



# Trumpet's Sound

50<sup>th</sup> year, Australia

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2019

For the trumpet will sound,  
and the dead will be raised  
imperishable, and we  
shall be changed.

1 Corinthians 15:52



**"Trumpet's Sound"** is a bi-monthly publication of the Armenian Evangelical Brethren Church in Sydney, Australia.

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## Prayer points for ACM ministry in Armenia

We have many praises to bring to the Lord as the end of the year approaches:

- ACM has been a blessing to many both in Armenia and across the world
- Praise God for the 2019 mission team and the many who came to the Lord
- Pray for the study groups helped by our literature, preaching and teaching.
- Give thanks for the workers, volunteers and directors in Australia, Armenia and USA
- Please pray that 2020 will bring many opportunities to serve Him

*The costs of the publication are covered by the gifts of believers,  
who donate out of the generosity of their hearts.*

## **Zacchaeus**

**Luke 19:1-10**

**T**he story about Zacchaeus the tax collector is an amazing story. We read about this rich short man who was a chief tax collector, always dressed as a wealthy man, always walked proudly, but was not loved by anyone. No one liked the tax men, and he had no friends.

Jesus was coming to Jericho. Zacchaeus had heard of Him, his teachings and His miracles. He had always wanted to see Him, but the problem was his height. He was a short person; standing in the crowd he was not going to be able to see Jesus.

Zacchaeus was determined to see Him no matter what. He ignored his pride and was not concerned about his clothing or the kids making fun of him. Because his only desire was to see Jesus, he ran and climbed a sycamore tree. We may wonder if he was scared that he might fall off. Did he hug the branch tightly while waiting for that special moment?

There He was. The crowd was cheering as Jesus became visible to all. Zacchaeus was very excited and lifted his head high in order not to miss this opportunity. Little did he know that Jesus knew him. Jesus looked up to him and told him to come down immediately because He was to stay at his house that day. So he came down at once and welcomed the Lord gladly.

I love this story because it is a story of the salvation of a sinful man in need of Jesus. The Bible says seek and you will find. Zacchaeus was seeking with all his heart and the amazing part of this story is that Jesus called him by name. Yes, Jesus also knows your name, but you have to come to him ignoring your pride. Run to him as Zacchaeus did and say "Lord I just want to see you".

This loving Lord is keen to come into your heart to have a feast with you. Do you know what He said to Zacchaeus? He said "Today

*salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."*

*Yes Jesus is here for you today and this is your chance to say "Yes, Lord, I come as a sinner and I am keen to have You in my life". May God bless you.*

H K



*"<sup>6</sup>For to us a child is born, to us a son is given;  
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,  
and his name shall be called*

**Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

*<sup>7</sup>Of the increase of his government and  
of peace there will be no end,  
on the throne of David and over his kingdom,  
to establish it and to uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time forth and forevermore.*

*The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this."*

Isaiah 9:6-7 (ESV)

**W**e greet our readers as we remember the birth of our Saviour and trust that 2020 will be a blessed year for you all. We also long that the coming year will see the return of our Lord Jesus.

## ***Lot in Sodom***

### ***Read Genesis 19***

**I**n his second letter (2:7-8) Peter described Lot in a way we might not have expected; he referred to him as a righteous man. Living among the people of Sodom, Lot was oppressed by their filthy behaviour. His righteous soul was tormented from day to day as he saw and heard their lawless deeds. If Peter had not written as he did, we would never have known that Lot was a righteous man. What had happened to a man who had had the privilege of growing up in the company of Abraham? Why was he in such a high position – a person sitting in the gate of the city – in such an evil place?

#### ***Lot in public life***

The two angels who had been with Abraham arrived in Sodom in the evening to find Lot sitting in the gate. He had progressed ever closer to the city. Years before, when Abraham and Lot needed to separate because of the largeness of their flocks and herds, Abraham offered Lot first choice of the land. Lot had looked towards the cities of the plain and pitched his tent toward Sodom. Before long he was living in Sodom and was among those captured by the four kings from the east. Even after being rescued by Abraham he returned to Sodom and rose within the city hierarchy to become one of its leaders – a man who sat in the gate of the city helping to conduct its political, judicial and business affairs. He had become so endeared to living in the city that even the experience of captivity had not forced him to leave it and return to his former life.

