

## The Gospel of Mark

Part 17: The Pretty Penny

Mark 12:41-44 • Pastor Dean Lancaster • January 27, 2019

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**Mark 12:41–44** This short scene at the Temple gives us great insight into the heart of Jesus and his attitude towards our giving.

### God’s people are expected to give

Our giving is a privilege and God is providing us an opportunity to store our treasure in the Kingdom to come.

Giving him our resources is saying “thank you” to the Father who gave everything to us, and “I love you” to the Son who gave everything for us.

**2 Corinthians 9:11**

We give joyfully because we are giving out of an attitude of gratitude.

**2 Corinthians 9:7**

The blood of Jesus was given for me and I was bought with a price so great I can never repay it.

I give not just because I am re-paying debt but because I am overwhelmed with love for Jesus who gave his all for me.

### Some giving is of more worth than others

The rich, who had more to give, gave a higher amount but Jesus did not fault them for their giving.

Jesus stated that their amount though greater, was a lesser amount than the widow’s in proportion to what they had. **2 Corinthians 8:12**

The widow’s gift was from a pure heart and demonstrated self-sacrifice because it was all she had in the world.

The widow knew God didn’t need her gift, but felt her love could not be satisfied without her sacrifice.

Our attitudes towards Christ should shape and determine the nature and amounts of our giving.

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## The Lord approves of every gift given in the right spirit.

It is a pleasure to make sacrifices for the ones we love.

God will one day reward us for the gifts we gave and sacrifices we made for him out of love and joyful hearts. **Mark 10:29–30**

We don’t give now in order to get later, this is not the attitude the widow displayed.

Jesus is making an example of her pure heart of love for God. No sacrifice is small and unnoticed by Jesus. **Matthew 10:42**

### Take this with you...

Sacrificial giving is a quality, not a quantity.

What makes the gift sacrificial is the heart of the giver.

Giving should be in proportion to our love of Jesus and the thankfulness in our hearts for His sacrifice for us.

When we have love for Jesus, there is nothing we will sacrifice here that we will not receive many times over when we are with him forever.