

Sermon Notes
CHILDREN AND GOVERNMENTS
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CHILDREN

Jesus' Emphasis on Children and "unnoticed people"

Mark 10.13-18: People were bringing little children to Jesus in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was *indignant* and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Matthew 25:35-36, 40: Jesus said: I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me. 40 What you did to the least of these my brothers, you did to me . .

The Biblical Emphasis on Those on the "under-side," including Children

(selected from over 40 passages on orphans, and 110 passages on immigrants)

James 1.27: Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for **orphans** and widows in their distress

Psalms 68.5: Father of **orphans** and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

Psalms 146.9: The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the **orphan** and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Isaiah 1.17: learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the **orphan**, plead for the widow.

Jeremiah 22.3: Thus says the Lord: Act with justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor anyone who has been robbed.

And do no wrong or violence to the immigrant, the **orphan**, and the widow

Deuteronomy 10.18: The Lord your God . . . executes justice for the **orphan** and the widow, and loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Deuteronomy 24.17: You shall not deprive a resident immigrant or an **orphan** of justice.

Deuteronomy 24.21: When you gather the grapes of your vineyard, do not glean what is left; it shall be for the immigrant, the **orphan**, and the widow.

Deuteronomy 27.19: "Cursed be anyone who deprives the immigrant, the **orphan**, and the widow of justice." All the people shall say, "Amen!"

Exodus 22.22: You shall not abuse any widow or **orphan**.

GOVERNMENT

Responsibilities to both God and Government

Matthew 22:21 Jesus said: "Give to Caesar (the secular civil authority) what is Caesar's and to God, what is God's

Respect the Government

Paul's Letter to the Romans 13:1,2,8 Let every person be subject to the governing authorities; for there is no authority except from God, and those authorities that exist have been instituted by God. 8. Owe no one anything but to love one another

Jeremiah 29:7 But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare

Resist the Government

Exodus 7-12 Moses resists the pharaoh, King of Egypt

Daniel 6:7, 9, 10 "Whoever prays to anyone, divine or human, for thirty days, except to you, O king, shall be thrown into a den of lions." 9 King Darius signed the document. 10 But, although Daniel knew that the document had been signed, he continued to go to his house . . . and pray to his God and praise him, just as he had done previously.

Acts 5:29 Peter and the apostles answered the Council, "We must obey God rather than any human authority."

June 1, 2018: Letter written by the National Association of Evangelicals and other Evangelical leaders in the Evangelical Immigration Roundtable
<http://evangelicalimmigrationtable.com/cms/assets/uploads/2018/06/EIT-Family-Separation-Letter-6.1.2018.pdf>