

# The Gospel According to Luke

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## TRUE DEVOTION

## PART 11

*Giving from the heart*

READ: LUKE 21:1-7

### INTRODUCTION

In this passage, Jesus highlights the contrast between the giving of the wealthy and the sacrificial offering of a poor widow. The rich contribute large amounts out of their abundance, while the widow, though having almost nothing, gives all she has. Jesus commends her faith, showing that true devotion is not measured by the amount given but by the heart behind the gift. This moment serves as a lesson on generosity, trust in God, and wholehearted commitment to Him.

As the conversation shifts, the disciples marvel at the beauty of the temple, admiring its grandeur and magnificence. But Jesus challenges their perspective, foretelling its eventual destruction. This would have been shocking to them, as the temple was central to Jewish worship and identity. His words remind us that even the most impressive earthly structures are temporary, whereas faith and trust in God are eternal.

Through this passage, we are encouraged to examine our hearts: Do we give to God with a spirit of faith and sacrifice? Are we placing our hope in what is temporary or in God's eternal kingdom?

## THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO LUKE

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### *DISCUSSION QUESTIONS*

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1. Why does Jesus praise the widow's offering? What does this teach us about faith and generosity?
2. How can we practice sacrificial giving in ways beyond financial contributions?
3. The disciples were impressed by the temple's beauty, but Jesus warned of its destruction. How does this challenge our view of what truly matters?
4. In what ways can we focus more on eternal things rather than temporary possessions or achievements?
5. What does this passage teach us about trusting God completely with what we have?

### *WRAP UP*

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Jesus' words in this passage challenge us to examine our devotion to God. The widow's offering teaches that true faith is not about the size of the gift but about the heart behind it. Likewise, Jesus' warning about the temple reminds us that even the most impressive things in this world are temporary. Let's strive to live with genuine devotion, knowing that God sees and values the faith behind our actions.