

Date: 9/29/19 SF 3122

Title: Giving: An Act of Worship

Text: Mark 12:41-44

Widow: a married woman whose husband has died and who remains unmarried.

Facts:

- The loss of a husband in ancient Israel was normally a social and economic tragedy.
- The death of a husband usually meant a type of cultural death as well.
- The word widow quickly acquired the connotation of a person living a marginal existence in extreme poverty.
- Widows reacted with grief to their plight, and probably wore a distinct garb as a sign of their status (Genesis 38:14; Genesis 38:19).
- Disillusionment and bitterness could easily result (Ruth 1:20-21).
- She had no able-bodied children to help her work the land of her dead spouse.
- Widows were often unable to keep their husband's land.
- The widow's inheritance rights were minimal.

What does Jesus want us to learn from what He said about the widow's mite?

- God sees what man overlooks
- God's evaluation is different from man's.
- God commends sincere giving in faith.

Principles of Giving: 2 Corinthians 9:6-8

<sup>6</sup>Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. <sup>7</sup>Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

<sup>8</sup>And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.