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**THE ACTIVITIES OF
WIDOWS
IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS OF THE
BIBLE**

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AN OUTLINE OF LESSON OR STUDY PREPARED AND DELIVERED BY BRO. DR. SUNDAY U. ONAH AT CHURCH OF CHRIST, NO. 5, OWERRI STREET, HIGH LEVEL, BOX 1689, MAKURDI, BENUE STATE, NIGERIA, WEST-AFRICA ON THE 5TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2025

THEME: THE WIDOWHOOD IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS OF THE BIBLE

EXOD. 22:21-24; DEUT. 16:9-11; ZECH. 7:8-10; 1 TIM. 5:1-16

JAS. 1:26-27

TOPIC: THE ACTIVITIES OF WIDOWS IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS OF THE BIBLE

(MATT. 25:31-47; ACTS 6:1-7; 1 TIM. 5:1-16; JAS. 1:26-27)

INTRODUCTION

A. THE STARTLING STATEMENTS OF OUR STUDY

Special Attention, Concern Or Consideration For Widows Is First Mentioned In The Book Of Exod. 22:21-24. Since God Almighty Has Piety, Compassion, Affection, Passion, Mercy, Love, Care And Desire For Them; We Also Should Do The Same.

When A Nation And Its Leaders Or People Have Compassion On Widows, Orphans, Poor And Needy, Such A Nation And Its People Are Promised A Blessing As Recorded In The Books Of Deut. 14:29; Jer. 5:5-7, But If A Nation And Its People Do The Otherwise, They Are Cursed As Recorded In The Books Of Job. 22:9-11; Jer. 22:3-5; Ezek. 22:7, 15-16 Respectively.

Why The Above Blessings And Curses? This Is Because Widows And Orphans Lacked The Economic, Social, Legal, Spiritual And Physical Protection That A Man, Husband, Father Or Society Provided In The Family Or Communities.

To Be Both A Widow And Childless Is A Double Hardship, Difficulty, Sorrow, Pain And Grief. Such A Woman Has No Husband To Be A Supporter, Comforter, Provider, Protector, Defender, Leader And Executor In Her Old Age.

Therefore, In The Light Of The Above, God Is Always And Doubly Gracious To Such A Widow. Ruth In The Bible Was A Practical Example In The Book Of Ruth 4:13-17; Lk. 7:11-15 Respectively.

In The Biblical Accounts To Support This Gracious Or Charitable Deed Or Act Of God, The Bereaved Widow Was Given A Son Miraculously. The Widow Of Zeraphath, The Widow Of Nain Or Naomi By Marriage Were Some Of The Practical And Critical Examples In The Bible.

In The New Testament, The Early Church Also Had A Policy, Program Or Project Of Supporting, Protecting And Defending Widows, Orphans, Fatherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Vulnerable, Disables, Poor, Needy And Less Privilege In The Society.

B. THE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF OUR STUDY

1. To Do A Brief Contextual Analysis, Explanation, Exposition And Interpretation Of Some The Key Bible Passages From The Study Theme And Topic For Proper Understanding And Comprehension Of Our Study.
2. To Give A Brief Definition Of Key Words From Both The Theme And Topic Of Our Study.
3. To Point Out The Causes Of Widowhood In The Bible History.
4. To Also Point Out Some Of The Biblical Types, Kinds And Categories Of Widows In The Bible.
5. To Also Point Out Some Of The Biblical Characteristics, And Qualifications Of Widowhood In The Bible.
6. To Equally Point Out Some Of The Biblical Examples Of Widowhood In The Bible.
7. To Showcase The Widowhood In The Bible And Its Activities.
8. To Further Showcase The Activities Of Widows In The High Level Church Of Christ, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria That Have Promoted, Advanced And Enhanced Growth In The Local Church.
9. To Show How A Local Church Can Care For Her Widows.
10. To Advice Church Leaders To Formulate Or Initiate Policies, Programs And Projects That Will Benefit Widows, Widowers, Orphans, Fatherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Vulnerable, Disables, Poor, Needy And Less Privilege In The Local Church; Just Like The Early Church Did In The First Century Christianity As Recorded In The Book Of Acts 6:1-7.
11. To Equally Encourage Members To Love, Care, Support, And To Be Generous, Hospitable And To Share Their Material Things, Goods And Services With The Widows In The Local Church In Their Afflictions And Distresses; By Meeting Everyone's Needs To The Glory Of God Like The First Century Christians In The Jerusalem Church In Acts 6:1-7 And Acts 9:36-39 Respectively.
12. Finally, To Pinpoint Some Of The Benefits, Rewards Or Blessings Of God Upon Those Who Care For The Widows, Orphans And Afflicted.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

