

Unexpected: The Gospel of the Servant King

Sacrificial Giving

Brad McConnaughey // January 5, 2020

Mark 12:41-44 (Pages 825,1005-1006, or 1017)

Big Idea: According to Jesus, the value of the gift is not the amount Given, but the cost to the giver.

1. No gift, whether of _____, _____ or _____ is too insignificant to give, if it is given to God. (**Matthew 6:2-4, 10:42**)

2. Sacrifice is determined by _____ how much is given, but how much is _____ for one's _____ use after the gift.

3. Sacrificial giving to God is an expression of an undivided _____. (**Matthew 6:21, 24-25**)

4. Sacrificial giving to God is a demonstration of one's _____ in God to provide. (**Deuteronomy 10:17-18; Psalm 68:5; Philippians 4:19**)

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here's some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer read just from one testament. Enjoy!

1. **Genesis 1-3; Matthew 1**
2. **Genesis 4-6; Matthew 2**
3. **Genesis 7-9; Matthew 3**
4. **Genesis 10-12; Matthew 4**
5. **Genesis 13-15**
6. **Genesis 16-17; Matthew 5**
7. **Genesis 18-19; Matthew 6**

For Further Study

This passage teaches that it is not the amount given that is the measure of the sacrifice but the amount the giver has left after he has given. God doesn't measure the value of one's gift by its monetary worth, but by the relative sacrifice experienced by the giver.

1. Read **Mark 12:41, 42**. You and I often judge people by their actions. However, God evaluates people differently. What do you suppose motivated the rich people in v.41? What do you suppose motivated the poor widow?

2. Read **2 Corinthians 8:9**. How does this verse address our heart motivation for being generous?
3. Read **Isaiah 55:8, 9**. What God does and values is often counterintuitive to what you and I do and value. What godly values was Jesus trying to impart to His disciples in vv. **43-44**?
4. These verses in Mark tell us what Jesus viewed as being generous. However, Jesus calls His followers to be generous not only with money, but also with time, energy, and resources. In which, if any, of these areas (time, energy, resources, money) would Jesus compare you with the poor widow? Which of these of these areas would He compare you with the rich people?

5. Do you think God should reward you for your generosity? What does **Revelation 22:12** have to do with your generosity?