

MARK 12 vs 41

41 And Jesus sat over against the treasury, paying attention / He sat opposite the treasury at the temple; He was following the money, observing the activity; and what caught His attention?

seeing how the people threw money into the treasury: / history records in the temple, there were 13 trumpet-shaped contribution boxes; probably more like tuba-shaped contribution boxes... to accommodate the large number of people entering the temple precinct.

and many who were rich cast in much

/ and Jesus was watching them, following the money; perhaps some of Israel's children thought, it was a Red-Carpet affair for celebrities and their entourage; I bet He saw some fascinating people... tossing in their tithes... talented, throwing with a flare: casting overhand... and with a jump shot, or hook shot, or lay up! Wow!

And He notices...

42 And there came a certain poor widow / now, we just read, these people are targets of the hypocritical religious hierarchy... who had a taste for these women, who would devour widows' houses. **Ezekiel 34 is a condemnation of those shepherds who would not feed the flock; and the Lord God says: I am against the shepherds and I will deliver My flock from their mouths, that they are not meat for them -- the worthless shepherds.**

And there came a certain poor widow,

and she threw in two mites which make a farthing / according to the Talmud, 2 mites was the least amount anyone was permitted to contribute to the temple. Now today, that is about 2 quarters based on a minimum day's wage,



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⁴³ **And Jesus called His disciples** / those doing the math; putting it all together: 1+1+1 or at least trying. They were probably more fascinated with the building that was going on at the temple,

and said to them,

Truly / AMEN!

I say to you,

This poor widow has cast in more,

than all those who cast into the treasury:



/ she cast in more than all those stylish celebrities of the **House of Israel** and **the House of Judah** combined

⁴⁴ **For they all cast in**

out of their abundance;

but she cast in out of her poverty
all she had.



Professor Edersheim of Oxford University said:

had this been a story invented for some purpose, it would have ended up so different... being adorned with the tinsel of embellishment.

Jesus honored that poor widow... who had given her all that day; and for 2,000 years... great has been her reward: in heaven! In the parallel passage recorded by Luke, we have added this comment:

Dr. John MacArthur asks, did this widow action please the Lord? Did her action anger the Lord? We really don't know. This story finds its place in scripture inserted between the utter condemnation of Jesus on a corrupt religious system... built on endless manmade traditions...including misguided burdening the poor; rather than on what the word of God declared.

Did she believe it was required in the law? Did she believe by doing that... God would certainly bless her?

What she did is not required anywhere in God's word.