PRESENTATION

A. THE BIBLE READING AND THEIR CONTEXTUAL ANALYSIS

1. Exod. 22:21-24.
2. Deut. 14:29.
3. Deut. 16:9-11.
4. Job. 22:9-11
5. Jer. 5:5-7.
6. Jer. 22:3-5.
7. Ezek. 7, 15-16.
8. Ezek. 22:7, 15-16.
9. Ruth 4:13-17.
10. Matt. 25:31-47.
11. Luke 7:11-15.
12. Acts 2:41-47.

13. Acts 4:31-37.
14. Acts 6:1-7.
15. Acts 20:35.
16. 1 Cor. 7:40.
17. 1 Cor. 14:33, 40.
18. Gal. 6:1-10.
19. 1 Tim. 5:1-16.
20. Jas. 1:26-27.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Bible Passages For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

B. THE DEFINITION OF KEY WORDS

1. Widow.
2. Widower.
3. Orphan.
4. Fatherless.
5. Motherless.
6. Childless.
7. Down Trodden.
8. Helpless.
9. Hopeless.
10. Powerless.
11. Poor.
12. Needy.
13. Disable.
14. Vulnerable
15. Afflicted.
16. Persecuted.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

C. THE CHRISTIAN RELIGION TODAY AND THE NEW TESTAMENT CHRISTIANITY THEN AND NOW (JAS. 1:22-27; COL. 3:20-23; MATT. 15:1-9; JOHN 4:21-24; ROM. 12:1-2)

1. What Is The Christian Religion Today?
 - a. The Christian Religion Today Refers To Those Man-Made Or Self-Made Traditions, Cultures, Customs, Ordinances, Creeds, Decrees, Commandments, Precepts, Principles, Ideologies, Philosophies, Standards, Belief Systems, Sacrifices, Ethical Behaviors And Practices In The Worship Of A God, Deity Or Gods Through Rituals, Festivals, Divinations, Cultism, Mysticism, Superstitious, Associations, Oracles, Dreams, Magic, Miracles, Healings And Prayers That Do Not Conform To The New Testament Christianity.
 - b. The Christian Religion Today Refers To Those Traditions, Ordinances, Creeds, Decrees, Commandments And Practices That Were Against Us That Jesus Nailed To The Cross.
 - c. Therefore, The Christian Religion Today Is Both Secretive, Subjective, Destructive, Retrogressive, Primitive, Elusive And Exclusive In Nature, Character,

Behavior And Practice To Believers' Lives In Christ Jesus Our Lord And Personal Savior.

d. Bible References That The Word Religious Or Religion Were Mentioned In The Bible Of King James Version Of 1611:

- Matt. 15:1-9.
- Acts 10:1-2
- Acts 13:43
- Acts 17:22.
- Acts 25:19.
- Acts 26:5.
- Gal. 1:13-14.
- Col. 2:23.
- Jas. 1:26-27.

Note: All Of The Above Bible Passages Referred To Jewish Religion Or Judaism Base Upon The Content Of Upon The Context Of The Passages. The Bible Passages Do Not refer To The New Testament Christianity.