When the angels arrived at the gate of Sodom, Lot did as Abraham had done earlier in the day. He rose to meet them and bowed himself to the ground, asking them to stay the night. Initially they declined his offer, saying they would stay in the street all night. Although they accepted Lot's offer of hospitality, they did not do so as readily as they had accepted Abraham's earlier in the day. However, before they lay

down for the night, the men of Sodom of all ages called to Lot demanding to have sex with his guests.

There is a passing hint that Lot's decision to be involved in city affairs probably stemmed from a desire to improve the spiritual tone of Sodom. When a riot broke out around his house later that evening, he said to the men of Sodom that the reason for bringing the men under the shadow of his roof was to save them from harm. He knew what the men of Sodom were like. In reply, the men of Sodom argued that he came in as a sojourner and was acting as a judge. They had no intention of changing their behaviour for him. They were only prevented from their criminal activity against Lot by the angels striking them with blindness. But Lot found himself in a despicable situation. He offered his daughters to the men of the city for immoral purposes in an attempt to forestall something even more immoral.

The actions of the men outside Lot's house meant that the angels had the answer to their enquiry. The Lord had told Abraham that He was going to see whether the men of the city had acted according to the outcry that had come to Him and the angels were sent to conduct the search. At this point judgment became certain; Lot was warned to take anyone connected to him away from the city. The response from his sons-in-law was one of mocking unbelief.

The situation in which Lot found himself should make us ask if, in our community activities, we maintain a faithful testimony to our Lord. To his sons-in-law Lot seemed like someone who was joking. This can only mean that in his lifestyle he had become so indistinguishable from the people around that, when he warned them of coming danger, they did not take his words seriously.

### **The problem of worldliness**

We have suggested that Lot desired to make Sodom become a better place in which to live. But it was hard to avoid the temptation to worldliness. Lot had left the rigours of the hills for the pleasant pastures of the plains. He had entered the city with its more settled life style. The world attracted him and it attracted his family even more. And if we ask what we mean by the world, the answer has to be



anything that hinders fellowship with God and prevents obedience to Him. Some aspects of worldliness may not necessarily be wrong in themselves but they are if they hinder our fellowship with God and our obedience to Him.

The problem of a close attachment to Sodom was a serious problem for Lot's family. The angels urged him to leave with his family as quickly as possible. They even had to grab his hand, his wife's hand, and his two daughters' hands to get them out of the city and on their way. But their hearts were in Sodom and they found it hard to leave. Linked with this worldliness was an ignorance of the seriousness of the situation. Having dragged Lot and his family out of the city, one of the angels told him to escape to the mountains and not stay anywhere on the plain. They were to put everything behind them and not to look back to the city. Lot, however, pleaded to be able to go to Zoar, a small city on the plain, because he was afraid of evil overtaking him on the mountain. He had no understanding and no faith that God could protect him if he were in the place of God's choice. We see how flawed Lot's understanding was. Having pleaded to stay in Zoar, he was afraid to stay there and before long was living in a cave in the mountains.

The end of Lot's story is an exceedingly sad one. From a material point of view, he lost everything. Although he had been given permission to go to Zoar, he was afraid to live there. He had had wealth and a house in Sodom, but when he left Zoar he was reduced to living in a cave. But the moral disaster was even worse. His two daughters decided to make their father intoxicated so that they could use him to become pregnant. He had no idea of the way he was being abused. The result was the start of two nations, the Moabites and the Ammonites, who were to be a constant thorn in the flesh for the Israelites.

## **Judgment**

The overthrow of Sodom is a solemn reminder that God is a righteous judge. Abraham may have been concerned whether the Judge of all the earth would do right, but he looked at the situation from a limited human point of view. He thought of his nephew and wanted

him to escape the destruction that was looming. God did provide an escape for Lot, but once Lot had been cared for, the sin of the city demanded that God act in judgment. And in a coming day God will again pour out His wrath on rebellious mankind. In the process, the Judge of all the earth will do right.

The Lord Jesus made reference to both Sodom and Lot's wife. He taught His disciples that if their message was rejected, it would be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for the city which rejected them. This message is still very relevant in our day. Our generation has heard the gospel and has even less excuse for not believing in the Lord Jesus. Those who reject the Lord Jesus and His message face severe judgment.

The Lord also told people to remember Lot's wife (Luke 17:27-32). We must not, like Lot's wife, set our hearts on the things of this world. Her heart was in Sodom and she could not pull herself away. In the process she lost her life. What will it benefit a man if he gains the whole world but loses his own soul? It is imperative that we seek the Lord while He may be found and trust Him while we may.

