

# Give Thanks



“Let the weak say, ‘I am strong’; let the poor say, ‘I am rich.’” What could turn things this big upside down and backwards? Is this just another way to laugh at the weak and the poor? No, this is God’s reordering through the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus, the Christ, and we would do well to pay attention.

Jesus counted himself among the weak and the poor. God the Creator counts mercy and justice as worship. We live in a society and culture that shouts “earn it” in the face of the weak and the poor who are in need of food, shelter, health care, and opportunity. Can a “Christian” nation boast of such slogans and still claim to be Christian? Can the Church champion the building of barriers of every sort and claim to worship the God of grace and mercy?

Should a nation be expected to act like the Church? Should the Church act like the nation? These are political questions. But to say “Jesus is Lord” above any other authority is a political statement. To say we are first and foremost citizens of the Kingdom of Heaven is a political stance.

To serve the weak and the poor is to serve Jesus himself. When did we see you hungry, thirsty, and naked? Proper Christian worship can properly reorient Christians within our nation. We who are strong and rich must not stay so at the expense of the weak and the poor. This is Biblical truth that we sing about in this chorus. The weak and the poor are the mirror of the strong and rich.

Success is not a sin. Indifference is. As the Church seeks to become stronger and richer, we can only sing this song as a call for the weak and poor to wait for Heaven and pretend in the meantime. If, however, we sing this song and its biblical message as recognition of where Jesus hangs out and where His focus is, then we must sing through tears of repentance.

Give thanks for what the Lord has done for us, and pray that the Lord will do the same for others through us.

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