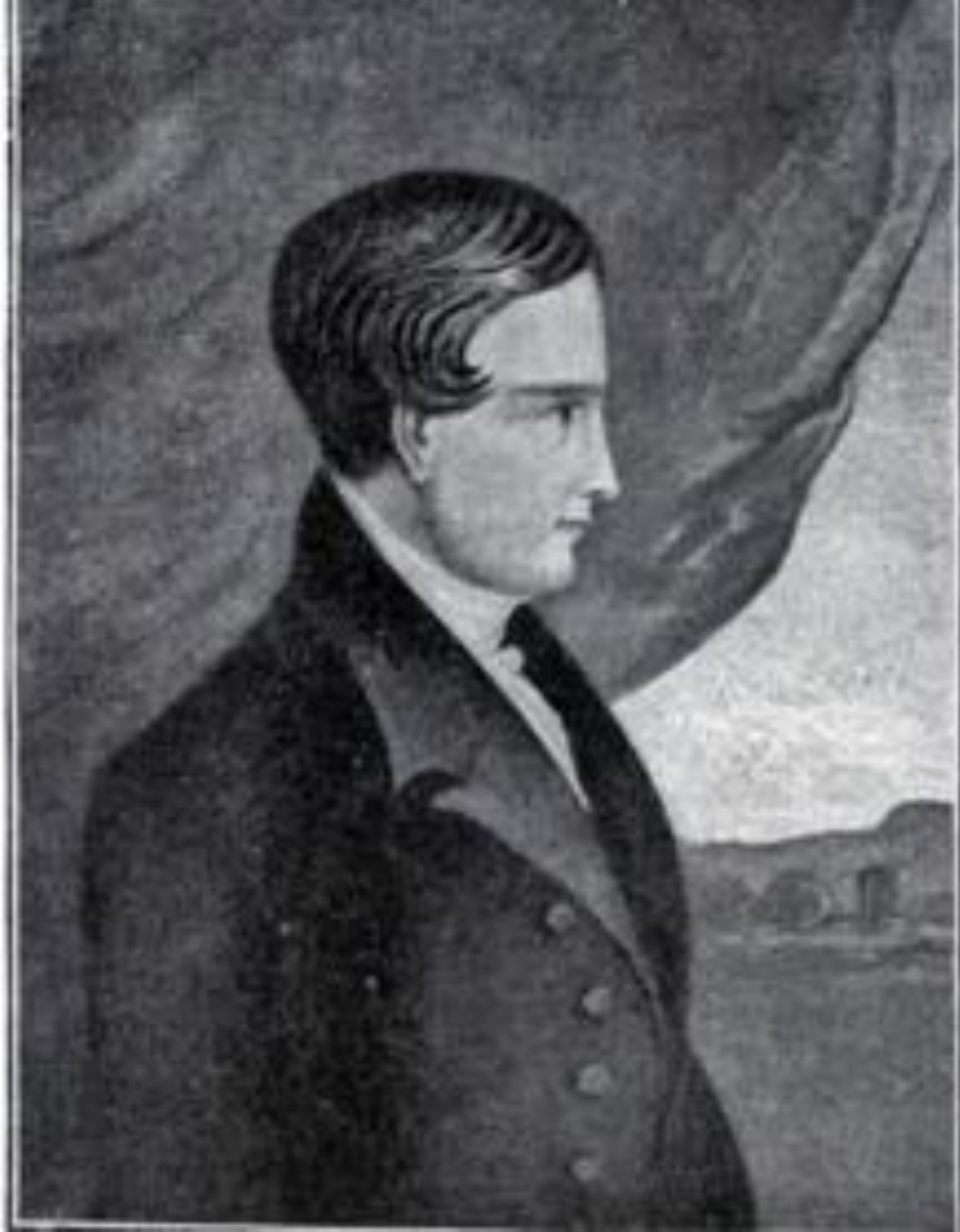
- Many people who really do believe they are sinners saved by grace are still not very involved with or concerned about the poor
- They may be spending a little bit of money
- But they are certainly not spending themselves (Isaiah 58:10)
- Why?



The Button



- Deep in every the heart of every person who believes the gospel, there is a button
- And that button gets pushed when somebody connects grace to the poor rather than guilt
- Mostly people try to get us involved with the poor through guilt
- But when the gospel of grace is connected to the poor, somebody pushes that button and wakes us up