### **An encouragement**

However, there is one important word of encouragement. On the day before the overthrow of the cities of the plain, Abraham had pleaded with God for the lives of the righteous who lived in Sodom and Gomorrah. On the morning of the destruction Abraham looked towards the cities of the plain and saw the smoke rising up as if from a furnace. But when God destroyed these cities, He remembered Abraham. Abraham's prayer may not have been answered as he hoped, but God knew Abraham's real concern and sent Lot out of the midst of the overthrow. And this kind of thing still happens today. We do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit Himself takes our requests and "makes intercession for us with groanings which can't be uttered" (Romans 8:26).

Don Stormer





## **"Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit"**

### **Celebrating 50 years of Trumpet Sound**

*Pastor Arto in his office*



**W**hat a joy to be an eyewitness to the life of this amazing magazine.

It is almost 15 years since the founding editor of this magazine went to be with the Lord, but through his prayers and God's will the work carries on in an amazing way.

Today the magazine continues with over 4600 copies in circulation worldwide in 7 countries and

in 3 languages: Eastern Armenian, Western Armenian and English. It may also be read on our website, [www.acmaust.org](http://www.acmaust.org). Trumpet's Sound is freely distributed to over 50 churches in Armenia. The English magazine is four A4 pages folded and printed in colour and Armenian version has two extra pages with a lift-out Bible study section in the centre.

Who is involved and whom should we thank? We take the opportunity to thank people who work hard for this ministry by Writing articles, printing, reading, helping us distribute, or giving financially.

**Armenian Christian Mission Incorporated:** This mission covers any financial shortfall.

**Editor:** Pastor Harry Kiujian oversees the work.

**Armenian Magazine:** Bro Vartan Sarkissian who have been the backbone of the magazine by dedicating his time to translate, type, design and ensure the printed version is ready on time.

**English Magazine:** This work is impossible without the help of Bro Don and Sister Helen Stormer. We are amazed at their dedication.

**Bible study courses:** We thank Queensland mailbox club inc. for permitting us the use of their courses.

**Printing in Sydney:** We thank Industrial Printing Co. for donating the printing of Trumpet Sound Magazine for the last four years.

**Writers:** We are blessed with faithful believing writers, pastors and teachers of the Word who dedicate their time to bring us God's Word, biblical teaching, testimonies, words of hope and courage, a magazine to be a light to a world in darkness and to reach to the lost with the good news of the Gospel.

**Distributors Armenia:** We are thankful for Bro Martun Harutyunyan who distributes the magazine in Armenia.

**Posting Australia:** We are thankful to Bro George and Sister Arshig Momartin who help by posting the magazine to six countries across the world: Australia, USA, Canada, France, Bulgaria, South America

**Our calling:** Is to sound our trumpet as loud and as long as possible. We want to be ready for His coming and we want all our readers to join us as we look forward to the rapture. May the Lord bless you all.

If you have been one of our long-term readers please drop us a line to let us know how the magazine has blessed you over the years.

Pastor Arto with his Bible study group on the ship as he was migrating to Australia in 1968



## ***Humble beginnings***

**T**oday I am honoured and privileged to write a few words after 50 years of Trumpet's Sound. These things are not said to glorify man but the Father whose ways are not our ways. We are privileged to have been eye witnesses of this amazing work.

I go back to the time when we migrated to Australia fifty years ago. I was only fourteen then. My father, Pastor Arto Kiujian, was new to the country. Things were hard and he had to get a job to support his family of six. He worked with many new Armenian migrants in "Warburton Franki", a local factory in Chatswood.



*Pastor Arto and his wife Arsho Kiujian*

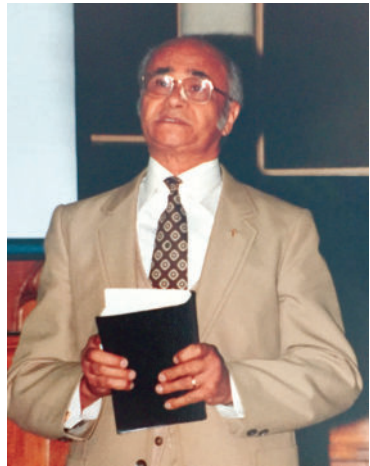
One day, Dad returned from work unhappy that the lunch break was only 30 minutes and he was not able to witness or talk about Christ to his co-workers. Mum, one who loved the Lord herself, immediately responded with, "Arto, why don't you write an article and give it out to them to read?" That night Dad was up late hand writing in the Armenian language a full A4 page on God's love and how to be saved. The next day he gave it to one of the co-workers who was very encouraged and happy to receive it.

