

Jesus and the Poor

Summary

1. Jesus became poor - 2 Cor. 8:9, Phil. 2:7
2. Jesus blessed the poor with the Kingdom - Mt. 5:3, Lk 6:20
3. Jesus proclaimed good news to the poor - Mt. 11:5. Lk. 4:18, 7:22
4. Jesus Command #1 - Be generous to the poor - Lk 11:41
5. Jesus Command #2 - Give to the poor - Mt. 19:21, Mk 10:21, Lk 18:22, 12:33
6. Jesus Command #3 - Invite the poor - Lk 14:13 (Lk 14:21)
7. Jesus said you will always have the poor - Mt 26:11, Mk. 14:7, Jn 12:8
- * The Poor Widow - Mark 12:42-43; Luke 21:2-3
- * Zacchaeus - Lk 19:8
- * Judas & the Poor - Jn. 12:6, 13:29

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1. Jesus Became Poor - [2 Corinthians 8:9](#) - For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich. [Philippians 2:7](#) - He made Himself nothing, by taking the very nature of a servant.

2. Jesus blessed the poor with the Kingdom - [Matthew 5:3](#) Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

[Luke 6:20](#) Looking at his disciples, he said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God."

[James 2:5](#) Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?

3. Jesus Proclaimed Good News to the Poor - [Luke 4:18](#) "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free."

Report to John the Baptist - [Matthew 11:5](#) The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

[Luke 7:22](#) 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 cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor."

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4. Jesus' Command #1 "Generous to the Poor" - [Luke 11:41](#) But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.
5. Jesus' Command #2 "Give to the Poor" [Luke 12:32-33](#) "Do not be afraid little flock, for your Father in Heaven has been pleased to give you the Kingdom. Sell your possessions and give to the poor. Provide purses for yourselves that will not wear out, a treasure in heaven that will never fail, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys."

* Rich Young Ruler - [Matthew 19:21](#) Jesus answered, "If you want to be perfect, go, sell your possessions and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

[Mark 10:21](#) Jesus looked at him and loved him. "One thing you lack," he said. "Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."

[Luke 18:22](#) 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."

6. Jesus Command #3: "Invite the Poor" - [Luke 14:13](#) But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed.

- The Parable of the Great Banquet - [Luke 14:21](#) The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

7. Disciples' Complaint & Jesus' Response - [Matthew 26:9](#) "This perfume could have been sold at a high price and the money given to the poor."

[Mark 14:5](#) It could have been sold for more than a year's wages and the money given to the poor. And they rebuked her harshly.

[John 12:5](#) "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages."

Jesus' Response - [Matthew 26:11](#) The poor you will always have with you, but you will not always have me.

[Mark 14:7](#) The poor you will always have with you, and you can help them any time you want. But you will not always have me. ([John 12:8](#))

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* Poor Widow - [Mark 12:42-43](#) But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others."

[Luke 21:2-3](#) He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins. Truly I tell you," he said, "this poor widow has put in more than all the others."

* Zacchaeus & Well Treated Poor - [Luke 19:8](#) 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."

* Judas the Treasurer Thief - [John 12:6](#) He [Judas] 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.

- Judas 2nd Reference - [John 13:29](#) Since Judas had charge of the money, some thought Jesus was telling him to buy what was needed for the festival, or to give something to the poor.

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Poor in the Old Testament

[Proverbs 19:17](#)

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

[Proverbs 21:13](#)

Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.

[Proverbs 22:9](#)

The generous will themselves be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.

[Proverbs 28:27](#)

Those who give to the poor will lack nothing, but those who close their eyes to them receive many curses.

[Proverbs 29:7](#)

The righteous care about justice for the poor, but the wicked have no such concern.

[Proverbs 29:14](#)

If a king judges the poor with fairness, his throne will be established forever.

[Proverbs 31:9](#)

Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.

[Proverbs 31:20](#)

She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

[Isaiah 14:30](#)

The poorest of the poor will find pasture, and the needy will lie down in safety.

[Isaiah 25:4](#)

You have been a refuge for the poor, a refuge for the needy in their distress, a shelter from the storm and a shade from the heat.

[Ezekiel 16:49](#)

“Now 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.

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[Zechariah 7:10](#)

Do not oppress the widow or the fatherless, the foreigner or the poor. Do not plot evil against each other.