

Series: Greater Love: True Religion

Message: God's Command To Love The Poor

Scripture: Deuteronomy 15:7-11 (ESV)

Teacher: Jeff Norris

Dates: 3 / 4 February 2018

"Blessed is he who has regard for the poor." Psalm 41:1

*"Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker,
but whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Proverbs 14:31*

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen...to provide the poor wanderer with shelter--when you see the naked, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?" Isaiah 58: 6,7

"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." Ezekiel 16:49

"For three sins of Israel, even four, I will not turn back my wrath. They sell the righteous for silver, and the needy for a pair of sandals. They trample on the heads of the poor as upon the dust of the ground and deny justice to the oppressed." Amos 2:6-7

"If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, 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 is that?" James 2:15-16

*"By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth."
1 John 3:16-18*

"Over 400 verses – sprinkled throughout every genre of Scripture, from the Law to the wisdom literature and the prophets to the Gospels and epistles – speak about God's passion for the needy and His desire that His followers share that passion." - Amy Sherman, "Sharing God's Heart for the Poor"

Deuteronomy 15:7-11 (ESV)

⁷ "If among you, one of your brothers should become poor, in any of your towns within your land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart or shut your hand against your poor brother,

⁸ but you shall open your hand to him and lend him sufficient for his need, whatever it may be.

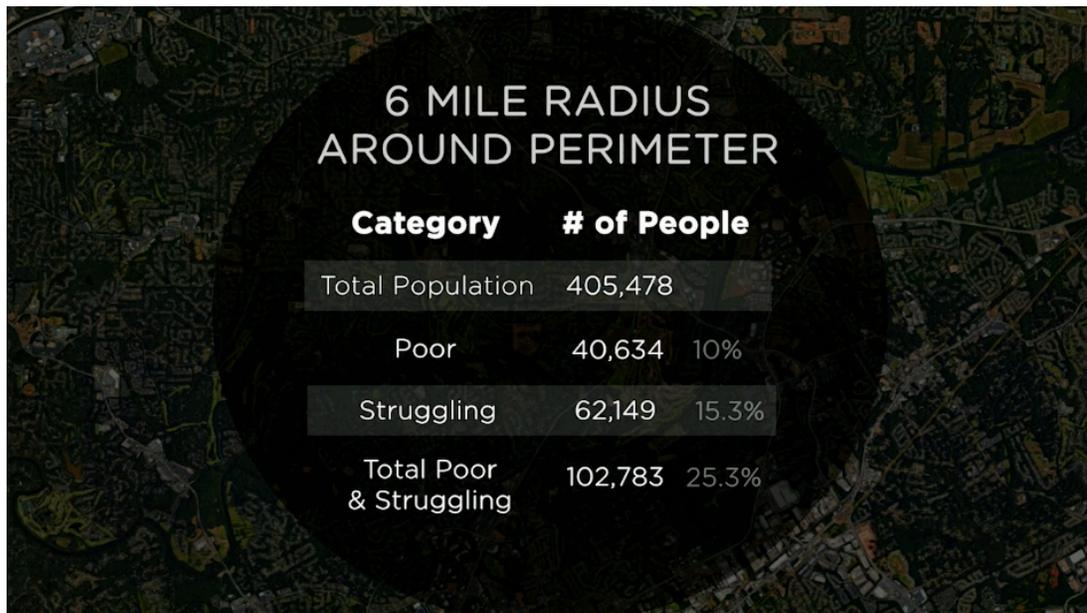
⁹ Take care lest there be an unworthy thought in your heart and you say, 'The seventh year, the year of release is near,' and your eye look grudgingly on your poor brother, and you give him nothing, and he cry to the Lord against you, and you be guilty of sin.

¹⁰ You shall give to him freely, and your heart shall not be grudging when you give to him, because for this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake.

¹¹ For there will never cease to be poor in the land. Therefore I command you, 'You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor, in your land.'

Four Key Questions:

1. What is poverty?



Four Categories of Poverty:

1. Calamity
2. Oppression
3. Slothfulness
4. By Choice (For the Kingdom of God)

2. Why is loving and caring for the poor so hard?

3. Why is loving and caring for the poor so important?

4. How should we appropriately love and care for the poor?
 1. Engaging in relief work
 2. Committing to the long work of personal development
 3. Addressing systematic causes of poverty