

THE COIN IN YOUR HAND

Mark 12:41-44

Jesus is interested in what we do with what we have, even our money

I. LOOK THROUGH THE WIDOW'S EYES

A. SHE HAD COINS IN HER HAND (42)

1. She came to the temple with money
2. She did not give what she did not have

B. SHE HAD GIVING IN HER HEART

1. She did not keep one and give one, she gave all
2. She was willing to give all that she had to live on (44b)
3. The real issue is the heart of the giver and not the amount of the gift!

II. LOOK THROUGH JESUS' EYES

A. HE WATCHES GIVERS

1. Here: Observing > A divine detective - See Heb. 4:13
 - a. Observing the rich givers
 - Note: The rich should be giving large sums - See I Tim. 6:17-19
 - b. Observing the widow giver > She catches His attention though she is not seeking it
2. Elsewhere
 - a. Watching conniving givers - Acts 5:1-11 > Ananias & Saphira
 - b. Watching cheerful givers - II Cor. 9:7
3. Currently: He knows what you're giving!

B. HER GIVING BECAME CHRIST'S LESSON (43-44)

1. Note Christ's Excitement > Here is a teaching moment
2. Note Christ's Emphasis > Calling His disciples to Him (43a)
 - Jesus called His disciples to Him on important occasions (see 3:13, 6:7, 8:1 and 10:42)
3. Consider Christ's Exclamation > "Truly" (43b)
 - This is an important principle or truism
4. Remember Christ's Point (44)
 - He notices sacrificial giving
5. Focus on Christ's Lesson: Sacrificial giving is commendable
 - a. This is all that she had for that day
 - b. Though this is indeed commendable, sacrificial giving is not commanded by Christ

Over please >

III. LOOK THROUGH OTHER'S EYES

- Some don't understand giving

A. SELFISH PEOPLE DON'T GET IT (12:38-40)

1. The arrogant scribes were takers and not givers
2. They devoured widows houses (40)

B. DISTRACTED PEOPLE DON'T GET IT (13:1-2)

1. One of the disciples quickly forgot or ignored the lesson (1)
2. Jesus was not impressed with temporal stuff (2)

IV. LOOK AT YOUR EYES

- What do you see in the mirror?

A. DO YOU HUMBLY GIVE?

1. Expecting no honor or recognition?
2. Consider: What did the widow personally get out of this whole event?
3. Read Matthew 6:1-4

B. DOES YOUR GIVING TEACH OTHERS?

1. Is it sacrificial?
2. Is it planned? - See I Cor. 16:1-2 and II Cor. 9:5
3. Is it hindered? > By selfishness or distraction

CONCLUSION:

William Hendriksen notes that there are different varieties of giving

[From his Commentary on "Luke," p. 933]

1. The flint gives off sparks when struck hard
2. The lemon yields juice when squeezed
3. Yet the rose releases fragrance of its own accord!

To which group do you belong?

What are you doing with the coins in your hand?

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