

*The Original Socialized Healthcare*  
**1 Timothy 5:3-16, Acts 4:32-35**  
**October 30, 2016**

Introduction

Christian response to healthcare and other social programs:

Family responsibilities: 1 Timothy 5:3-16; John 19:25-27

Church responsibilities: Acts 4:32-35; James 1:27

Take-aways in an entitlement culture:

1. Care for your immediate family
2. Prepare for the future together
3. Forgive your family members
4. Reject a victim and/or entitlement mentality

➤ Reminder: the state is not our provider; God alone is the provider.

### *1 Timothy 5:3-16*

<sup>3</sup> Give proper recognition to those widows who are really in need. <sup>4</sup> But if a widow has children or grandchildren, these should learn first of all to put their religion into practice by caring for their own family and so repaying their parents and grandparents, for this is pleasing to God. <sup>5</sup> The widow who is really in need and left all alone puts her hope in God and continues night and day to pray and to ask God for help. <sup>6</sup> But the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. <sup>7</sup> Give the people these instructions, so that no one may be open to blame. <sup>8</sup> Anyone who does not provide for their relatives, and especially for their own household, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.

<sup>9</sup> No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, <sup>10</sup> and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord's people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

<sup>11</sup> As for younger widows, do not put them on such a list. For when their sensual desires overcome their dedication to Christ, they want to marry. <sup>12</sup> Thus they bring judgment on themselves, because they have broken their first pledge. <sup>13</sup> Besides, they get into the habit of being idle and going about from house to house. And not only do they become idlers, but also busybodies who talk nonsense, saying things they ought not to. <sup>14</sup> So I counsel younger widows to marry, to have children, to manage their homes and to give the enemy no opportunity for slander. <sup>15</sup> Some have in fact already turned away to follow Satan.

<sup>16</sup> If any woman who is a believer has widows in her care, she should continue to help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.

### *Acts 4:32-35*

<sup>32</sup> All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had. <sup>33</sup> With great power the apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And God's grace was so powerfully at work in them all <sup>34</sup> that there were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned land or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales <sup>35</sup> and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone who had need.