

Introduction

Story about people complaining about jury selection

- A right and honor of freedom to have and participate in
- A just legal system as oppose to unjust
- Judge asked for exemptions due to hardship (loss of income and inconvenience isn't)
- All but a few asked to be exempt for hardship regardless of judges comment

Is loss of income a reasonable hardship? Not according to the law!

Why? Because we live such excessive lives way beyond our means that we have more room in our money and time to help anyone – therefore no one will serve in our system of justice.

We want to enjoy the freedom of our system but we don't want to contribute to it.

- We are just takers and givers → that makes us unjust.

Even Christians are like this in our lives... This is not godly, Biblical or Christ-like

READ Deuteronomy 15:7-8

1. What does it mean to harden your hearts against the poor?

- Think bad and evil of them. Falsely accuse them...its there own fault.
- We are just like the people in the jury selection
- As a result, we shut our hand to poor in time, money, resources, and work.

Wickedness is to further oppress the poor so those who aren't poor can keep getting more.

2. What does God tell us to do?

- Open your hand WIDE
- How wide? Sufficient for the need (completely meet it) WHATEVER IT IS!
- The first reality here is that serving the poor is the live of a Christian, its first nature.
- The second reality here is that serving the poor will decrease your resources for you (time, money, and work) and your economic status.
- The third reality ignoring the poor will increase your resources for you and increase your economic status

Serving the poor will you God-given and God-owned resources is the gospel life of Jesus

2 Cor. 8:9 For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

Christians, you are to do what was done for you. Deut. 10:17-19

Your sin made you a slave to wickedness

- slaves don't decide one day to not to be a slave and leave
- Slaves need to be set free...this happens through faith in Christ
- So, don't attack the slaves who are captive. Have mercy on them and seek to set them free!

Justice begins here in this room, in your home, in your neighborhoods, and at your school.

Look around, who do you need to be sure is being invited to things and feeling connected.