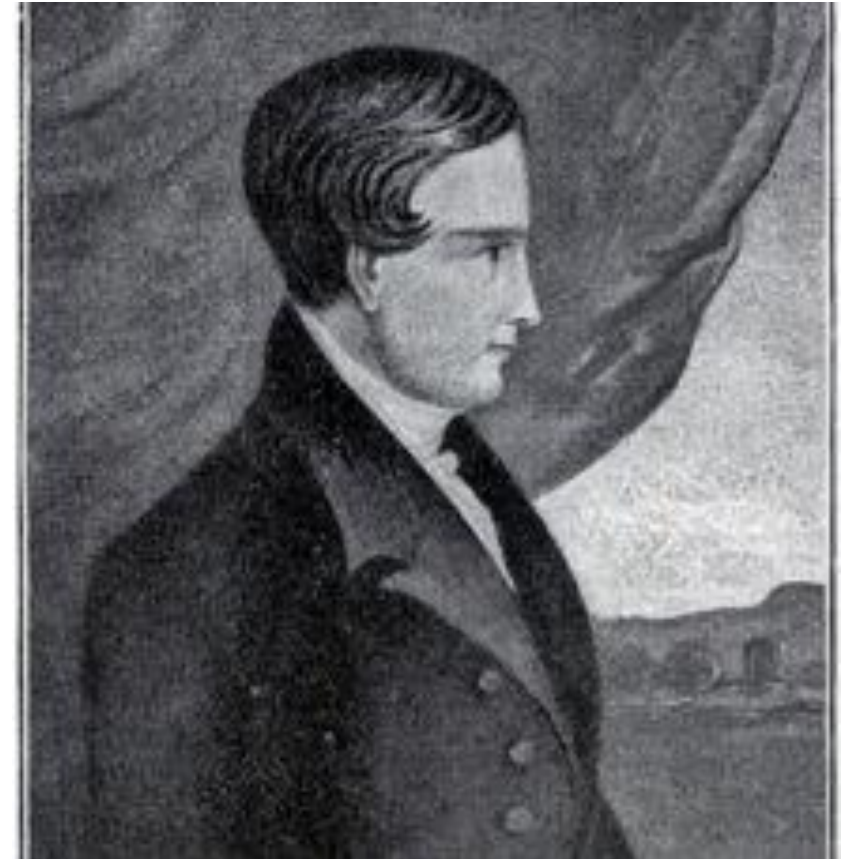


Sermon – Robert Murray McCheyne

- From Scotland
- From 1830s
- "It is more blessed to give than to receive."
- Acts 20:35

Sermon – Robert Murray McCheyne

- Now, dear Christians, some of you pray night and day to be branches of the true Vine; you pray to be made all over in the image of Christ. If so, you must be like him in giving... "Though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor"
- Objection 1 – “My money is my own.”
- Answer: Christ might have said, “My blood is my own, my life is my own”...then where should we have been?
- Objection 2 – “The poor are undeserving”
- Answer: Christ might have said, “The are wicked rebels...shall I lay down my life for these? I will give to the good angels.” But no, he left the ninety-nine, and came after the lost. He gave his blood for the undeserving.
- Objection 3 – “The poor may abuse it.”
- Answer: Christ might have said the same; yea, with far greater truth. Christ knew that thousands would trample his blood under their feet; that most would despise it; that many would make it an excuse for sinning more; yet he gave his own blood.
- Oh Dear Christians! If you would be like Christ, give much, give often, give freely, to the vile and poor, the thankless and the undeserving. Christ is glorious and happy and so will you be. It is not your money I want, but your happiness. Remember his own word, “It is more blessed to give than to receive.”



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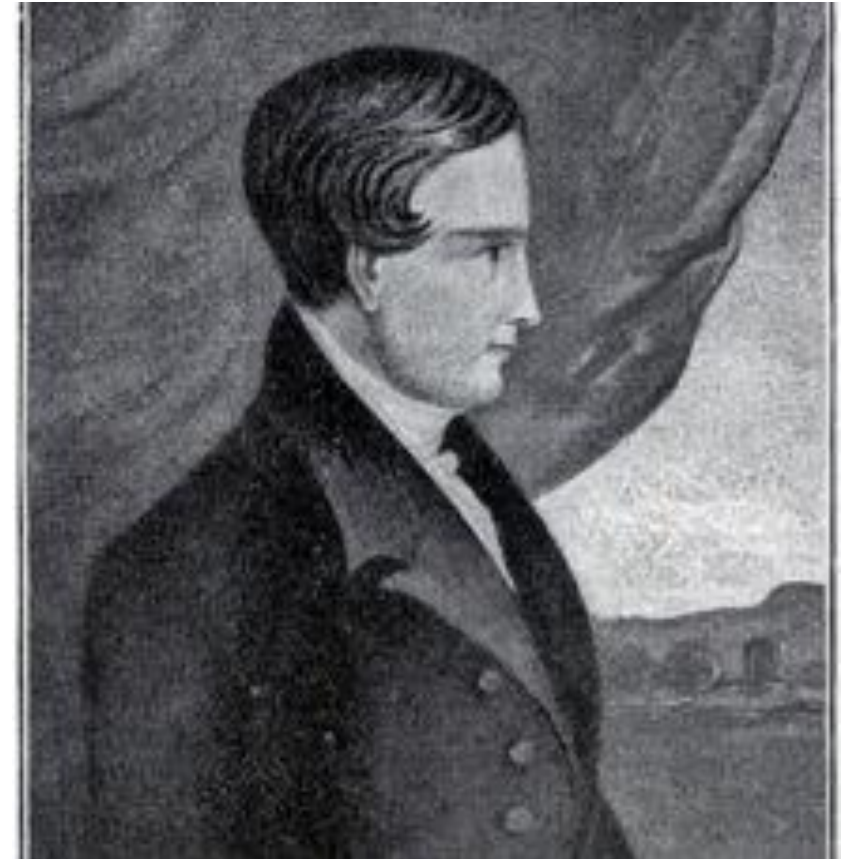
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Spirit Touch Your Church

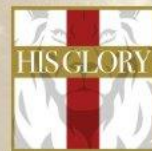
- Spirit, touch Your church
- Stir the hearts of men
- Revive us, Lord
- With Your passion once again

- **I want to care for others**
- **Like Jesus cares for me**
- Let Your rain fall upon me
- Let Your rain fall upon me

Matthew 25:40 - "... inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.'



For you know the grace of our Lord
Jesus Christ, that though He was
rich, yet for your sakes He became
poor, that you through His poverty
might become rich.



2 Corinthians 8:9 NKJV



Good News to the Poor

Isaiah 58:6-10, 61:1-3