



“A father to the fatherless, and a judge of the widow, is God in His holy habitation. God sets the solitary in families...” Psalm 68:5 – 6

And where is the Lord’s holy habitation today? “... For you are the temple of the Living God.” As God has said, “I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.” “Wherefore, come out from among them and be separate”, says the Lord, “and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, and will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and My daughters says the Lord Almighty.” (2 Corinthians 6:16 – 18).

The Church – the believing body of people who have made Jesus Christ their Lord – are the present day temple of the Loving God. As such, we give “flesh and bone” to His body today. The widow, the fatherless, the lonely all have their place within the Church – the holy habitation of God. It is these folks, the orphan, the downtrodden, the needy, that need the “Father of the fatherless” and the “Judge of the widows” to act on their behalf. But so often it is these very people who will not seek out such a habitation, but remain in their own pain and aloneness. Therefore, the Lord calls those who are His holy habitation to seek out those without, calling and wooing them into the place of His safety and blessing – the place we ourselves have experienced in God.

The family atmosphere that should be prevalent in the Church is conducive to the nurturing and caring for the orphan and the widow. Guard your relationships closely within the Church, but never at the cost of exclusiveness.

A friend, when asked why he and his wife decided to have another child after their other children were mostly grown, replied, “Because we love us! And we thought that there should be more of us to love!” Is that not the attitude and response the Church should have today? While a close family – shouldn’t we invite into our midst the fatherless and the widow – because “we love us”? And after all, shouldn’t there be more of us?

“Lord, help me be open to the needs of the disadvantaged and the helpless. Grace me to invite them into my life and church. Amen.”

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