2. What Is The New Testament Christianity Then And Now?

- a. The New Testament Christianity Then And Now Refers To A Way Of Life Of What Jesus Began To Do And To Teach.
- b. The New Testament Christianity Then And Now Is The Way Of Life That Contains The Truth, Life And The Mind Of Christ Jesus Our Lord And Savior.
- c. The New Testament Christianity Then And Now Is To Be Preached, Taught, Believed And Practiced By Those Who Believe Totally Or Faithfully In Christ Jesus To Earn Their Eternal Adoption, Redemption, Reconciliation, Transformation, Justification, Sanctification And Salvation Of Their Precious Souls On The Last Day.
- d. The New Testament Christianity Today Is Devoid Of Man-Made Or Self-Made Traditions, Cultures, Customs, Ordinances, Creeds, Decrees, Commandments, Precepts, Principles, Ideologies, Philosophies, Standards, Belief Systems, Sacrifices, Ethical Behaviors And Practices In The Worship Of A God, Deity Or Gods Through Rituals, Festivals, Divinations, Cultism, Mysticism, Superstitious, Associations, Oracles, Dreams, Magic, Miracles, Healings And Prayers That Do Not Conform To The New Testament Christianity.
- e. The New Testament Christianity Today Is Devoid Of Traditions, Ordinances, Creeds, Decrees, Commandments And Practices That Were Against Us That Jesus Nailed To The Cross.
- f. Therefore, The New Testament Christianity Then And Now Is Objective, Progressive, Inclusive, Redemptive And Transformative Both In Christian *ABCD*, Nature And Practice To Believers' Lives In Christ Jesus Our Lord And Personal Savior.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Bible Passages For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

g. Bible References:

- ❖ Matt. 16:24-26.

- ❖ Matt. 17:1-5.
- ❖ John 3:14-18.
- ❖ John 4:21-24.
- ❖ John 10:1-10.
- ❖ John 14:1-6.
- ❖ Rom. 5:8-10.
- ❖ Rom. 12:1-2.
- ❖ Col. 3:1-4.
- ❖ 2 John 1:1-6.
- ❖ 3 John 1:1-8

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Bible Passages For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

3. Thought Provoking Questions:

- a. *Why Did Jesus Came To Earth?*
- b. *What Were Jesus' Teaching In The Sermon On The Mount?*
- c. *What Did Jesus Began To Do And To Teach?*
- d. *What Happen At The Transfiguration Events?*
- e. *What Is The Central Messages Of The Book Of Hebrews?*
- f. *What Were Those Things Nailed To The Cross By Jesus That Were Against Us?*
- g. *Can We Consider The Physical Building, Worship Place, Temple, Sanctuary Or Synagogue The Church Of Christ?*
- h. *Can The Emblem Or Logo Of The Church Of Christ Be The True Church Of Christ?*
- i. *Why Are They Many Religious Associations, Organizations And Denominations In Our World Today? Is Christ And His One And Only Church Divided?*
- j. *What Was The Purpose Of The Book Of James?*
- k. *Who Were The People James Writing To?*
- l. *What Are The Central Messages Of The Book Of James?*
- m. *What Are The Biblical Interpretations Of The Book Of James 1:22-27 Especially Verses 26-7 Of Chapter One?*
- n. *How Can We Apply Jas. 1:26-27 To Our Lives Today As We Practice The New Testament Christianity In The Twenty First Century?*

Special Note: Studying Church History I, II, III And IV, We Discovered That The New Testament Church Or Christianity Was Polluted, Corrupted, And Apostatized By False Apostles, Prophets, Teachers, Preachers, Ministers And Teachers Over Some Centuries Ago.

The New Testament Christianity Or Church Today Has Undergone Many Stages Of Apostasies, Reformations, Transformations And Restorations Movements. Currently, All We Are Doing Is Restoring The New Testament Christianity Or Church To Her Original Form Or Pattern To The Glory Of God; Not To The Glory Of Any Manmade Or Jewish Religion, Called Judaism Or Any Other Religion In The World.

Christianity Is A Religion Of The World Today Concerning What Many Or Most People, Or Religious Organizations, Denominational Leaders Or Followers Thought To Be The New Testament Christianity That Jesus Began To Do And To Teach And Practice. No! Is It What The World Believe, Preach And Teach Is To Be Considered And Accepted To Be The True Religion. No! But, The New Testament Christianity Then And Now In The First Century Is The Teaching And The Way Of Life Of Jesus Of What He Began To Do And To Teach That Brought About True Eternal Adoption, Redemption, Reconciliation, Transformation, Justification, Sanctification And Salvation To Humanity By The Divinity Of Christ Jesus Our Lord And Savior; By Nailing The Traditions, Ordinances And Man-Made Or Self-Made Practices That Were Against Us On The Cross Of Calvary!

