

What the Bible says about “Orphans”

[James 1:27](#)

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

[Exodus 22:22-24](#)

You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child. If you do mistreat them, and they cry out to me, I will surely hear their cry, and my wrath will burn, and I will kill you with the sword, and your wives shall become widows and your children fatherless.

[John 14:18](#)

“I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

[Isaiah 1:17](#)

Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

[Psalm 27:10](#)

For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the Lord will take me in.

[Psalm 68:5](#)

Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

[Psalm 82:3](#)

Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute.

[Job 29:12](#)

Because I delivered the poor who cried for help, and the fatherless who had none to help him.

[Psalm 146:9](#)

The Lord watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

[Exodus 22:22](#)

You shall not mistreat any widow or fatherless child.

[Matthew 6:1-4](#)

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven. “Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

[Acts 20:35](#)

In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

[Psalm 10:18](#)

To do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed, so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.

[John 14:15-21](#)

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. “I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see me no more, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ...

[Matthew 25:40](#)

And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

[Deuteronomy 14:28-29](#)

“At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do.

[Jeremiah 49:11](#)

Leave your fatherless children; I will keep them alive; and let your widows trust in me.”

[Jeremiah 22:3](#)

Thus says the Lord: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.

[Jeremiah 5:28](#)

They have grown fat and sleek. They know no bounds in deeds of evil; they judge not with justice the cause of the fatherless, to make it prosper, and they do not defend the rights of the needy.

[Malachi 3:5](#)

“Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

[Deuteronomy 24:17-21](#)

“You shall not pervert the justice due to the sojourner or to the fatherless, or take a widow's garment in pledge, but you shall remember that you were a slave in Egypt and the Lord your God redeemed you from there; therefore I command you to do this. “When you reap your harvest in your field and forget a sheaf in the field, you shall not go back to get it. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands. When you beat your olive trees, you shall not go over them again. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow. When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, you shall not strip it afterward. It shall be for the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow.

[Psalm 10:14](#)

But you do see, for you note mischief and vexation, that you may take it into your hands; to you the helpless commits himself; you have been the helper of the fatherless.

[Isaiah 1:23](#)

Your princes are rebels and companions of thieves. Everyone loves a bribe and runs after gifts. They do not bring justice to the fatherless, and the widow's cause does not come to them.

[Psalm 10:17](#)

O Lord, you hear the desire of the afflicted; you will strengthen their heart; you will incline your ear

[Hosea 14:3](#)

Assyria shall not save us; we will not ride on horses; and we will say no more, 'Our God,' to the work of our hands. In you the orphan finds mercy."

[Job 31:16-18](#)

"If I have withheld anything that the poor desired, or have caused the eyes of the widow to fail, or have eaten my morsel alone, and the fatherless has not eaten of it (for from my youth the fatherless grew up with me as with a father, and from my mother's womb I guided the widow),

[Job 24:3](#)

They drive away the donkey of the fatherless; they take the widow's ox for a pledge.

[Psalm 82:3-4](#)

Give justice to the weak and the fatherless; maintain the right of the afflicted and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked."

[Proverbs 23:10](#)

Do not move an ancient landmark or enter the fields of the fatherless,

[Psalm 82:4](#)

Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked.”

[Job 22:9](#)

You have sent widows away empty, and the arms of the fatherless were crushed.

[Job 6:27](#)

You would even cast lots over the fatherless, and bargain over your friend.

[Esther 2:7](#)

He was bringing up Hadassah, that is Esther, the daughter of his uncle, for she had neither father nor mother. The young woman had a beautiful figure and was lovely to look at, and when her father and her mother died, Mordecai took her as his own daughter.

[John 3:16-17](#)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

[Ezekiel 16:49](#)

Behold, this was the guilt of your sister Sodom: she and her daughters had pride, excess of food, and prosperous ease, but did not aid the poor and needy.

[Jeremiah 7:6](#)

If you do not oppress the sojourner, the fatherless, or the widow, or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own harm,

[Isaiah 10:2](#)

To turn aside the needy from justice and to rob the poor of my people of their right, that widows may be their spoil, and that they may make the fatherless their prey!

[Psalm 94:6](#)

They kill the widow and the sojourner, and murder the fatherless;

[Psalm 41:1-3](#)

To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David. Blessed is the one who considers the poor! In the day of trouble the Lord delivers him; the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies. The Lord sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.

[Isaiah 58:7](#)

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?

[Isaiah 9:6-7](#)

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace

there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

[1 Timothy 5:3-4](#)

Honor widows who are truly widows. But if a widow has children or grandchildren, let them first learn to show godliness to their own household and to make some return to their parents, for this is pleasing in the sight of God.

[Lamentations 5:3](#)

We have become orphans, fatherless; our mothers are like widows.

[Job 24:9](#)

(There are those who snatch the fatherless child from the breast, and they take a pledge against the poor.)

[Job 29:13](#)

The blessing of him who was about to perish came upon me, and I caused the widow's heart to sing for joy.

[Numbers 27:1-23](#)

Then drew near the daughters of Zelophehad the son of Hopher, son of Gilead, son of Machir, son of Manasseh, from the clans of Manasseh the son of Joseph. The names of his daughters were: Mahlah, Noah, Hoglah, Milcah, and Tirzah. And they stood before Moses and before Eleazar the priest and before the chiefs and all the congregation, at the entrance of the tent of meeting, saying, "Our father died in the wilderness. He was not among the company of those who gathered themselves together against the Lord in the company of Korah, but died for his own sin. And he

had no sons. Why should the name of our father be taken away from his clan because he had no son? Give to us a possession among our father's brothers." Moses brought their case before the Lord. ...

[Ephesians 1:5](#)

He predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will,

[Psalm 68:6](#)

God settles the solitary in a home; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity, but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

[Isaiah 49:15-16](#)

"Can a woman forget her nursing child, that she should have no compassion on the son of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Behold, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are continually before me.

[Psalm 35:1-28](#)

Of David. Contend, O Lord, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me! Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help! Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!" Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life! Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me! Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the Lord driving them away! ...

[Romans 3:23](#)

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

[John 3:16](#)

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

[Micah 6:8](#)

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

[Isaiah 1:1-31](#)

The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the Lord has spoken: “Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me. The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand.” Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the Lord, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged. Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint. ...

[Proverbs 24:11](#)

Rescue those who are being taken away to death; hold back those who are stumbling to the slaughter.