

## REFLECTING ON GIVING – 22 November 2015

### Luke 21:1-4

#### “The widow’s mite” – John McFadzean

There are several things that the story of the widow's mite teaches us. First God sees what man overlooks. The big gifts in the temple were surely noticed by people, that's probably what the disciples were watching. BUT JESUS SEES WHAT NO ONE ELSE DID. He saw the humble gift of a poor widow. This was the gift that Jesus thought worthy of comment, this was the gift that the disciples needed to be aware of. The other gifts in the temple that day made a lot of noise as they jingled into the collection plate, BUT THE WIDOWS MITES WERE HEARD IN HEAVEN.

Second, God's evaluation is different from man's. The widow's added up to a penny, according to man's tabulation. But Jesus said that she had given more than anyone else that day. How could this be, when many rich people threw in large amounts. The difference is one of proportion. The rich were giving large sums, but they still retained their fortunes ; THE WIDOW PUT IN EVERYTHING - ALL SHE HAD TO LIVE ON. Hers was a true sacrifice

Why? Because she gave her all - everything she had - to further God's work in the world.

Her all seems to be the crucial point to me.

Our all...

What would that be?

If we look around in this Church today what is our all? To further God's work in the world.

However, here we stand. With the two coins of this brave woman, with her unbreakable self-esteem, her courage and her will for life.

She is giving all...

Her belief, her commitment, her need and her doubts, her despair but also her hope that reaches far beyond the shadows and threats of every-day life. She can confront those who practice injustice with her mere presence, she can provoke them with her giving. This woman can open eyes, touch souls

and melt cold hearts. She could be the new beginning between rich and poor, powerful and lowly, great and small...

So again: who are we today? And what do we bring?

What changes will we be able to bring about?

What differences will we make, when we surrender all?

Time and talents, joys and fears, weaknesses and strengths.

SEEK YE FIRST THE KINGDOM OF GOD AND ALL THESE THINGS SHALL BE  
ADDED UNTO YOU

God loves a cheerful giver and he is faithful to take care of his own.