

MINISTRIES OF MERCY

The Fatherless

James 2:13

Orphans in the Bible

- A. The terms fatherless or orphan occur over _____ times in the Bible.
1. The term "orphan" is from the Greek word *orphanos* and technically speaks to the _____ of a _____ due to abandonment or death.
 2. Jesus assured His disciples that He would not abandon them but would send the _____ to care for them (Jn. 14:18).
 3. Paul equated his abrupt removal from the Thessalonians' presence to making them _____ (1 Th. 2:17).
 4. James made it clear that the _____ has an obligation to orphans (Ja. 1:27).
 5. That vast majority of Scriptural instruction regarding orphans comes from the _____ (42x). The root word means "_____".
- B. Orphans in the Bible include people like:
- _____

God's care for orphans described

- A. God _____ them against those who would take _____ of them (Mal. 3:5).
- B. God shows _____ (mercy) on them.
Ps. 10:14; 146:9; Je. 49:11; Ho. 14:3; Ps. 68:5

Question: *How does God execute this care for orphans as described in Scripture?*

God's care for orphans is delegated to His people.

- A. God's people were to _____ orphans:
1. by their _____ (De. 14:28-29; 26:12-15)
 2. by their _____ (De. 24:19-21)
- B. God's people were to _____ them (Ps. 82:1-4; Is. 1:17).
- C. God's people are to look out for their general _____ (Ja. 1:27).
- * "Visit" means to look after, inspect, or examine one's well-being or condition.

God's care for orphans was demonstrated through firm warnings to His people.

- A. They were not to _____ or add to orphans' difficulties in life (Ex. 22:22-24).
- B. They were not to take _____ of their plight (Zec. 7:10).

- C. They were not to deal with them _____
(De. 24:17; 27:19).
- D. They were not to _____ them (Je. 22:3).

How can you and I have a ministry of mercy to orphans?

- A. _____ for them.
- B. Become aware of their _____ (Ja. 1:27).
- C. Publicly promote their proper care.
- D. _____ for them.
1. _____ to _____ that have orphanages.
 2. _____ at a local boys and girls club or orphanage.
 3. Open your home to care for them on a _____ basis (_____).
 4. Open your home to care for them on a _____ basis (_____).