Easter at Ridgecrest Mark 12:41-44 What is He Worth?

- True devotion to God is an issue of the heart, not the distribution of an appearance.
- The position of the story places it right after Jesus' teaching to watch out for the scribes as a way of contrasting the devotion of the scribes and the poor widow.
 - Dallas Willard makes the claim that there are two things that can hinder us from experiencing the life of God: desire to have the approval of others and desire to secure ourselves with material comforts.
 - True devotion has to do with understanding that God's approval is all that matters (and we have that in Jesus) and that God will provide for us (and He has in Jesus).
- True devotion will result in a changed life and actions that accord with that transformation.
- Sacrificial living for the sake of the Kingdom is a result of experiencing the life of God.
 - What is sacrificial giving and why should we participate in it?
- Good rule of thumb: "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. In other words, if our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc, is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them."
 - Sacrificial giving must be based on the generosity and gratitude generated in the heart that has experienced grace. (2 Corinthians 9:6-15)