SING TO GOD, SING IN PRAISE OF HIS NAME, EXTOL HIM WHO RIDES ON THE CLOUDS; REJOICE BEFORE HIM—HIS NAME IS THE LORD. A FATHER TO THE FATHERLESS, A DEFENDER OF WIDOWS, IS GOD IN HIS HOLY DWELLING. GOD SETS THE LONELY IN FAMILIES, HE LEADS OUT THE PRISONERS WITH SINGING; BUT THE REBELLIOUS LIVE IN A SUN-SCORCHED LAND.

PSALM 68:4-6



THE ORIGINAL MESSAGE
OF CHRISTMAS



A FATHER TO THE FATHERLESS, A DEFENDER OF WIDOWS, IS GOD IN HIS HOLY DWELLING.



THE LORD WATCHES OVER THE FOREIGNER AND SUSTAINS THE FATHERLESS AND THE WIDOW, BUT HE FRUSTRATES THE WAYS OF THE WICKED.



DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE WIDOW OR THE FATHERLESS.



DO NOT TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE WIDOW OR THE FATHERLESS.



BUT YOU, GOD, SEE THE TROUBLE OF THE AFFLICTED; YOU CONSIDER THEIR GRIEF AND TAKE IT IN HAND. THE VICTIMS COMMIT THEMSELVES TO YOU; YOU ARE THE HELPER OF THE FATHERLESS.



DEFEND THE WEAK AND THE FATHERLESS; UPHOLD THE CAUSE OF THE POOR AND THE OPPRESSED.



YOU, LORD, HEAR THE DESIRE OF THE AFFLICTED;
YOU ENCOURAGE THEM, AND YOU LISTEN TO THEIR
CRY, DEFENDING THE FATHERLESS AND THE
OPPRESSED, SO THAT MERE EARTHLY MORTALS WILL
NEVER AGAIN STRIKE TERROR.



RELIGION THAT GOD OUR FATHER ACCEPTS AS PURE AND FAULTLESS IS THIS: TO LOOK AFTER ORPHANS AND WIDOWS IN THEIR DISTRESS AND TO KEEP ONESELF FROM BEING POLLUTED BY THE WORLD.

JAMES 1:27





FOR ALL WHO ARE LED BY THE SPIRIT OF GOD ARE SONS OF GOD. FOR YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THE SPIRIT OF SLAVERY TO FALL BACK INTO FEAR, BUT YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE SPIRIT OF ADOPTION AS SONS, BY WHOM WE CRY, "ABBA! FATHER!" THE SPIRIT HIMSELF BEARS WITNESS WITH OUR SPIRIT THAT WE ARE CHILDREN OF GOD, AND IF CHILDREN,

ROMANS 8:14-17



THEN HEIRS—HEIRS OF GOD AND FELLOW HEIRS
WITH CHRIST, PROVIDED WE SUFFER WITH HIM IN
ORDER THAT WE MAY ALSO BE GLORIFIED WITH HIM.







 ARE ALMOST FOUR TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BE POOR



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- ARE AT A DRAMATICALLY GREATER RISK OF DRUG AND ALCOHOL ABUSE



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- · MAKE UP 71% OF HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS
- ARE MORE LIKELY TO SEE AND EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE WITHIN THEIR HOUSEHOLD





CHRIST HAS NO BODY BUT YOURS. NO HANDS. NO FEET ON EARTH BUT YOURS. YOURS ARE THE EYES WITH WHICH HE LOOKS COMPASSION ON THIS WORLD. YOURS ARE THE FEET WITH WHICH HE WALKS TO DO GOOD. YOURS ARE THE HANDS, WITH WHICH HE BLESSES ALL THE WORLD. YOURS ARE THE HANDS. YOURS ARE THE FEET, YOURS ARE THE EYES, YOU ARE HIS BODY, CHRIST HAS NO BODY NOW BUT YOURS.

ST. TERESA OF ÁVILA



