



THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of
Ashley River Baptist Church

Just My 2 Cents Worth **Mark 12:41-44**

Matthew 23:23 "Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You give a tenth of your spices-- mint, dill and cummin. But you have neglected the more important matters of the law-- justice, mercy and faithfulness. You should have practiced the latter, without neglecting the former.

Mark 12:17 Then Jesus said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is God's." And they were amazed at him.

Matthew 5:20 For I tell you that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will certainly not enter the kingdom of heaven.

Luke 14:33 In the same way, any of you who does not give up everything he has cannot be my disciple.

Matthew 6:21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Mark 12:41-44 Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. 42 But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. 43 Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. 44 They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything--all she had to live on."

THE LORD OBSERVES OUR GIVING. He observes our giving:

1. Carefully
2. Continually

Our gifts are ALWAYS to God and as such are a measure of our devotion to Him.

THE LORD EVALUATES OUR GIVING He evaluates our:

1. Circumstances: "Many rich people threw in large amounts...But a poor widow came..."
 2. Contribution: The Coin - 1/64 of a common day laborer's wage. Greek, A lepton, "a tiny thing" - English word, "Mite" - Copper or Bronze Coin
- Jesus evaluates our sacrificial giving not by the size of the gift, but by what we have left over!

The Motivation of the Widow

- 1 - She *loved* God, His House and His Work!
- 2 - She *trusted* God to care and provide for her. DO YOU?

The Challenge

Deficient giving is ALWAYS a trust problem! How can you trust God to save you eternally if you cannot trust Him to provide presently?

Jesus never demands more of us than He Himself is willing to give. After he commended her for sacrificing her all, He went out and did the same on the cross....*for you!*

When we give sacrificially, we don't give up anything! Instead, we gain the joy of giving and learn to trust God for EVERYTHING! As God observes your giving, what does it reveal about your trust and devotion to Him?

"...remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" Acts 20:35