***Project The Slide Pictures For Proper Understanding And Comprehension By The
Class.***

D. THE CAUSES OF WIDOWHOOD IN THE BIBLE

1. Natural Or Untimely Death.
2. Wars Or Battles.
3. Crises Or Conflicts.
4. Persecutions Or Afflictions.
5. Famines Or Plagues.
6. Natural Phenomenal.
7. Sickesses Or Illnesses.
8. Lack Of Child Bearing.
9. Bareness, Idleness Or Loneliness.
10. Separation Or Divorce.
11. Decrees By Kings, Rulers Or Emperors.
12. Abandonment Or Rejection.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

E. THE BIBLICAL TYPES, KINDS AND CATEGORIES OF WIDOWS IN THE BIBLE (ACTS 6:1-7; 1 TIM. 3:1-13; 1 TIM. 5:1-16; TITUS 1:5-9; TITUS 2:1-15)

1. The Able Widows.
2. The Capable Widows.
3. The Noble Widows.
4. The Honorable Widows.
5. The Vulnerable Widows.
6. The Responsible Widows.
7. The Irresponsible Widows.
8. The Terrible Widows.
9. The Horrible Widows.
10. The Hospitable Widows.
11. The Desirable Widows.
12. The Hospitable Widows.
13. The Capable Widows.
14. The Disable Widows.
15. The Valuable Widows.
16. The Invaluable Widows.
17. The Available Widows.
18. The Unavailable Widows.
19. The Teachable Widows.
20. The Unteachable Widows.
21. The Reachable Widows.
22. The Unreachable Widows.
23. The Tough Widows.
24. The Rough Widows.
25. The Hardworking Widows.
26. The Difficult Widows.
27. The Lazy Widows.

28. The Strong Widows.
29. The Weak Widows.
30. The Generous Widows.
31. The Active Widows.
32. The Supportive Widows.
33. The Proactive Widows.
34. The Helpless Widows.
35. The Hopeless Widows.
36. The Powerless Widows.
37. The Moral Widows.
38. The Immoral Widows.
39. The Carnal Widows.
40. The Rejected Widows.
41. The Afflicted Widows.
42. The Persecuted Widows.
43. The Devoted Widows.
44. The Dedicated Widows.
45. The Committed Widows.
46. The Godly Widows.
47. The Ungodly Widows.
48. The Selfish Widows.
49. The Greedy Widows.
50. The Fearless Widows.
51. The Fearful Widows.
52. The Faithful Widows.
53. The Unfaithful Widows.
54. The Truthful Widows.
55. The Prayerful Widows.
56. The Peaceful Widows.
57. The Purposeful Widows.
58. The Ideal Widows.
59. The Wise Widows.
60. The Foolish Widows.
61. The Aged Widows.
62. The Wicked Widows.
63. The Caring Widows.
64. The Poor Widows.
65. The Needy Widows.
66. The Older Widows.
67. The Younger Widows.
68. The Widow Indeed.
69. The True Widows.
70. The Worthy Widows.
71. The Unworthy Widows.
72. The Wanton Widows.
73. The Wandering Widows.
74. The Gossiping Widows.
75. The Slandering Widows.

76. The Murmuring Widows.
77. The Complaining Widows.
78. The Hypocritical Widows.
79. The Busybodies Widows.
80. The Widows In The Lord.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

