

Ancient Truths 1: Copper Coins

November 6-7, 2021


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Acts 17:24-28 (NIV) *Paul in Athens* **24** “The God who made the world and everything in it is the Lord of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. **25** And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. **26** From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. **27** God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. **28** ‘For in him we live and move and have our being.’ As some of your own poets have said, ‘We are his offspring.’

I. Our Struggle Over God

Three Perspectives

 _____ : We choose to ignore the subject

 _____ : We try to make God happy or less angry

 _____ : We want to come close and know God

Acts 17:29-31 (NIV) **29** “Therefore since we are God’s offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone—an image made by human design and skill. **30** In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now **he commands all people everywhere to repent.** **31** For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead.”

 Paul’s invitation is to _____ (*Change of approach*)

II. Jesus’ Insights into How We Approach God

The Negative

Luke 11:39-41 (NIV) *Jesus having dinner at a Pharisee’s house* **39** Then the Lord said to him, “Now then, you Pharisees clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside you are full of greed and wickedness. **40** You foolish people! Did not the one who made the outside make the inside also? **41** But now as for what is inside you—be generous to the poor, and everything will be clean for you.”

 Spend less time on _____ for people

The Positive


Luke 21:1-4 (NIV) *Jesus watching people coming to worship in Jerusalem*

1 As Jesus looked up, he saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. **2** He also saw a poor widow put in **two very small copper coins.** **3** “Truly I tell you,” he said, “this poor widow has put in more than all the others. **4** All these people gave their gifts out of their wealth; but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on.”

 Focus our lives on what only _____ sees and hears

III. Trust the Relationship

Luke 12:22-26 (NIV) *Jesus teaching his disciples* **22** Then Jesus said to his disciples: “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. **23** For life is more than food, and the body more than clothes. **24** Consider the ravens: They do not sow or reap, they have no storeroom or barn; yet God feeds them. And how much more valuable you are than birds! **25** Who of you by worrying can add a single hour to your life? **26** Since you cannot do this very little thing, why do you worry about the rest?” (*Ref Matt 10:28-30 Two sparrows for a penny*)

 Our relationship with God is our _____ for life

Mark 12:41-44 (NIV) *Jesus in Jerusalem* **41** 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. **42** But a poor widow came and put in **two very small copper coins,** worth only a few cents. **43** Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has **put more into the treasury than all the others.** **44** They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”

 Jesus wants us to _____ the heart of a trusting person

Takeaway: *ACT intentional this month*

① **A** _____

② **C** _____

③ **T** _____

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This Week’s Bible Readings (Use the TCND App if you want to listen):

Sat Rest **Sun** 1 Cor 5-6 **Mon** 1 Cor 7-10 **Tue** 1 Cor 11-14

Wed 1 Cor 15-16 **Thur** 2 Cor 1-2 **Fri** 2 Cor 3-6 **Sat** Rest

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