Orphans, Widows, the Poor and Oppressed

I. Nature Of God
   A. Father of the fatherless, a defender of widows (Ps. 68:5)
   B. For all who are oppressed (Ps. 103:6)
   C. The Lord will maintain the cause of the afflicted and justice for the poor (Ps. 140:12)

II. Requirements For Righteousness
   A. Patriarchs
      1. Job’s righteousness (Job 29:11–17) helping every category of the needy or the helpless
      2. Things God disapproves of (Job 31:16–22)
   B. Law of Moses
      1. Leave gleanings for poor and stranger (Lev. 19:9–10)
      2. The stranger, the fatherless and the widow (Deut. 14:28–29)
   C. Prophets
      1. “Key for continuing revival” (Is. 1:16–18, 23; 11:4; 58:6–9)
      2. The sin of Sodom (Ezek. 16:49)
   D. New Testament
      1. Give to/feed those who are needy (Luke 3:9–11; 14:12–14)
      3. Pure and undefiled religion (James 1:27)

III. General
   A. Promises
      1. “Lending to the Lord” (Prov. 19:17)
      2. Model mother (Prov. 31:20)
   B. Warnings
      1. You will not be heard (Prov. 21:13)
      2. Many curses (Prov. 28:27)
      3. “Charismatic meeting” (Amos 6:3)

IV. Personal Testimony
   A. When married to first wife, Lydia, got a wife and 8 daughters!
   B. Adopted a ninth daughter, African
   C. Out of that family, we are now more than 150 members
   D. When married to Ruth, got three more children (adopted by Ruth)
   E. Total 12 children: 11 girls, one boy

V. Practical Application
   A. What about single mothers?
   B. Want happiness? Love someone.

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