

Benevolence

Mat.25:31-46 (Jas.2:14-26, 1Jn.3:16-18)

Intro. The church has 2 great missions in this world - preach the gospel and care for the needy, which we know as benevolence. I am thankful that Christians every where in this world do not turn their backs on the plight of the needy, the poor and the destitute. One adult can be fed from as little as \$1.00 per day.

1. The Good and the Bad (V31-33)

Judgement WILL come and we WILL give an account! Mat.13:47-50

2. The Good. (V34-40)

Hungry: Thirsty: Naked.

All these are the physical needs of the body.

Stranger: Prison: Sick.

All these include emotional needs - companionship, friendship, comfort.

Note: The righteous were amazed - V37-38.

They did not realise that by caring for the needy, they cared for HIM!

These 6 conditions Jesus mentioned are NOT single acts. They represent ANY need encountered during a LIFE time of love for our fellow man and faith that is WORKING!

Jas.2:14-17

Gal.6:7-10, Prov.19:17, 14:31, 28:27

3. The Bad. (V41-45)

They are EQUALLY AMAZED at the judgement!

When did we see You?... V44

“That you DID NOT do it to ONE of the least of these”... V45

Here Jesus refers to 1. The disciples and 2. Every one else...

The final words will be those of the judgement being pronounced...

“And these will go into eternal punishment”... V46

Isa.33:14, Dan.12:2, Mat.18:8, Jude :7 & 13, 2Thes.1:8-9

What can I do?

- a. Purpose to make a special contribution on the 5th. Sunday of the month
- b. Make this a family mission and set a realistic target.
- c. Select a suitable agency.
- d. Keep giving reports to the family and the congregation; if we are all doing it.
- e. PRAY continually for this work.
- f. Give of your money AND time to this work.
- g. Remember the needs of the brethren and the community.