

Series "Knowing The Exact Truth"
"Giving That Catches Jesus' Eye"
Luke 21:1-4
Study-86

Stewardship – *"is one that manages, or has oversight over the affairs of another, he does not own that which he has been entrusted with but manages it as if it is his own"*

There are at least **2,350 passages** in the Bible dealing with money and material possessions. **38 Parables of Jesus 12** have to do with money, In the **Four Gospels, one out of every eight** verses speak of money. The Epistle to the **Philippians** is a thank you note for giving an offering. **2 Corinthians** has two chapters dedicated to giving **2 Corinthians 8-9**

The Widows Giving – Mark 12:41-44; Luke 21:1-4

The Thought Of Our Passage: "Our Giving Is Judged On What We Have Left Over Not Necessarily The Amount Of The Sacrifice"

- 1. Verses 1-2 Jesus Examines:**
- 2. Verse 3 Jesus Evaluates:**
- 3. Verse 4 Jesus Explains:**

1. Verses 1-2 Jesus Examines:

Luke 21:1 And He looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury.

And Context - Tuesday is referred to as "*The Day of Controversy*" of "*The Passion Week*" It is a day that Jesus is confronted by the religious leaders as to His authority. There are 6 skirmishes in **Luke 20** Jesus concludes with warning the disciples about the religious. **Luke 20:46-47**

Luke 21:1-4 Widows Giving: Context - (Widow Maybe Poor Because She Was Ripped Off By The Scribes) This is the final appearance of Jesus in the temple and the closing scene deals with giving. **Luke 21:5-38 Things To Come:**

He looked up "*to look carefully and with concern and interest*" **and saw the rich putting their gifts into the treasury.** Notice that Jesus saw.

Principle - God Takes Interest In Our Giving: Jesus is a keen observer of people. That Jesus is ever watching people and their actions.

saw the rich This would not be hard to figure out who they were. Full length robes.

treasury – compound word - "treasure" and "guard" literally "a safe place for gifts" (**Court of the Women** holds 15,000 people), it consisted of 13 brass treasure chests called trumpets because they were shaped like trumpets.

Each of the chests were labeled for specific offerings: "**New Shekel dues, Old Shekel dues, Bird Offerings, Young Bird offering, Wood, Frankincense, Gold for Mercy-seat** the other six were designated "**Freewill-Offering**"

Matthew 6:1-4

do not sound a trumpet before you What does Jesus mean by sounding the trumpets? Calling attention to self!

I believe that the NT teaches "**Grace Giving**" The OT (Israel) was to **Tithe** – 10% along with other offerings they gave as much as 30% - 39% to God.

1 Corinthians 16:2

1. Every believer is to give - **every week each one of you**
2. Give systematically - **put aside and save**, Should plan.
3. Give proportionally - **as he may prosper**. How has He blessed us?

Luke 21:2 And He saw a poor widow Notice that Jesus observed a widow. She was poor.

putting in two small copper coins. Jesus was aware of how much she gave to God! This was a (**Mite**) *1/8 of a cent*. Jesus was aware of her giving.

Neither the rich nor the poor knew that Jesus was watching them.

Hannah in her prayer said, **1 Samuel 2:3 with Him actions are weighed.**

David said, **Psalm 139:2 You understand my thought from afar.**

This woman did not give much but she gave sacrificially to the Lord.

Principle - People Need To Have Something Of Value To Sacrifice

For: There has to be a cause or a purpose to give my life to. Something to sacrifice to.

Principle - People Need A Way To Express Thanks: How can I express my thanks

**Principle - God Desires A Worshipful Attitude In Our Giving:
2 Corinthians 9:7**

cheerful – *"hilarious, beaming with joy"* We see ourselves as debtors that God has given all to us that we want to just give with hearts overflowing to the Lord.

2. Verse 3 Jesus Evaluates:

Luke 21:3 And He said, **"Truly I say to you,** or *"I tell you the truth!"*
This is a true statement that Jesus is about to make.

this poor widow put in more than all of them; I wish I could have been there when Jesus said this.

Lesson - God's Method of Computing Values Is Different Than Man's"

God Desires Sacrificial Giving: The NT motive is grace. Giving is an act of worship in response to the generosity of God's grace. **2 Corinthians 9:7**

Warren Wiersbe said, "When it come to our giving, God sees more than the portion: he also sees the proportion. Men see what is given, but God sees what is left and by that he measures the gift and the condition of our hearts."

Givers Are Given A Promise: Jesus said, **Luke 6:38**

2 Corinthians Teaches that those who give cheerfully and generously also reap. **2 Corinthians 8:15**

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

3. Verse 4 Jesus Explains:

Luke 21:4 **for they all out of their surplus put into the offering;** The rich gave much because they had much to draw from.

but she out of her poverty put in all that she had to live on." The difference is that she gave all and the rich gave out of their surplus. **Faith must have prompted Her sacrificial gift! (Give yourself totally unselfishly to God)**

Giving that pleases God is giving that costs us:

2 Samuel 24:24

but she This woman in her day was a non-person. She was a widow which was generally poor and not thought of.

What is the posture of our hearts in our giving?

The IRS does not care if you write a check to them with a bad attitude.

1 Corinthians 13:3 And if I give all my possessions to feed the poor, and if I surrender my body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing.

This passage teaches God can do great things with our little offering:

When you think about what how this unnamed widow who was poor took 1/8 of cent. We think of how many messages have been preached about this woman.

Matthew 10:42

This passage teaches equal opportunity: It matters not if you are rich or poor, all can give to the Lord. **2 Corinthians 8:1-5**

Application: How can we learn to give like the widow? (I want to suggest 4 things)

- 1. Give Consciously With Planning: 1 Corinthians 16:1-4** Without Planning God Gets Leftovers.
- 2. All Can Afford To Give To God:** By her giving she was part of what God was doing. Her faith was in a living God that she trusted and believed in.
- 3. God Desires Both Gift And The Giver. We Cannot Give Ourselves To God Apart From Our Money:** For those who give sacrificially like the widow God takes note and will reward.
- 4. Spiritual Giving Keeps The Spiritual And The Natural In Balance:** Giving in a planned manner makes us realize that all we have is God's, it also forces us to not spend merely on ourselves.