Again he wrote a full page and gave it out to another person who responded by saying "You have good hand writing but why don't you copy them and give them out?" So Dad photo copied 10 copies to give to his co-workers. Soon he was mailing some to friends across the world till one replied that although he had good hand writing it would be better to type the message. Dad said he did not have a typewriter and would not know where to buy an Armenian one. To his

surprise the response was that this person was happy to send him one. Soon the new Armenian typewriter arrived and the night work quadrupled.

Yes, our lullaby each night was to go to sleep to the sound of the typewriter going tak, tak, tak, typing with one finger at times till midnight. His one page became a small booklet with a title "Trumpet's Sound". He remained faithful to his ministry until his death.

He fully financed the printing of 400 copies each month, doing all the folding and stapling by hand to cut costs. He hand wrote all the addresses and mailed the magazine to 14 countries with 20 copies going to Soviet Armenia.



Pastor Arto Kiujian  
as he teaches the Word

I remember when he was sick in bed, our dining table was totally devoted to the magazine which had to be sorted, stapled, put in envelopes and grouped for mailing but he was not able to get out of bed. His eyes were on the table each day, so I sat at the table and got them ready to mail out.

A month later I know it was time for the magazine to be typed again so I said "Dad, you have many articles ready for printing. Can you select some for me so I can get them ready for printing?" He said "Son how will you type them?" I told my father that God has his ways. ACM had already started in Armenia and I knew that Vartan was a gifted brother in Christ. I asked Vartan if he could help me create this magazine. Soon I had a printed copy in my hand. My father was shocked to see the new fonts and the titles in bold letters, all with a complete new cover page.

We dearly miss this man who devoted 35 years of his life to let others know of the wonderful Saviour who came to die for the salvation of the world.

## ***Failure is not final (5)***

### ***Dealing with ongoing failures***

*James says that teachers “all stumble in many ways” (James 3:2). This applies to us as well.*

*Note the words “all” and “many”. Everyone fails at some time. And there are many ways to fail. In this passage, James addresses failures caused by the words we speak. The principle of this verse is that a sense of failure and sinfulness is necessary for our spiritual health.*

*The Bible says that Christians cannot grow as followers of Jesus without regular conviction, confession and repentance of their failures and sins. For a Christian, all sin has been dealt with by the death of our Saviour. Paul said, “There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus” (Romans 8:1). But God allows us to fail so our faith can be strengthened. That’s what happened to Peter. He did more for Jesus Christ after his failures than before. His pride and self-confidence were replaced with humility and confidence in God and determination to serve Him.*

*The process for dealing with our ongoing failures is summarized in five words: conviction, confession, repentance, forgiveness and restoration.*

***Conviction:*** *The first step is to admit our failures and sins instead of excusing them. Peter was convicted after he denied the Lord three times. The Bible says he wept bitterly (Matthew 26:75).*

***Confession:*** *The next step is to confess our failure and sin (1 John 1:9). David said, “I have sinned against the Lord” (2 Samuel 12:13). Christians need to confess regularly. This means admitting our failures and sins and confessing them so our relationships can be restored with each other and with God. If we examine ourselves and get right with God, we will not come under His discipline. That’s why the Christian life should be full of confession. This means our fellowship with the Lord can be restored. The Christian life is full of restarts. Each of these in-*



volves conviction of sin, confession of sin, repentance to put things right, and then putting our failures behind us and moving ahead.

**Repentance:** The next step is to change direction and turn around to follow God once again. It involves completely changed attitudes and behaviour. It is more than confession or remorse. The Bible says it's having a new heart and a new spirit (Ezekiel 18:30-32). The churches in Revelation were urged to repent (Revelation 2:5, 16; 3:3, 19).

**Forgiveness:** After we are convicted and confess and repent, God offers forgiveness. He has great mercy. David was told "The Lord has taken away your sin" (2 Samuel 12:13). God is the Father of all those who have trusted in Him. This parental and family forgiveness restores a believer's fellowship with God after it has been broken by failure and sin. The Bible says, "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9).

**Restoration:** Once we are forgiven, we are restored to following Christ once again.

This should be a time for celebration, as when the prodigal son returned home (Luke 15:22-24).