F. THE BIBLICAL CHARACTERISTICS, QUALITIES AND QUALIFICATIONS OF WIDOWS IN THE BIBLE (ACTS 6:1-7;

1 TIM. 3:1-13; 1 TIM. 5:1-16; TITUS 1:5-9; TITUS 2:1-15)

1. Having Children.
2. Have No Husband.
3. Show Mercy.
4. Show Kindness.
5. Show Goodness.
6. Be Trustworthy.
7. Be Faithful.
8. Be Truthful.
9. Be Prayerful.
10. Be Purified.
11. Be Nurtured.
12. Be Matured.
13. Be Obedient.
14. Be Patient.
15. Be Tolerant.
16. Be Temperate.
17. Be Longsuffering.
18. Be Blameless In Life And Conduct.
19. Be Sober, Grave, And Sound In Faith.
20. Be Sound In Love And Practice.
21. Provide For Her Household.
22. Protect Or Defend Her Household.
23. Manage Her Home.
24. Hospitable To Strangers.
25. Generous To All.
26. Liberal To All.
27. Show Good Works.
28. No Children Or Descendant.
29. Desolate In Need And Has Good Reputation.
30. Living In Daily Prayers.
31. No Pleasure Or Treasure Seek.
32. Advance In Age Or Above Sixty (60) Years.
33. Not Often Married Or Divorced.
34. Give Attendance To Reading, Studying, And Sound Doctrine.
35. Give Attendance To Preaching And Teaching Of Sound Doctrine.
36. Take Heed To Herself And Sound Doctrine.

37. She Has Brought Up Godly Children.
38. Serving The Saints Faithfully And Truthfully.
39. Teach Younger Ones To Love Their Husbands.
40. Relieved Suffering Of Others In The Local Church.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

G. THE BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF WIDOWS IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS OF THE BIBLE (RUTH 4:13-17; ACTS 6:1-7)

1. The Old Testament Examples:

- a. The Widow Of Zeraphath.
- b. The Widow Of Nain.
- c. The Widow Of Nain.
- d. Lydia, Phoebe.
- e. Ruth, The Daughter In-Law Of Naomi.
- f. The Widow With The Two Coins.
- g. The Persistent Widow That Demanded Justice, Mercy And Fairness.
- h. Rehab, Who Saves The Lives Of Spies In The Land Of Canaan.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

2. The New Testament Examples:

- a. The Dorcas Or Tabitha.
- b. The Hebrew Widows.
- c. The Hellenist Widows.
- d. The Greek Widows.
- e. The Judean Widows.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

H. THE WIDOWHOOD IN THE OLD AND NEW TESTAMENTS OF THE BIBLE (EXOD. 22:21-24; ISA. 1:17; ACTS 6:1-7; ACTS 9:36-39; 1 TIM. 5:1-16; JAS. 1:26-27)

1. In The Old Testament:

Both The Old And New Testaments, Legislation Has Always Been Solicited For Widows, Orphans, Fatherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Vulnerable, Disables, Poor, Needy And Less Privilege And Together With The Strangers For Them To Be Provided, Defended, Protected, Comforted And Consolated (Exod. 22:21-24)

As Widows Are Often Overlooked, Maltreated, Injured, Oppressed, Afflicted, Persecuted And Assaulted By The Society; God Has Peculiar Concern, Love, Care, Kindness, Goodness, Mercy, Affection, Passion, Compassion, And Desire For Them (Prov. 15:25) And These Acts Of Kindness And Benevolent Or Charitable Deeds Were The Marks Of True Religion That Is To Be Practiced As Recommended Or Commanded In The Books Of Jas. 1:26-27; Isa. 1:17 Respectively.

2. In The New Testament:

The Early Church Inherited From Judaism The Duty Of Providing, Protecting And Defending The Widows, Orphans, Fatherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Vulnerable, Disables, Poor, Needy And Less Privilege And Less Privilege In The Society As Recorded In The Book Of James 1:26-27.

Jesus During His Three Years Early Ministry, Condemned The Pharisees' Bad Habits Of Going To Widows' Houses To Devoured Them Sexually, Materially, Financially, And Emotionally As Stated In The Book Of Mark 12:40.

The Widowhood In The Bible Or The Activities Of Widows In The Bible (Old And New Testaments) More Often Widows Were Left In Penury. One Of The Earliest Good Works That Engaged The Early Church Was The Distribution, Administration And Ministration Of Alms, Goods And Foods To Widows In Need; And Seven Spirited Men Were Appointed To This Obligation In Acts 6:1-7.

