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MOTIVES OF THE HEART

Jesus was in the synagogue and was watching people put in their offerings. He watched as rich people put money in and then a poor widow came in and put two mites which was about two cents or less into the offering box. It wasn't much compared to what the rich people gave, but Jesus made a statement about it.

Luke 21:2-3 says, ***"1 And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasure. 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 they all: 4 For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury (poverty) hath cast in all the living that she had.'"***

Many think it is the amount that we give that matters to God, but it is not true. It is the heart's motive behind our giving. This woman gave from her heart all she had because she loved God. The rich gave out of their abundance a small amount out of "duty" to give.

When we give, it must be from the heart, or we might as well not give at all. It isn't the amount we give; it is the heart attitude in giving that counts. Yes, we should give to God and his church, but let it be out of joy that we have something to give.

This widow had to have loved God more than anything to "give her all." Like this woman, when we put God first then what we have no longer matters, because we give it all to Him to do as He wants. When we get to a place when having "things" no longer matters, then we have the right attitude. God isn't against us having things, but it is when "things" have us that He looks at us with the same attitude Jesus had.

Never let things be your reason to serve God. He will take care of the things when we take care of Him. Matthew 6:33 says, ***"But seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you."***

You can never go wrong giving to God be it a widow's mite or a million dollars.