The Widows Offering

Mark 12:41-44

*41 And he sat down opposite the treasury and watched the people putting money into the offering box. Many rich people put in large sums.*

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*42 And a poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which make a penny.*

*--*

*43 And he called his disciples to him and said to them, "Truly, I say to you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the offering box.*

*--*

*44 For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on." (ESV)*

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Mark 12:38-40

*38 And in his teaching he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes and like greetings in the marketplaces*

*--*

*39 and have the best seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at feasts,*

*--*

*40 who devour widows' houses and for a pretense make long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation." (ESV)*

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The word "houses" comes from the Greek word "oikia" (oy-kee-yah) and it is defined as follows: "a household, goods, property and means."

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The word "Houses" as defined by Thayers Greek Lexicon: "property, wealth and goods."

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"Money is a test and a trust... and money is also a tool."

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Mark 10:17-23

*17 And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*

*--*

*18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.*

*--*

*19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'"*

*--*

*20 And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth."*

*--*

*21 And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me."*

*--*

*22 Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.*

*--*

*23 And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!"*

*--*

*24 And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God!*

*--*

*25 It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God."*

*--*

*26 And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?"*

*--*

*27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God." (ESV)*

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Luke 12:27-34

*27 Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.*

*--*

*28 But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith!*

*--*

*29 And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried.*

*--*

*30 For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them.*

*--*

*31 Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.*

*--*

*32 "Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.*

*--*

*33 Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys.*

*--*

*34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also." (ESV)*

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Mark 10:17-31

*17 And as he was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?"*

*--*

*18 And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No one is good except God alone.*

*--*

*19 You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honor your father and mother.'"*

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*26 And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?"*

*--*

*27 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."*

*--*

*28 Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you."*

*--*

*29 Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel,*

*--*

*30 who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.*

*--*

*31 But many who are first will be last, and the last first." (ESV)*

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Luke 16:1-9

*1 He also said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions.*

*--*

*2 And he called him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.'*

*--*

*3 And the manager said to himself, 'What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg.*

*--*

*4 I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.'*

*--*

*5 So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?'*

*--*

*6 He said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.'*

*--*

*7 Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' He said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty.'*

*--*

*8 The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light.*

*--*

*9 And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings. (ESV)*

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Luke 16:10-15

*10 “One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much.*

*--*

*11 If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches?*

*--*

*12 And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own?*

*--*

*13 No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."*

*--*

*14 The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him.*

*--*

*15 And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God." (ESV)*