

**The Widow's Offering**  
**Luke 21:1-4 and Mark 12:41-44**  
**October 31, 2021**

**Proper view of self.**

The widow knew she was nothing (humble), while the scribes, rich and religious leaders thought they were “something”.

The world tells us we are “something” and to “be ourselves”. God’s Word tell us we are nothing without Christ and without hope. In fact, God’s Word speaks of being either enemies or friends of God.

Without Jesus, we are nothing!

When God draws us and we trust in Jesus, we are seen through the love and blood of Jesus; Jesus then sees us as sinless.

*For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body<sup>lgl</sup> and in your spirit, which are God’s.*  
**1 Corinthians 6:20**

**Proper motive.**

The only way I can do anything with a “pure and right” heart is with Jesus’ heart in mine.

The motive of those giving a lot (rich) was that they wanted to be seen, and in doing so because of their richness, there was no sacrifice.

The issue really wasn’t the amount that the woman gave, (less than a penny in today’s time), it was the attitude of the heart.

Why do I do the things that I do and who do I do them for?

*All the ways of a man are pure in his own eyes, but the Lord weigh the spirits (motive).*  
**Proverbs 16:2**

*For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.*  
**Hebrews 4:12**

**Proper view of where blessings come from.**

*Every good and perfect gift comes from above ...*  
**James 1:17a**

The widow knew that she could trust the Lord. She was not giving to be seen or for a wrong motive, but with a pure heart. She knew God had her.

When we recognize all that comes from God, then we recognize it’s not ours anyways.

**Proper view of giving back to the Lord.**

All belongs to him anyway. We are to give back our time, money, energy, heart, effort, etc.

**Much given, much required.**

*... For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more.* **Luke 12:48b**

God has blessed me and you to be a blessing!

Think about that which God has given you (more than financial). He didn't do it just to bless you, but for you to be a blessing.

"Remember, a blessing is not only what God does for you but also what He is free to do through you. God told Abraham, "I will bless those who bless you...and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you" (Genesis 12:3 NIV). This is why Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35). When God knows He can flow through you horizontally, His blessings will freely flow to you vertically. But the moment God sees that it's only about you, that His blessings are going to stop with you and not flow through you to someone else, He is not as interested in continuing the flow of His blessings to you. He wants followers who are conduits, not cul-de-sacs." ~ **Tony Evans**

God has given up salvation, hope, peace, etc. we are to show that to others.

**Prayer Focus:**

**How are my motives (my heart)?**

**May I do what I do for an audience of One!**

**God has blessed me to be a blessing! How can I bless others?**