

## **I. POVERTY**

- A. POVERTY: UNABLE TO PROVIDE NECESSITIES FOR YOURSELF** (see 1Th.4:12; 1Tm.6:8)
- B. POVERTY REDUCTION INITIATIVES IN CITY & COUNTY** (Mayor's visit, 2/28/18)
- C. PROPRIETY OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT RELIEF** (see Ps.72; Prov.29:14; i.e., justice/oppression)
- D. PRIORITY OF CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY RELIEF** (Gal.2:20; Acts 2:44f; 4:34f; see Dt.15:7f)

## **II. CAUSES & CURES OF POVERTY**

- A. SIN, DEATH & REPENTANCE, LIFE** (Dt.15:4f; 28:1f/15f; see Gen.2:7f; 3:24f w/Heb.10:19f; Rev.22:2f)
- B. SLOTH & DILIGENCE** (Prov.6:11; 10:4; 14:23; 24:34; 1Th.4:10f; 3:6f; see Eph.4:28)
- C. DISASTER & RESTORATION** (Lev.25:25f,47f; see Dt.15:1f; Lev.25:10f)

### **D. LESS & MORE**

- 1. Gleaning* (Lev.19:9f; e.g., Ruth.2:2f)
- 2. Feasts of Weeks, Tabernacles* (Dt.16:10f (Lk.14:13); Neh.8:10)
- 3. Poor tithes* (Dt.14:22-29; 26:12; Jerusalem/local)
- 4. Alms* (Mt.6:2; 19:21; Acts 3:2f; 10:2f; 24:17)
- 5. More for less* (2Cor.8:14,15; 9:8,5f (c.8,9); see Lev.25:25,35f; Dt.15:7f; Prov.19:17; 31:20; Lk.8:3; Acts 2:44f; 4:34f; 6:1f; Gal.2:20; Tt.1:16; 2:7,14; 3:1,8,14; Jms.1:27; 2:15,16; 1Jn.3:17)
- 6. Less for least* (2Cor.8:2f; see Mk.12:44; Jn.13:29)

- E. OPPRESSION & JUSTICE** (2Sam.12:4; Job 24 4f; Ps.146:7; Prov.13:23; 29:7; Is.10:2; Jer.21:12; Ezk.16:49; 22:29; Mk.12:40; Lk.18:3; 19:8; Jms.5:1f,4 (Dt.24:15))
- F. BAD NEWS & GOOD NEWS** (Lk.4:18; 7:22; 2Cor.8:9; see 5:21; Jms.2:5; see Rev.3:17/2:9; see Ps.34:6; 113:7)
- G. JEWS & GENTILES** (Acts 24:17; Rom.15:25-27; 1Cor.16:1f; 2Cor.8:14; see Eph.2:12f; Rom.9:4,5; 11:17)

## **III. REMEMBER THE POOR!** (Gal.2:20; see Dt.15:7f; Acts 2:44f; 4:34f)

- A. PERSEVERE AND EXCEL!** (Gal.6:9,10; 1Th.4:1,10; see Tt.1:16; 2:7,14; 3:1,8,14)
- B. MEET CONSTANT NEED WITH CONSTANT PROVISION!** (Dt.15:4,7,11 (Mt.26:11); Acts 4:34)
- C. NEVER TOO POOR TO MEET PRESSING NEEDS!** (2Cor.8:2f; 9:8; Dt.15:10; see Mk.12:44; Jn.13:29)
- D. EXAMINE YOURSELF: ARE YOU PROSPERING FROM OPPRESSION?** (Jms.5:1f)
- E. OPEN YOUR EYES, HEART & HAND: ANY POOR AMONG YOU?** (Dt.15:7f; 1Jn.3:17; 1Tm.5:8)
- F. MEET PRESSING NEEDS BROADLY & ABUNDANTLY!** (1Tm.6:8; Dt.10:18; Is.58:7; see Dt.15:7f; Ps.112:9; Lk.6:38; Acts 2:44f; 4:34f; 5:1f; 2Cor.9:5f)
- G. MAKE PERSONAL PROVISIONS!** (Is.58:7; Lk.10:29f; e.g., sponsorship, mentoring; foster care, adoption)
- H. SHARE YOUR SPIRITUAL WEALTH WITH THE SPIRITUALLY POOR!** (Rom.15:27; Eph.2:12f; Rom.9:4,5; 11:17; see Lk.4:18; 7:22; 2Cor.8:9 (6:10); see 5:21; Jms.2:5; see Rev.3:17/2:9)

*Brethren, what shall WE DO?* (see Acts 2:37f)