

Introduction

1. I must think about what I give to the Lord in the areas of time, finances, energy, and effort.
2. As I am thinking about that I ask myself is it costing me something?
 - a. In other words, am I making a sacrifice when it comes to my giving?

I. Sacrificial Giver: David

1. David understood to give something that did not cost him anything is no giving at all ([2 Sam. 24:24](#); [1 Chr. 21:24](#)).
2. He paid 600 shekels of gold for the place (plot, parcel, of ground) equivalent to ~15.2 lbs or \$276,000 ([1 Chr. 21:25](#)).
3. He paid 50 shekels of silver for the threshingfloor and the oxen equivalent to ~1.3 lbs or \$287.50 ([2 Sam. 24:24](#)).
4. God accepted His offering ([2 Sam. 24:25](#); [1 Chr. 21:26-28](#)).

II. Sacrificial Giver: A Poor Widow

1. Sacrificial giving is illustrated by the poor widow ([Mk. 12:41-44](#); [Lk. 21:1-4](#)).
2. The LORD watches how I give yet today (cf. [Pr. 15:3](#))!
3. The rich were giving much because they had much to give but this poor widow cast in two mites.
 - a. A mite was a small copper coin called a *lepta*.
 - b. It was worth about 1/128 of a Roman *denarius*.
 - c. A total of two mites would make a *quadrans* which was worth about 1/64 of a Roman *denarius*.
 - d. It equated to around 15 cents today.
4. This poor widow was so poor that these two mites were all that she had to her name financially.
5. While the rich gave more, monetarily, in actuality they gave less than the widow.
 - a. It did not **cost** them as much as it did the widow.
 - b. She gave of “her want” (penury; poverty) and “all her living” ([Mk. 12:44](#); [Lk. 21:4](#)).
 - c. The rich gave “of their abundance” or surplus ([Mk. 12:44](#); [Lk. 21:4](#)).
6. The widow gave sacrificially.
 - a. It cost her something significant.
 - b. Jesus took notice of her!

III. Sacrificial Givers: They Still Exist Today!

1. The following was taken from *Give Us This Day* “Religion Without Ice” (May 6) by Leroy Brownlow:

One of the truly renowned helpers in the Lord’s work was a little lady who lived in a small town. When she moved there she found no congregation of the church of which she was a member. She immediately made an inquiry and located two other members, a man and his wife. Through her insistence they decided to establish a congregation of the three.

Then she got busy and located a hall they could rent for their assembly. It was a second floor, reached only by climbing a stairway. The same hall was used on Saturday night as a dance hall. She and the couple would get up early on Sunday morning and clean up the rubbish and disarray of the night before. This hall wasn’t their choice, but it did put them in operation for the Lord.

Wanting an evangelistic meeting, she wrote a preacher she knew in Oklahoma, explained the circumstances, and invited him to do the preaching. She told him they had no money, could not pay anything, could only keep him and pay his bus fare. The self-sacrificing preacher came.

But he was not the only one to sacrifice: The widow did without ice the entire summer (had no electric refrigerators then) to save enough money to pay the bus fare.

The church prospered. Hard struggle, but it grew. Today it stands as a reminder of what one dedicated woman can do in the Master’s vineyard. Strong people just naturally find a way to make an impact. Light shines wherever it is. Salt seasons whatever it touches.

2. The following was taken from *Giving vs. Getting* by V.P. Black pp. 35-36:

The story is told of a visitor in Korea. He saw a young man pulling a plow, while an old man held the handles. The visitor said to the stranger, “Why are they doing that?” The missionary replied, “Those two men are Christians. While their church building was being constructed they wanted to give something but they had no money. So they decided to sell their only ox and give the money to the church. In order to make a small crop, they are having to pull the plow themselves.” When this man reached his home he doubled his contribution and said, “This is the only sacrifice I have ever made for God.”

Conclusion

1. David would not give to God that which cost him nothing.
2. A poor widow gave more than the rich.
3. People have sacrificed so that the kingdom of God would grow.
4. Jesus said giving was more blessed than receiving ([Ac. 20:35](#)).