



“Quickly LORD, rescue and defend me! As soon as You can Lord, rescue me! ... I am in trouble and in no position to demand of You anything. But please, LORD, come quickly to my defense.” Psalm 70:1, 5 author’s paraphrase

There is no virtue by itself in being poor. “But I am poor and needy, make haste to me, O God.” (Verse 5 KJV) The Lord has compassion on the poor; He is their Protector and their Judge. As such, He is serious about our response and care of such folks. For us to play favorites based upon someone’s economic or social standing is disappointing and even considered sinful by the Lord.

“My brethren, do not hold your faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ with an attitude of personal favoritism. For if a man comes into your assembly with a gold ring and dressed in fine clothes, and there also comes in a poor man in dirty clothes, and you pay special attention to the one who is wearing the fine clothes, and say, “You sit here in a good place,” and you say to the poor man, “You stand over there, or sit down by my footstool,” have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil motives? Listen, my beloved brethren: did not God choose the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him?” (James 2:1-5 NASB).

Therefore, guard your attitudes toward the less fortunate. Serve them and bless them. Preach the Good News to them – it has the power to set them free from the cycle of poverty. (And remember, in serving the poor and needy, neither despise the rich man.) The virtue of the poor is not the natural condition but the attitude of heart that some hold – “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven. (Matthew 5:3).

Without Jesus we all are poor in spirit – poor in our own strength and might. But with Him, now that’s an altogether different story!

“Before the THRONE” and “Before the THRONE – The Devotional” are registered trademarks of and published by Spencers Unleashed, Inc. All rights reserved, contents may be quoted or reprinted, provided excerpts are in context.

© 2005 and © 2006 by Mark D. Spencer and Spencers Unleashed, Inc. For additional information see us at www.spencersunleashed.com or at www.innercourt.com or at www.feargod.com