

Giving Out of Poverty

Luke 21: 1 - 4

Wednesday, September 05, 2007

Grace, mercy, and peace to you all.

Glory, honor, and praises to the Almighty LORD God. When He woke me up this morning and during my devotional prayer time, He took me to the book of Luke chapter 21. As I was reading the first four verses, the Holy Spirit of the LORD gave to me a spiritual revelation about these Scriptures.

Many religious leaders use these scriptures to speak about giving money to the church, even when the person is having financial difficulties in his or her life. I do agree with money giving to the church or place of worship for building and administrative cost that may occur to operate the building, but not for the business of church. Many churches or places of worship are placing the building before people, and they are more interested in money than preaching, speaking, and living the message of the Gospel.

As I read Luke 21:1-4, the Holy Spirit showed me that Jesus was taking a physical action and applying it to teach a spiritual lesson. Jesus was not teaching His disciples about giving money to the synagogue, church, or place of worship, but He was teaching them about different heart conditions a person could have when it comes to serving the LORD.

Let us look at the rich from Luke 21:1---The rich were putting their gifts into the treasury. There is not anything here to say the it is wrong to be rich, but as we read on in Luke 21 that the rich had a different heart motive than the poor widow.

Looking at the poor widow from Luke 21:2---The poor widow put in two mites or very small copper coins.

Jesus says in Luke 21:3---the poor widow has put in more than all and she put in all the livelihood that she had. How can a poor widow, who was giving very small copper coins in the treasury, give more than all and give more than the rich? This is because Jesus was using this physical action to teach His disciples a spiritual lesson of giving from the and obedient heart.

Definition of "livelihood"---Means of support; subsistence, or a means of supporting one's existence or means of keeping alive or the financial means whereby one lives

The rich was only giving to God what they desired to give by giving out of their plenty. The rich only gave a piece, and not complete whole heart-felt love and service to God. The rich gave in part from their heart, and not from their whole heart to God. The rich held onto ungodly ways inside their home and hearts, and by giving out of their abundance and plenty they falsely appear to be holy and righteous to God. The rich wanted to impress and appease ones in the place of worship by giving our of their abundance and plenty with the possibility of receiving favors from men. By giving out of abundance and plenty, the rich relied upon their money instead of God for provisions. The rich had love of money and serve money as their god.

When the poor widow gave out of her poverty and putting in the treasury all her livelihood for God, it represented her giving herself totally and completely to God. This poor widow gave all her heart, mind, body, soul, spirit, and strength and her livelihood to the LORD God. The poor widow gave out of her poverty and gave all her livelihood to show she is trusting in God's provision for her life. The poor widow had the love of God and serve the LORD.

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The poor widow physical poverty, giving her heart, mind, body, soul, spirit, and strength totally and completely with a genuine and contrite heart to God, caused her to be rich in things of God and Spirit of the LORD Jesus Christ.

Also, I was typing this E-mail, I asked the LORD God why the rich people putting their gifts into the treasury and giving out of their abundance and plenty was not helping the poor widow and others like her? The Holy Spirit directed me to these Holy Bible verses below, and told me these rich people did not have a humble, servant and obedient heart toward God.

2 Corinthians 8:

[9](#) You know how full of love and kindness our Lord Jesus Christ was. Though he was very rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

[12](#) If you are really eager to give, it isn't important how much you are able to give. God wants you to give what you have, not what you don't have. [13](#) Of course, I don't mean you should give so much that you suffer from having too little. I only mean that there should be some equality. [14](#) Right now you have plenty and can help them. Then at some other time they can share with you when you need it. In this way, everyone's needs will be met. [15](#) Do you remember what the Scriptures say about this? "Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough."

2 Corinthians 9:

[5](#) So I thought I should send these brothers ahead of me to make sure the gift you promised is ready. But I want it to be a willing gift, not one given under pressure.

[6](#) Remember this-a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop. [7](#) You must each make up your own mind as to how much you should give. Don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. For God loves the person who gives cheerfully. [8](#) And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. [9](#) As the Scriptures say,

"Godly people give generously to the poor.
Their good deeds will never be forgotten."

[10](#) For God is the one who gives seed to the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will give you many opportunities to do good, and he will produce a great harvest of generosity in you.

[11](#) Yes, you will be enriched so that you can give even more generously. And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will break out in thanksgiving to God. [12](#) So two good things will happen-the needs of the Christians in Jerusalem will be met, and they will joyfully express their thanksgiving to God.

[13](#) You will be glorifying God through your generous gifts. For your generosity to them will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ. [14](#) And they will pray for you with deep affection because of the wonderful grace of God shown through you.

[15](#) Thank God for his Son-a gift too wonderful for words!

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