The Book Of Acts 9:36-42 Also Gives Us A Striking Illustration Of Charity, Hospitality, Liberality Or Generosity Shown By One Individual, When After The Death Of Tabitha, It Records That "All The Widows At Joppa Assembled To Testify Before Peter To The Kindness, Goodness And Mercy She Had Shown To Them."

Paul, In Writing To Timothy, His Son In The Lord, He Expresses His Desire That Young Widows Should Marry Again And Older Widows Are To Be Supported Especially Those Who Are Over Sixty (60) Years Old; Who Are Faithful And Truthful In The Lord; By Evidence Of Good Works, By Caring For Children, By Hospitality, By Generosity, By Liberality, By Rendering Services And Sacrifices To Those God's People Who Were And Are Distress, Persecuted, Afflicted Or Neglected As Recorded In 1 Tim. 5:9-10.

In The Book Of Rev. 18:7 Widow Is Used Metaphorically, Symbolically Or Figuratively Of A City Bereaved Of Its Inhabitants And Stricken By Plague Or Famine For Destruction Or Desolation.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

I. THE ACTIVITIES OF TWELVE MAJOR WIDOWHOOD IN THE BIBLE (RUTH 4:13-17; ACTS 6:1-7)

1. The Widow Of Zeraphath Who Took Care Of Elijah, The Prophet Of God.
2. The Widow Of Nain Who Supported The Isrealites To Win A War Against The Amalekites.
3. The Widow Who Gave All That She Had For The Ministry Of Jesus.
4. The Early Church Widows Who Supported The Apostles; Especially, Paul.
5. The Widow Who Wiped Jesus Feet With Her Hairs.
6. The Widow Who Anointed Jesus Body With Expensive Alabaster Oil Or Perfume. The Cost Of That Oil Or Perfume Is \$15, 000:00 Or N22, 500,000:00 Equivalent.
7. Rehab, Who Saves God's Messengers From Death.
8. The Persistent Widow That Demanded Justice, Mercy And Fairness.
9. The Widow That Gave Her Widow's Mites.
10. Lydia, Who Hosted Paul And Silas In Their First Missionary Journey.
11. Phoebe, Who was a servant In Ministering To Unbelievers as a companion Of Paul.
12. Naomi, The Mother In-Law Of Ruth.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

J. THE APOSTLES OF JESUS CHRIST ADVOCATED AND SOLICITED FOR THE WELFARE AND WELLBEING OF WIDOWS (MATT. 25:31-47; ACTS 6:1-7; Acts 9:36-39; 1 Tim. 5:1-16)

As The Early Church Grew And Increased In Size, So Did Her Needs. One Great Need Was To Organize And Administer The Daily Distribution Or Ministration Of Foods To The Poor Stricken And Needy Widows In Acts 6:1-7.

Internal Problem Developed In The Early Church. The Hebraic Jews (The Native Jewish Christians Who Spoke Aramaic Or Semitic Language) And The Hellenistic Jews (Greek-Speaking Christians) Who Were Converted On The Day Of Pentecost Complained That Their Widows Were Neglected, Or Unfairly Being Treated And Maltreated In The Daily Administration, Ministration And Distribution Of Food.

To Correct The Ugly Situation, The Apostles With Other Members Of The Jerusalem Church Put Seven Spirited And Respected Greek-Speaking Men In Charge Of The Foods Distribution Program.

This Action Pleased The Whole Congregation And They Adopted Or Accepted By Implemented Or Executed It; And The Problem Was Resolved And Settled In Order To Allowed The Apostles To Keep Focus On Praying, Teaching And Preaching Of The Soul-Searching And Soul-Saving Gospel Of Jesus Christ.

Men In Ministry Can Avoid Improper Actions, Attitudes, Attributes, Beliefs, Behaviors, Characters, Conducts, Dispositions And Developments (Negative ABCD) Toward Women And Widows In The Local Church And Society As Family Members Of The Grace Of God.

If Men See Women Especially Widows As Fellow Members In God's Family, They Will Protect, Provide, Defend, Support, Care And Love Them; By Helping Them To Grow Spiritually, Physically, Materially, And Financially Too.

