

WIDOWS, ORPHANS, GOD THE FATHER AND HIS CHURCH

“Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of our God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.”

James 1:27

God’s Word covers any area of life you can think of, either directly or indirectly. On the subject of orphans and widows, He has quite a bit to say, enough to where He makes it plain what His Heart is in regard to them. So possibly for the next few newsletters, we’ll look at what His Heart is for the orphans and widows, and also what He has to say to His people in regard to them.

Strangely enough, this is not a subject that is “in our face” too much here in the USA, as government has just about regulated the Church out of the affairs of desperate children. And perhaps the cost of medical aid makes us leery of trying to care for the elderly. Besides, that’s what nursing homes are for, right? Funny, but I don’t remember the Lord saying anything about govt. foster care or nursing homes, certainly not for the elderly who are true Christians. Somehow, I have to feel that satan and his cohorts must be quite pleased with the state of affairs for the orphans, abandoned or abused children, as well as the destitute elderly in our society.

But in many nations of the world, the condition of the widow and the orphan has not really changed much at all since James 1:27 was written almost 2,000 years ago, nor since the Lord talked about them in the Old Covenant. They literally number in the millions without anyone to love or care for them. And sadly, multitudes of these widows are in churches that are either too poor to care for them, are unwilling to care for them, or do not understand their responsibility before God to care for them. Neither

do they make effort to care for the orphans in their local areas.

What we will see from God’s Word is that the reason there is still such a vast number of orphans (estimated at well over 100 million in the world) and widows without proper care physically or spiritually is because human beings do not have the same heart as their Creator! We can’t expect compassion from the lost, but we within His Church need to reduce the distractions in our life so that we will be able to focus in (through His Eyes) on their need AND our opportunity to help them.

Our theme Verse is James 1:27 because what Scripture could be more plain than one telling us what is “*pure and undefiled religion*” in His sight? Is that what we want?

Lord willing, in our next newsletter, we’ll look at the Father’s instructions to His people in the Old Covenant concerning the widows and orphans. “*He relieves the fatherless and the widow.*” *Psalms 146:9*

One of the women at the HOPE Widows Meeting, 2006

