

## **The Value of Two Cents**

### *The Story of the Widow's Mites*

*Pastor Chris Engel*  
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#### **Mark 12:38-44 (NIV)**

<sup>38</sup>As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup>and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>40</sup>They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

<sup>41</sup>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.

<sup>42</sup>But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

<sup>43</sup>Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup>They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

· **Watch out for the “Elevated” Pastor.** (vs. 38-40; Matthew 23:1-12)

*“No Pastor should have a designated parking space!”*

· **To fraud someone in the Name of the Lord is punishable most severely.** (vs. 40)

· **God measures your worship by the sacrifice not by the amount.** (vs. 41-44; Mark 10:17-23; 2 Samuel 24:18-25)

*“I do not believe one can settle how much we ought to give. I am afraid the only safe rule is to give more than we can spare.” 1C.S. Lewis.*

*“If you give what you do not need, it isn't giving.”*  
*Mother Teresa.*

· **God is pleased by the type of worship (giving) that is characterized by joy and faith.** (vs. 43; 2 Corinthians 9:6-8; Hebrews 11:6)

· **One dollar can be worth more than all the money in the world. It all depends on who gives it.** (vs. 43-44)

*“God judges what we give by what we keep.”*  
*G. Mueller*