

# Remember the Poor

## **Acts 10:1-8**

1 Now there was a man in Caesarea named Cornelius, a centurion of what was known as the Italian Cohort.

2 He was a devout, God-fearing man, as was all his household; he did many acts of charity for the people and prayed to God regularly.

3 About three o'clock one afternoon he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God who came in and said to him, "Cornelius."

4 Staring at him and becoming greatly afraid, Cornelius replied, "What is it, Lord?" The angel said to him, "Your prayers and your acts of charity have gone up as a memorial before God. (NET)

## **2 Corinthians 9:5-13**

5 Therefore I thought it necessary to urge these brothers to go to you in advance and to arrange ahead of time the generous contribution you had promised, so this may be ready as a generous gift and not as something you feel forced to do.

6 My point is this: The person who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the person who sows generously will also reap generously.

7 Each one of you should give just as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, because God loves a cheerful giver.

8 And God is able to make all grace overflow to you so that because you have enough of everything in every way at all times, you will overflow in every good work.

9 Just as it is written, "He has scattered widely, he has given to the poor; his righteousness remains forever."

10 Now God who provides seed for the sower and bread for food will provide and multiply your supply of seed and will cause the harvest of your righteousness to grow.

11 You will be enriched in every way so that you may be generous on every occasion, which is producing through us thanksgiving to God,

12 because the service of this ministry is not only providing for the needs of the saints but is also overflowing with many thanks to God.

13 Through the evidence of this service they will glorify God because of your obedience to your confession in the gospel of Christ and the generosity of your sharing with them and with everyone. (NET)

**James 2:14-24**

14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but does not have works? Can this kind of faith save him?

15 If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacks daily food,

16 and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, keep warm and eat well," but you do not give them what the body needs, what good is it?

17 So also faith, if it does not have works, is dead being by itself.

18 But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith without works and I will show you faith by my works.

19 You believe that God is one; well and good. Even the demons believe that - and tremble with fear.

20 But would you like evidence, you empty fellow, that faith without works is useless?

21 Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?

22 You see that his faith was working together with his works and his faith was perfected by works.

23 And the scripture was fulfilled that says, "Now Abraham believed God and it was counted to him for righteousness," and he was called God's friend.

24 You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. (NET)

**Luke 14: 12-14**

Then He also said to him who invited Him, "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors,

lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just." (NKJV)