

7th November 2021 – Pentecost +24 – Dave's Sermon

The Widow's mite.

The vexed question of what should we give to the collection.

Many churches, Mormons & Jehovah's witnesses etc.

virtually coerce their people into giving 10% of their gross income to their church.

Jesus, as He watches people effectively putting money into the plate, reflects on the difference between people who give lots of money with those who give little.

Jesus observes that in fact it is the people who appear to give the least who in fact give the most.

For truly it is the poor who give the most of what they get to live on.

While the rich who give the most money only give what they can comfortably do without.

I'm reminded of the truth of this;

As some of you know that I began my ministry in this diocese at Lockridge which was regarded then as the slum of Perth.

The poorest of all the suburbs.

When I left there, I went to a wealthy suburb.

At the first AGM I attended,

they went on & on about how difficult it was to meet the financial needs of the parish.

They went on so long

I began to doodle and play with figures.

The AGM quickly moved on when I announced that I had just discovered that per head, Lockridge gave more to their church than they did.

There are many factors that need to be taken into account when considering what we give to our church,

the first of which is, how much can I/we afford to give.

No-one but you know the answer to that question.

What we give depends on our particular circumstances and everyone's circumstances are different.

I think that as long as we pray & consider this personal question, whatever we decide will be right for us.

I do believe that as God is so generous to us,

it is not wrong for us,

to err on the side of generosity in giving to God's church.