

Relating to God through Giving

Part 3 – Biblical Financial Stewardship

I. Three Widows who Believed God about Giving

A. The Widow and Elijah (860 BC – 1 Kings 17:7-16)

1. She had serious financial needs herself.
2. She was a gentile believer in the true God.
3. She was asked for a big percentage of the little she had.
4. She heard God's promise to provide if she gave.
5. She believed God and first gave obediently to Him.
6. God provided for her needs miraculously.

B. The Widow and Jesus (30 AD – Luke 21:1-4)

1. She gave as worship.
2. She was not too poor to give.
3. Jesus evaluated the sacrifice of her gift, not the amount.
4. Her giving revealed that she trusted God for the future.

C. The Widow and God's business (1990's)

II. Giving connects us relationally with God.

A. Giving is about Stewardship.

- (Deuteronomy 26:10) "And now I bring the firstfruits of the soil that you, O LORD, have given me." Place the basket before the LORD your God and bow down before him."

B. Giving is about Worship.

- (Proverbs 3:9) "Honor the LORD with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops;"

C. Giving is about Trusting God.

- (Malachi 3:10) "Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven..."