Until 2013 golfer Tiger Woods won 79 titles. But then he struggled with personal problems and injuries. He was divorced in 2010 and his fourth back surgery was in April 2017. Many people had written him off. But in a great comeback he won the Atlanta title in September 2018.

The Bible says that Abraham, Moses, Elijah, David, and Peter all failed God at some time; but they recovered to serve God in mighty ways. For them, failure was an event, but not a destiny.

### **Lessons for us**

We have seen that failure is a normal part of life. It's not unusual. We should expect to fail from time to time. Failure is a fact of life.

The ability to handle failure is a vital part of our spiritual life and a sign of maturity. Fear of failure shouldn't dominate our minds. The



*Bible says we are all sinners and prone to failure, but in Christ we can become overcomers. Failure doesn't disqualify us, even if we've been following Jesus for some time. God gives us another chance.*

*Peter was very good at failing, but he was even better at not giving up. Through his failures, Peter refused to throw in the towel. He learned from his bad decisions and allowed God to shape and mould his character. So next time you're feeling down about yourself, remember Peter. Take a deep breath and try again.*

*Let's learn from our failures and mistakes. These teach us how much we need God and His mercy in our lives. God can use failure to do spiritual housecleaning. Peter laid down his pride and put on the Holy Spirit's courage. Remember that God sees beyond our faults and failures. If we have failed, God can make us useful again. And he continues to call us to serve Him.*

*Parents, let your children fail. Just as God lets us fall flat on our faces so that we may become stronger, we must allow our children the privilege of failing, too. And when they do fail, be ready to forgive them as God forgives us. For that is God's answer to human failure.*

## **Conclusion**

*So, failure isn't final. No matter how we feel, it's not the end. If Peter can fail, we can fail. If Peter can be restored, we can be restored. There is hope for us all.*

*Remember our car that was written off? It was taken to the insurer's yard of damaged vehicles. Then it was probably sold to someone who repaired it and it's probably still driving around today. It was restored.*

*The students at Capstone College in Poatina in Tasmania struggled at high school. Because of negative experiences, they hated school and found excuses to do other things instead. Their attendance record was poor – they were absent more than present. They were failures as students. But this failure wasn't final or permanent or set in stone. Things have changed. They are now happy to attend school at Capstone College. Because of Capstone College, their life has turned around.*

*And failure needn't be final for us also. Through Jesus, our life can turn around. The gospel solution to surviving failure is that God offers us forgiveness and restoration, and now we must confess our failures and sins to Him. So because Jesus died to pay the cost of our failures, failure isn't final. Because of Jesus, failure isn't final. Through Jesus, failure isn't final. That's how to survive failure.*

George Hawke

## ***How had God gifted you?***

### ***1 Corinthians 12 (part 2)***

**H**ere are some non-negotiable key points from 1 Corinthians 12:4-7.

***There is no such thing as a Christian who does not have at least one gift from the Holy Spirit***

*You have a unique and special gift given to you by God's Holy Spirit. The same Holy Spirit who empowered the great men and women of old, has gifted you. On the day you became a Christian many amazing things happened:*

- *You were redeemed by Christ's saving work on the cross*
- *Your sins were forgiven*
- *You were adopted into God's family as His very own treasured child*
- *You were indwelt and permanently sealed by the Holy Spirit*

*You will spend the rest of your life exploring all the wonderful implications of what happened on that day. When you became a Christian, the Holy Spirit gave you a wonderful gift and the empowering to use it. There are no nobodies in the body of Christ. This means that having a spiritual gift is not a sign of being an exceptional Christian, because all Christians have at least one gift. You may not feel as if*

*you have a special gift from the Holy Spirit, but once again this gift does not depend on how you feel, but on what God's Word says.*

***There are many different kinds of gifts representing a wide range of different activities***

*In Argentina, a man with no arms was drafted into the army. At base camp he went to the sergeant and asked "What good will I be here?" The sergeant replied "See that man pumping water over there? Stand there and tell him when the pail is full – he is blind."*

*Paul goes to great lengths to drive this point home using the illustration of the human body. What do an eye and a foot have in common? They are totally different in shape, totally different in purpose and have nothing in common except that they need each other. The foot would stumble if it did not have the eye to see where it was going. The eye would see very little if the foot did not give it mobility. The strength of the body lies in its differences, not in its similarities. In thinking about gifts, we must make room for one another to be different.*

