

In God We Trust
The Politics of Poverty
Dair Hileman, Senior Pastor

God's Plan for Israel:

1. All owned land providing a means of income.
2. Debt was forgiven at the year of Jubilee.
3. Farmers were to leave part of the harvest for the poor.

But the actual differs from the ideal:

beggars, prostitution, crime

Principles for policies regarding wealth and poverty

1. Laziness should be discouraged and work should be encouraged leading to self-sufficiency. (2 Thessalonians 3:6-15)
2. We cannot give everyone land to farm, but we can make education and job training available.
3. Because of the sin nature, regulations of individuals and corporations is necessary. (James 5:1-6)
4. The breakdown of family is a major cause of poverty and therefore, marriage and family should be encouraged and supported.
5. God is the defender of the defenseless. Public policy must take into account the catastrophic effect of illness, disability, and death.

Scripture speaks chiefly to individuals:

Matthew 6:19-21; Luke 12:33; Hebrews 13:5; Acts 20:35,
1 Timothy 6:6-10 and 17-19; Luke 14:12-14; Proverbs 30:8-9
Psalm 112:1-5