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proverbs

# What Poor Means

Spiritual  
Poverty

Relational Poverty

Material Poverty

# What Proverbs Says

## Re: Poor

# Proverbs on the Poor

## Prov. 10:15

A rich man's wealth is his strong city; the poverty of the poor is their ruin.

## Prov. 13:7-8

One pretends to be rich, yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth. The ransom of a man's life is his wealth, but a poor man hears no threat.

## Prov. 13:23

The fallow ground of the poor would yield much food, but it is swept away through injustice.

## Prov. 14:20-21

The poor is disliked even by his neighbor, but the rich has many friends. Whoever despises his neighbor is a sinner, but blessed is he who is generous to the poor.

## Prov. 14:31

Whoever oppresses a poor man insults his Maker, but he who is generous to the needy honors him.

## Prov. 16:19

It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

## Prov. 17:5

Whoever mocks the poor insults his Maker; he who is glad at calamity will not go unpunished.

## Prov. 18:23

The poor use entreaties, but the rich answer roughly.

# Proverbs on the Poor

## Prov. 19:1

Better is a poor person who walks in his integrity than one who is crooked in speech and is a fool.

## Prov. 19:4

Wealth brings many new friends, but a poor man is deserted by his friend.

## Prov. 19:7

All a poor man's brothers hate him; how much more do his friends go far from him! He pursues them with words, but does not have them.

## Prov. 19:17

Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed.

## Prov. 19:22

What is desired in a man is steadfast love, and a poor man is better than a liar.

## Prov. 21:13

Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor will himself call out and not be answered.

# Proverbs on the Poor

## Prov. 22:2

The rich and the poor meet together;  
the LORD is the Maker of them all.

## Prov. 22:7

The rich rules over the poor, and the  
borrower is the slave of the lender.

## Prov. 22:9

Whoever has a bountiful eye will be  
blessed, for he shares his bread with  
the poor.

## Prov. 22:16

Whoever oppresses the poor to  
increase his own wealth, or gives to  
the rich, will only come to poverty.

## Prov. 22:22-23

Do not rob the poor, because he is  
poor, or crush the afflicted at the  
gate, for the LORD will plead their  
cause and rob of life those who rob  
them.

## Prov. 28:6

Better is a poor man who walks in  
his integrity than a rich man who is  
crooked in his ways.

# Proverbs on the Poor

## Prov. 28:8

Whoever multiplies his wealth by interest and profit gathers it for him who is generous to the poor.

## Prov. 28:11

A rich man is wise in his own eyes, but a poor man who has understanding will find him out.

## Prov. 28:27

Whoever gives to the poor will not want, but he who hides his eyes will get many a curse.

## Prov. 29:7

A righteous man knows the rights of the poor; a wicked man does not understand such knowledge.

## Prov. 29:13-14

The poor man and the oppressor meet together; the LORD gives light to the eyes of both. If a king faithfully judges the poor, his throne will be established forever.

## Prov. 31:9

Open your mouth, judge righteously, defend the rights of the poor and needy.

## Prov. 31:20

She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy.

# The Lord Identifies w/the Poor

“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 by his poverty might become rich.”

(2 Corinthians 8:9 ESV)

**What We Can Do...**

# Helping Without Hurting

- Relief
- Development
- Reform

**“Why do we not observe that it is Christians’ benevolence to strangers.. and the pretended holiness of their lives that have done most to increase atheism (Christianity)... For it is disgraceful that, when no Jew ever has to beg, and the impious Galileans support not only their own poor bu ours as well, all men see that our people lack aid from us.”**

*– Emperor Julian (mid 300’s AD)*