

GRACE TRUTH

INSIDE OUT

INSIDE OUT

Outline

1. Poverty & Riches Parameters in the Bible
2. Sharpening Our Grid
3. Where From Here?

Old Testament Parameters

Deuteronomy 15:1-11

Intentional provision approach

God's comprehensive distribution plan

Soft-hearted, open-handed, generous

Response a matter of sin or blessing

Recognition of ongoing presence of the Poor

GRACE TRUTH

Old Testament Parameters

Isaiah 1:10-17, 21-23

Focus on integrity & whole-hearted worship

Justice, compassion key elements of doing good

Neglect of justice, compassion is sin

Ongoing sin brings judgment

Old - and New - Testament Parameters

Isaiah 61:1-3; Luke 4:16-21

Anointed message of Good News

*To Afflicted, Brokenhearted, Captives, Prisoners,
Mourners, Faint*

*Themes of healing, liberty and freedom, favor in
judgment, comfort, praise*

GRACE TRUTH

New Testament Parameters

Matthew 5:3

Recognition of utter need

Reward of ultimate riches

New Testament Parameters

Luke 15:11-32

Wayward child spends everything

Deep state of Poverty

Extravagant Father's love, rescue & restoration

Contrast with judgmental, embittered, entitled heart

GRACE TRUTH

New Testament Parameters

Luke 10:29-37

Contrast with desire to justify oneself

*Key is compassion and mercy toward others, not
self-preservation*

Focus on healing and restoration

Involves engagement and personal cost

GRACE TRUTH

New Testament Parameters

Matthew 25:31-46

Included in final judgment

*Kingdom inheritance from justice, compassion,
giving to needy...to God*

*Eternal fire from neglect of justice, compassion,
giving to needy...to God*

GRACE TRUTH

New Testament Parameters

1 John 3:16-18

*Jesus' sacrificial ("He laid down His life for us") love
is our model for loving others*

*Choosing to keep world's goods rather than give
them to a brother in need*

Do not love with words, but in deed and truth

GRACE TRUTH

New Testament Parameters

James 1:9-11

Proper mindset/heartset of Poor and Rich

Temporal nature of worldly riches

Sharpening Our Grid

- *Accurately define poverty and proper responses to it*
- *Recognize accountability*
- *Act in appropriate ways*

Sharpening Our Grid

Material Definition of Poverty	+	God-Complexes of Materially Non-Poor	+	Feelings of Inferiority of Materially Poor	=	Harm to Both Materially Poor and Non-Poor
--------------------------------------	---	--	---	--	---	---

From When Helping Hurts: How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself

GRACE TRUTH

Where From Here?

- *Pray*
- *Be encouraged in how God is already moving*
- *Don't hold back...get engaged*

GRACE TRUTH

INSIDE OUT

INSIDE OUT