"The betterment of the world can be accomplished through pure and goodly deeds, through commendable and seemly conduct."

**What is a pure and goodly deed?**

 Motive, sacrifice

**LUKE 20:**

**46**Beware of the scribes, which desire to walk in long robes, and love greetings in the markets, and the highest seats in the synagogues, and the chief rooms at feasts;

**47**Which devour widows' houses, and for a shew make long prayers: the same shall receive greater damnation.

**21**And he looked up, and saw the rich men casting their gifts into the treasury.

**2**And he saw also a certain poor widow casting in thither two mites.

**3**And he said, Of a truth I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast in more than they all:

**4**For all these have of their abundance cast in unto the offerings of God: but she of her penury hath cast in all the living that she had.

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| What is a 'mite'?The ***Lesson of the widow's mite*** is presented in the [Synoptic Gospels](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Synoptic_Gospels) ([Mark 12:41-44](http://tools.wmflabs.org/bibleversefinder/?book=Mark&verse=12:41-44&src=!), [Luke 21:1-4](http://tools.wmflabs.org/bibleversefinder/?book=Luke&verse=21:1-4&src=!)), in which [Jesus](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jesus) is teaching at the [Temple in Jerusalem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Temple_in_Jerusalem). The Gospel of Mark specifies that two *mites* (Greek *lepta*) are together worth a *[quadrans](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Quadrans%22%20%5Co%20%22Quadrans)*, the smallest Roman coin. A *lepton* was the smallest and least valuable coin in circulation in [Judea](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Judea), worth about six minutes of an average daily wage. In the story, a widow donates two small coins, while wealthy people donate much more. Jesus explains to his disciples that the small sacrifices of the poor mean more to God than the extravagant, but proportionately lesser, donations of the rich.  |