

***Eleēmosunē* as protection from death in the LXX
[translates Hebrew, *tsedaqah*, “justice,” in canonical texts]**

Nevertheless, **be patient with a man in humble circumstances, and do not make him wait for your alms.** Help a poor man for the commandment's sake, and because of his need do not send him away empty. Lose your silver for the sake of a brother or a friend, and do not let it rust under a stone and be lost. Lay up your treasure according to the commandments of the Most High, and it will profit you more than gold. **Store up almsgiving in your treasury, and it will rescue you from all affliction;** more than a mighty shield and more than a heavy spear, it will fight on your behalf against your enemy. (*Sirach 29.8-13*)

If you have many possessions, make **your gift** from them in proportion; if few, do not be afraid to give according to the little you have. So you will be laying up a good treasure for yourself against the day of necessity. For **charity delivers from death and keeps you from entering the darkness.** (*Tobit 4.8-10*)

Prayer is good when accompanied by fasting, **almsgiving**, and righteousness. A little with righteousness is better than much with wrongdoing. It is better to **give alms** than to treasure up gold. For **almsgiving delivers from death**, and it will purge away every sin. **Those who perform deeds of charity and of righteousness will have fulness of life** (*Tobit 12.8-9*)