

# HE GIVES JUSTICE

PSALM 146



## PSALM 146:3-5 (NLT)

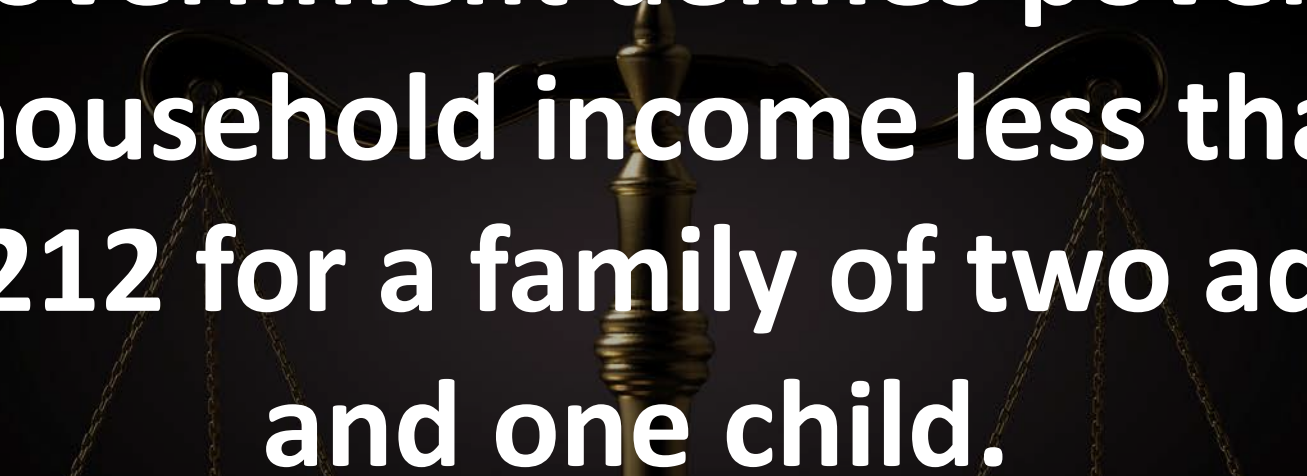
[3] Don't put your confidence in powerful people; there is no help for you there. [4] When they breathe their last, they return to the earth, and all their plans die with them. [5] But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the LORD their God.



# PSALM 146:7 (NLT)


He gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. The LORD frees the prisoners.






**The government defines poverty as  
a household income less than  
\$20,212 for a family of two adults  
and one child.**

Kaiser Family Foundation



**22% of African-Americans in the US  
(24% in Illinois) live below the  
poverty threshold.**

Kaiser Family Foundation



**9% of African-Americans live in  
“deep poverty” (household income  
less than \$10,000).**

Feeding America



**African-Americans are twice as  
likely as whites to face low  
food security.**

Bread for the World



**African-American men are over  
6 times more likely than whites  
to be incarcerated.**

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services



# TWO FORMS OF JUSTICE



# TWO FORMS OF JUSTICE



## RETRIBUTION

Imposing consequences for wrongdoing

# TWO FORMS OF JUSTICE



## RETRIBUTION

Imposing consequences for wrongdoing

## RESTORATION

Caring for those who have been wronged

## MICAH 6:8 (ESV)

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to DO justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?



## JEREMIAH 22:3 (ESV)

Thus says the LORD: Do justice and righteousness, and deliver from the hand of the oppressor him who has been robbed. And do no wrong or violence to the resident alien, the fatherless, and the widow, nor shed innocent blood in this place.



## MATTHEW 23:23 (NLT)

What sorrow awaits you teachers of religious law and you Pharisees. Hypocrites! For you are careful to tithe even the tiniest income from your herb gardens, but you ignore the more important aspects of the law—**justice**, mercy, and faith. You should tithe, yes, but do not neglect the more important things.

# WAKE UP











# PROVERBS 31:8-9 (NIV)

[8] Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute.  
[9] Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.



# SPEAK UP



## JAMES 2:15-17 (NIV)

[15] Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food. [16] If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it? [17] In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.



# RISE UP



