

# Psalm 107:41

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction, and maketh him families like a flock.

## Analysis

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This verse describes God's restorative intervention for the oppressed. 'Yet setteth he the poor on high from affliction' shows God lifting the humble. 'Setteth on high' (sagab, סָגַב) means to set in a secure, elevated place. 'The poor' (evyon, עֵyoן) are the needy, impoverished. 'And maketh him families like a flock' indicates multiplication and blessing. 'Families' (mishpachah, מִשְׁפָחָה) means clans or extended families. 'Like a flock' suggests abundance and fertility. This demonstrates God's preferential concern for the poor and oppressed—He actively elevates the lowly and multiplies the marginalized. The verse anticipates Mary's Magnificat: God 'hath put down the mighty...and exalted them of low degree' (Luke 1:52-53).

## Historical Context

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Throughout Scripture, God champions the poor: delivering Hebrew slaves from Egypt, raising up judges from obscurity, choosing David the shepherd, exalting Daniel and Esther in foreign courts. Post-exilic restoration elevated remnant from poverty and oppression to blessed community. Jesus' ministry favored the poor and marginalized (Luke 4:18-19; 7:22). The early church practiced radical generosity toward the poor (Acts 2:44-45; 4:32-35). God's kingdom consistently reverses worldly hierarchies.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's preferential concern for the poor challenge worldly values?
2. What does God's elevation of the lowly teach about His kingdom's character?
3. How should the church practically demonstrate God's care for the poor and oppressed?

## Interlinear Text

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בָּשָׂר וְעֵדָה  
high Yet setteth he the poor  
H7682 H34

מִשְׁעָמָד וְעֵדָה  
from affliction and maketh  
H6040 H7760

כְּאֵלֶיךָ כְּאֵלֶיךָ  
like a flock  
H6629

מִשְׁפָחָות:

him families

H4940

## Additional Cross-References

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**Job 21:11** (Parallel theme): They send forth their little ones like a flock, and their children dance.

**1 Samuel 2:8** (Parallel theme): He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill, to set them among princes, and to make them inherit the throne of glory: for the pillars of the earth are the LORD'S, and he hath set the world upon them.

**Psalms 78:52** (Parallel theme): But made his own people to go forth like sheep, and guided them in the wilderness like a flock.

**Job 5:11** (Parallel theme): To set up on high those that be low; that those which mourn may be exalted to safety.

**Job 8:7** (Parallel theme): Though thy beginning was small, yet thy latter end should greatly increase.

**Job 42:16** (Parallel theme): After this lived Job an hundred and forty years, and saw his sons, and his sons' sons, even four generations.

**Proverbs 17:6** (Parallel theme): Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers.

**Genesis 48:11** (Parallel theme): And Israel said unto Joseph, I had not thought to see thy face: and, lo, God hath shewed me also thy seed.

**James 5:11** (Parallel theme): Behold, we count them happy which endure. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; that the Lord is very pitiful, and of tender mercy.

**1 Samuel 2:21** (Parallel theme): And the LORD visited Hannah, so that she conceived, and bare three sons and two daughters. And the child Samuel grew before the LORD.