



LESSON 133 MARK 12:41-44

And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and saith unto them, Verily I say unto you, That this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: For all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.

1. Where was the treasury located?
2. What was this collection of money for?
3. Who were the three groups represented here in their giving?
 - b. What was the difference in their giving?

Possible answers

1. In the temple.
2. Since there was a universal temple tax for the upkeep of the temple paid by all Jews once a year, this offering was probably distributed to the poor and needy, a practice the Christian churches later followed. 1 Cor 16:2 Now concerning the collection for the saints, as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye. Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him,...
3. The rich; the average; the poor
 - b. The rich gave much, but, in proportion to what was left to them, their offering was only a small part. The widow gave all of her living, even though she could not afford it. If this offering was for the poor, she considered others to be worse off than she, so she gave to their need, not considering her own. What a generous heart she had! She had to be a person of faith, one who trusted God to supply her needs and take care of her. Perhaps she understood the principle of sowing and reaping found in scripture. 2 Cor 9:6-15 But this I say: He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God... Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

Have you given your all to the Lord? Do you view everything you have, your car, your house, your stuff, yourself, your body, your mind as belonging to the Lord? If you do, then you will take

care of them properly, and count them as sacred, in a sense, holy ground. Give Him your "all" today. Trust Him with all that is yours. Let Him truly be Lord in all your life.

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