

# What you cannot do

*The Rev. William J. Boetcker*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William\\_J.\\_H.\\_Boetcker](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/William_J._H._Boetcker)



You cannot help the poor by destroying the rich.

You cannot strengthen the weak by weakening the strong.

You cannot bring about prosperity by discouraging thrift.

You cannot lift the wage earner up by pulling the wage payer down.

You cannot further the brotherhood of man by inciting class hatred.

You cannot build character and courage by taking away men's initiative and independence.

You cannot help men permanently by doing for them what they could and should do for themselves.