In 1 Tim. 5:1-16, Paul Insisted That Both The Society, The Church And The Home Should Take Care Of Widows' Welfare, Wellbeing, Wellness And Wholeness As Recorded In The Books Of Acts 2:44-47; 1 Cor. 16:1-4; 2 Cor. 8:1-9:15; Acts 6:1-7; Acts 9:36-39 Respectively.

Therefore, The Church Should Care, Love, Support, Provide, Protect, Defend, And Share With Those Widows, Orphans, Fatherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Vulnerable, Disables, Poor, Needy And Less Privilege Less Privilege In Their Mix. Don't Wait For People To Ask. Take The Initiative And Look For Ways To Serve Them By Fulfilling The Law Of Christ (Matt. 25:31-47; Gal. 6:1-10).

K. A CASE-STUDY OF THE HIGH LEVEL CHURCH OF CHRIST WIDOWS LIKE THE WIDOWS IN THE BIBLE

1. Acts 2:41-47.
2. Acts 4:31-37.
3. Acts 6:1-7.

4. Acts 9:36-39.
5. 1 Tim. 5:1-16.
6. Acts 20:35.
7. Jas. 1:26-27

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

L. HOW CAN A LOCAL CONGREGATION CARE FOR HER WIDOWS? (ACTS 2:41-47; ACTS 4:31-37; ACTS 6:1-6, ACTS 9:36-39; ACTS 20:35; 1 TIM. 5:1-16; JAS. 1:26-27)

1. Through Loving Them.
2. Through Caring For Them.
3. Through Sharing With Them.
4. Through Compassion On Them.
5. Through Affection On Them.
6. Through Encouraging Them.
7. Through Visiting Them.
8. Through Praying For Them.
9. Through Supporting Them.
10. Through Protecting Them.
11. Through Providing For Them.
12. Through Defending Them.
13. Through Modelling Them.
14. Through Ministering To Them.
15. Through Mentoring Them.
16. Through Managing Them.
17. Through Counselling Them.
18. Through Exhorting Them.
19. Through Admonishing Them.
20. Through Hospitality To Them.
21. Through Generosity To Them.
22. Through Liberality To Them.
23. Through Empowerment To Them.
24. Through Edifying Them By Charitable Deeds.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

M. THE MAJOR BENEFITS AND REWARDS UPON THOSE WHO CARE FOR THE WIDOWS, ORPHANS AND THE AFFLICTED (GEN. 1:26-28; GAL. 6:1-10; EPH. 1:3-14; PHIL. 4:10-20)

1. Physical Blessings.
2. Spiritual Blessings.
3. Social Blessings.
4. Material Blessings.
5. Financial Blessings.
6. Natural Blessings.
7. Supernatural Blessings.
8. Crown Of Glory

9. Crown Of Rejoicing.
10. Crown Of Righteousness.
11. Crown Of Eternal Life.
12. Incorruptible Crown.

Note: Give A Brief Explanation, Exposition, Clarification And Interpretation Of The Above Words Or Statements For Proper Understanding And Comprehension.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Summarily, Brethren, God Almighty Has A Very Special Concern, Attention, Passion, Compassion, Mercy, Love, Care, Desire Or Consideration For The Widows, Widowers, Orphans, Fatherless, Motherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Disable, Vulnerable, Down Trodden, Poor, Needy, Less Privilege And Those In Afflictions In The Society (Exod. 22:21-24).

The Above Categories Of People In The Society Or Church Are To Be Taken Special Care; Because, They Are The Most Members Of The Society And God's Eyes Are Always Upon Them.

The Above Mentioned People Are Social Misfits Without One To Defend, Protect, Guide, Guard, And Provide For Their Daily Needs. Life For Them Is Harsh, Hard, Difficult, Terrible And Horrible. No One Cares To Represent Their Interests, Needs And Desires (Job 31:21; Psa. 109:10). Thank God For The Government And Individual NGO's Today!

Sometimes, They Suffered Loss Of Their Homes, Properties, Rights, Privileges And Livestock. They Are Subjected To Acts Of Violence, Cruelty, Intimidations, Embarrassments And Denial.

