

The background of the image is a faded, artistic rendering of a large crowd of people, possibly a biblical scene. In the center, a figure with long hair and a beard, wearing a red robe, is visible, surrounded by others in various colored robes. The overall tone is soft and historical. The text is overlaid on this background.

In Jesus's teachings and in many other parts of the New Testament, Christians — indeed, all people — are advised to be of "generous spirit," to care for one's family, to help the poor, to assist widows and orphans, to exhibit kindness and to maintain the highest character. How all that gets translated into the dirty business of coercive, vote-buying, politically driven redistribution schemes is a problem for prevaricators with agendas. It's not a problem for scholars of what the Bible actually says and doesn't say.

—Lawrence W. Reed—