



WORD WITH SHARAD AND PREMA



OUR GIVING

"1. And He looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury. 2. And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites. 3. And he said, of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than thy all. 4. For these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had." (Luke 21:1-4).

In this story we that Jesus was watching everyone who were putting their gifts into the offering box. He saw the poor widow putting in the offering box two mites. Jesus said, "I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all: for all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had." (vs. 3-4). We can learn some precious things from that poor widow:

1). OUR LORD JESUS LOOKING INTENTLY OUR GIVING: "Jesus looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts and he saw that poor widow and her gift." Right now at this present time also Jesus sees every one of us and our gifts. Each time we give to the Lord, He is watching. He doesn't miss a single gift, small or large. He knows every giver, rich and poor. People may give anonymously, not noticed by men. But the Lord Jesus knows each one: "The eyes of the LORD are in every place, beholding the evil and the good" (Proverbs 5:3).

Jesus also observes what amount we have given. Whether the large amount or only two mites, Jesus observes everything! Whatever we give should be out of the love for the Lord and not for our own glory! It should be given by faith looking to God that He Alone will supply our needs. And moreover we should give faithfully no matter what kind of situation we are facing.

- 2). OUR LORD JESUS EVALUATES OUR GIVING: Jesus said, "For these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had." (Luke 21:1-4). The gift of the rich don't cost them anything! They don't have to go without anything or adjust their lifestyle to give large amount. But this widow may have gone hungry that night because she gave all she had. Lord Jesus knew the selfish motives of the religious leaders who gave large amounts to the temple, but they did it to be honored by men (Matthew 6:1-4). Jesus condemned them for their hypocrisy. But He commended this poor widow, who didn't even know that Jesus saw her giving. Jesus knew her motives. She gave to express her devotion to God. It was an act of worship.
- **3). WE MUST GIVE UNTO THE LORD:** It is about our motive in giving. God loves a cheerful giver, who gives out of love and gratitude to Him, "Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth cheerful giver" (II Corinthians 9:7). We should not give out of pressure to meet needs. We should not give because we feel pressured. We should give to the Lord because we have received His indescribable gift.

May our good Lord continue to bless you and your families! Prema and I love you so dearly and pray for you daily! Write us for we love to hear from you!

Remember, <u>Jesus is Lord</u> and take with you <u>the Word of God and Faith</u>, excellent traveling Companions. (Psalms 119:105; II Corinthians 5:7).

PRAY FOR US