God, However, Has A Special And Specific Concern And Consideration For The Widows And Orphans. He Is The Husband, Defender, Sustainer, Provider Or Protector Of The Widows And Father To The Fatherless As Recorded In The Book Of Psalm 68:5-6.

The Old Testament And New Testaments Provisions, Policies, Principles, Precepts, Ordinances, Laws Or Commandments Are Made For The Widows And Orphans Or Other Less Privilege In The Society; For Their Welfare, Wellbeing, Wellness And Wholeness.

Therefore, Church Leaders And Members Alike Must Make Provision And Create Policies, Programs And Projects For These Categories Of People In The Local Church; Especially In The High Level Church Of Christ, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria; For Their Welfare, Wellbeing, Wellness And Wholeness Of Church Members Too. By Doing So, These Activities Of The Widowhood, By The Widowhood And For The Widowhood In The Local Church By Church Leaders Will Enhance, Advance, Promote, Persuade, Motivate And Grow The Local Church From Faith-To-Faith.

Finally, I Urge And Implore Every Member Of This High Level Congregation To Remember The Ministry Of Our Late. Bro. Leo Obi To The Widows And Orphans Of This Congregation. Let Us Awake That Spirit Of Late Bro. Leo Obi's Generosity, Hospitality And Liberality To The Widowhood. Permit Me To Dedicate This Lesson To Late Bro. Leo Obi In His Blessed Memory And All The Noble Widows Of The High Level Church Of Christ, Makurdi, Benue State, Nigeria. (Jas. 1:26-27).

FOOD FOR THOUGHT OF THE DAY FOR THE DAY

Conclusively, Brethren, Let Us “Standby And Stand By” The Noble Widows In This Local Church. By So Doing We Are Practicing The Practical New Testament Christianity As Stated In The Books Of Gal. 6:1-9; Jas. 1:26-27.

- ***Because, God Almighty Has A Very Special Concern, Attention, Passion, Compassion, Mercy, Piety, Love, Care, Desire Or Consideration For The Widows, Widowers, Orphans, Fatherless, Motherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Less Privilege In The Society, Poor, Needy And Those In Afflictions. A Nation And Her People Should Do Same At All Times.***
- ***Because, God Is The Husband And Defender, Provider Or Protector Of The Widows And Father To The Fatherless As Recorded In The Book Of Psalm 68:5-6.***
- ***Because, When A Nation And Its Leaders Or People Have Compassion On Widows, Orphans, Poor And Needy, Such A Nation And Its People Are Promised A Blessing As Recorded In The Books Of Deut. 14:29; Jer. 5:5-7, But If A Nation And Its People Do The Otherwise, They Are Cursed As Recorded In The Books Of Job. 22:9-11; Jer. 22:3-5; Ezek. 22:7, 15-16 Respectively.***

God Almighty Has A Very Special Concern, Attention, Passion, Compassion, Mercy, Piety, Love, Care, Desire Or Consideration For The Widows, Widowers, Orphans, Fatherless, Motherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Less Privilege In The Society, Poor, Needy And Those In Afflictions. A Nation And Her People Should Do Same At All Times.

Therefore, The Church Should Care, Love, Support, Provide, Protect, Defend, Guard, Guide, And Share With Those Widows, Orphans, Fatherless, Motherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Less Privilege, Poor And Needy In Their Mix. Don't Wait For People To Ask. Take The Initiative And Look For Ways To Serve Them By Fulfilling The Law Of Christ (Matt. 25:31-47; Gal. 6:1-10).

God, However, Has A Special And Specific Concern And Consideration For The Widows And Orphans. He Is The Husband, Defender, Sustainer, Provider Or Protector Of The Widows And Father To The Fatherless As Recorded In The Book Of Psalm 68:5-6.

May The Good Lord Bless Us As We Fulfil Or Accomplish Our God-Given Duties, Responsibilities, Tasks, And Obligations To The Widows, Widowers, Orphans, Fatherless, Motherless, Helpless, Hopeless, Powerless, Less Privilege, Down Trodden, Disable, Poor And Needy In Jesus Precious, Marvelous, Gracious, Wondrous And Victorious Name, Amen.

Prepared And Delivered By:

Signed:

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