

## Unto the **Least of These MATTHEW** 25: 31-46

## Matthew 25: 31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

"Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'

"The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'

"They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'

"He will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

"Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

## Matthew 25: 31-46

"If we do not do the things the Bible says people with saving faith do, then we probably don't have saving faith at all." John Calvin

"Faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." James 2:17

"The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love." Galatians 5:6

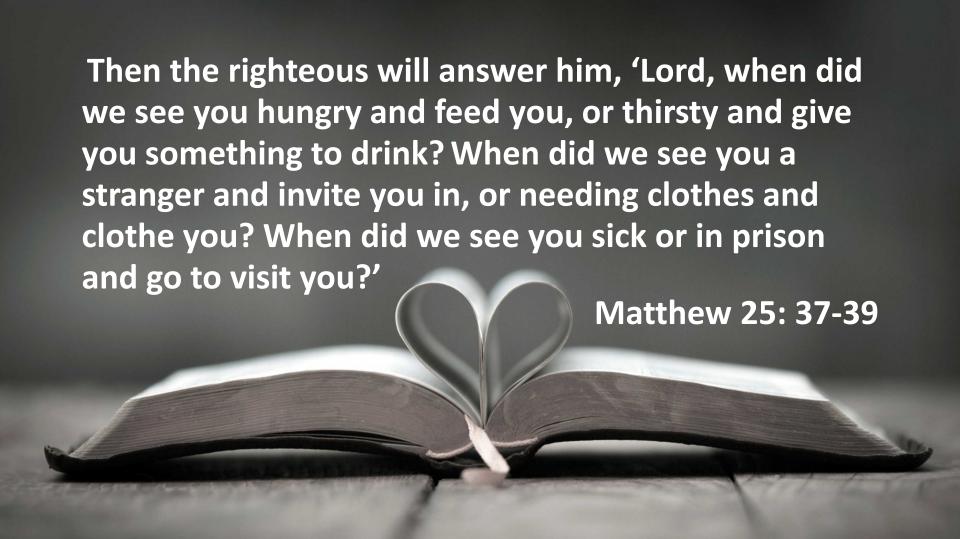


## Jim Burns "poverty test":

- Do you have more than one pair of shoes?
- Did you have a choice of what you ate today?
- Do you have access to any means of transportation?
- Do you have educational opportunities beyond grade school?
- Do you own more than one pair of underwear?

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me."

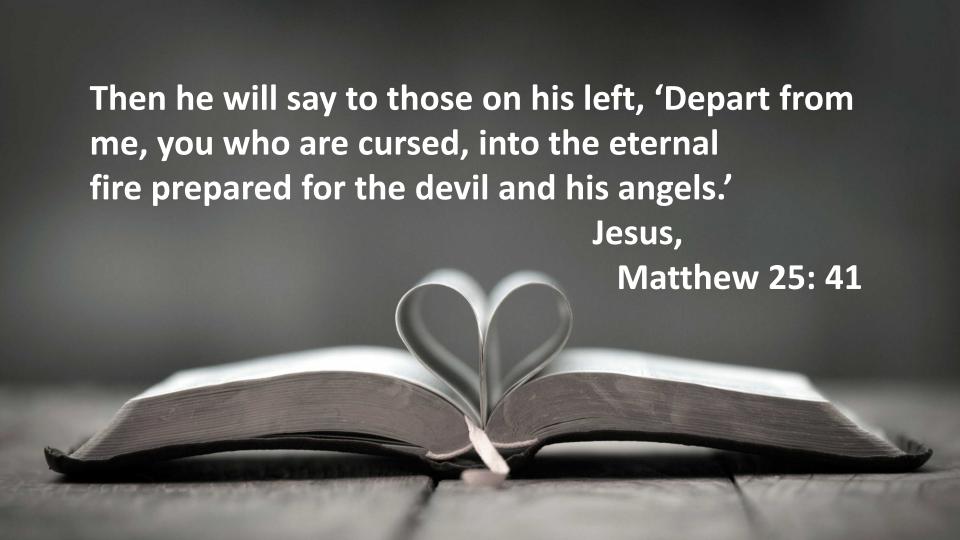




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Jesus, Matthew 25: 40





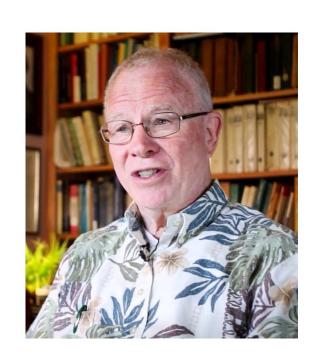
"For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me."



"Disciples of Jesus, who in good faith hear these words of Jesus, will fall on their knees in poverty of

spirit to ask the Lord to give them another chance to do something the rest of their lives, however inadequate, however little, however basic, for people in need."

Frederick Dale Bruner



"O dear Lord God! How are we so blind that we don't take such love to heart! Who could have thought it up that God himself throws himself so deep down into our midst and accepts the works of all those who give themselves to the poor as though they were done for him. Thus the world is full, full of God – in every alley, before your door, you find Christ."

Martin Luther

"Our greatest fear should not be of failure but of succeeding at things in life that don't really matter. God's definition of what matters is pretty straightforward. He measures

Francis Chan

our lives by how we love."