***Your gift is not for you, but for the common good***

*There is no part of the human body that has a particular design and ability just for its own benefit. Failing to see this will be a hindrance in your life. God did not give you that gift to meet your need. Your gift is for others. Thinking that your particular gift is not that great, or is unnoticeable, is a real trap. It will make you bury your gift rather than develop and use it. Others will suffer through missing out on what you have to offer. You will miss out on the joy of using the ability God has given you. "He gives them to each one, just as he determines" (1 Corinthians 12:11). God chose to give you what He has given you and it pleases Him completely. Isn't that all that really counts?*

***No gift is universal to all***

*Paul saw real danger in the idea that there were particular gifts which everyone must have. Here is an interesting illustration:*

*Once upon a time, the animals of the forest decided they should do something meaningful to meet the problems of the world. So they organised a school. They adopted an activity curriculum of running,*

climbing, swimming and flying. To make it easier to administer the curriculum, all the animals took all the subjects. The duck was excellent in swimming. In fact, better than his instructor, but he made only passing grades in flying and was very poor in running. Since he was slow in running, he had to drop swimming and stay after school to practise running. This caused his web feet to be badly worn so that he was only average in swimming. But average was quite acceptable so nobody worried about that, except the duck. The rabbit started at the top of his class in running, but developed a nervous twitch in his leg muscles because of so much work to try and improve in swimming. Eventually, he was very poor even at running. The squirrel was excellent in climbing, but encountered constant frustration in flying class because his teacher made him start from the ground up instead of from the treetop down. The eagle was a problem child and was severely disciplined for being a non-conformist. In climbing classes, he beat all the others to the top of the tree, but insisted on using his own way to get there.

The point is obvious:

- If you are a duck: swim, forget about running
- If you are a rabbit: run, don't try to join the swimming team
- If you are a squirrel: climb, you won't be a flyer
- If you are an eagle: fly, you will never be a good runner

That is exactly what it says in Romans 12:6-8. If your gift is prophesying, prophesy; if it is teaching, teach; if it is giving, give; if it is leadership, lead.

When we are trying to be what we are not, we are hindered from becoming good at what God intends us to be. When that happens there is frustration, discouragement and even guilt. We were never intended to all have the same gift, but we were intended to have a gift. Do you feel as if you don't have much and are not important? "Those parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable" (v22). It does not say the parts that seem weaker are quite useful. The word used here is indispensable. The whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love "as each part does its work" (Ephesians 4:16).

*God has given you much more than you thought. Finding and carrying out the ability the Holy Spirit has especially equipped you for is vital to the whole Christian community.*

*Rex Dearlove*

## **Godly women**

**T**he Bible is full of examples of godly women. We can name a few. Sarah, a woman of faith. Miriam, the brave. Hannah, the devoted and prayerful mother of Samuel. Virtuous Ruth. The obedient widow of Zarephath, who gave the last of her food to Elijah. Courageous Esther. The young Jewess Mary, who God chose to bear a son; our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. The transformed Mary Magdalene. The women who followed Jesus ministering to Him and his disciples, cooking, mending and washing clothes, demonstrating love, tending to both physical and spiritual bumps and bruises, and cuts and abrasions. Industrious Dorcas. Fruitful Priscilla.

There is one common factor linking these women together. It is not their race, age, wealth, health, social standing, cleverness, marital status or their beauty. It is their God. They knew, loved, obeyed and served Him.

I believe the poor widow in Mark 12:41–44 is able to speak to us today through her sacrificial giving and humility and devotion to God.

And Jesus sat over against the treasury, and beheld how the people cast money into the treasury: and many that were rich cast in much. And there came a certain poor widow, and she threw in two mites, which make a farthing. And he called unto him his disciples, and said unto them, “Verily I say unto you, that this poor widow hath cast more in, than all they which have cast into the treasury: for all they did cast in of their abundance; but she of her want did cast in all that she had, even all her living.”

“Jesus sat over against the treasury”. He had a good view of the trumpet shaped receptacles on the walls of the Court of the Women,



where offerings and donations to the temple were placed. “The rich cast in much” out “of their abundance”. The poor widow “threw in two mites ... she of her want, cast in all she had, even all her living.” Two mites was one thirtieth of a day’s wage. Little wonder that Mark describes her as “a certain poor widow.”

If you will allow me to use my imagination. The offerings of both the rich and the poor made a rattle in the trumpet shaped collection receptacle. And Jesus knew the difference in the sound. The rattle of the rich people’s money, in the context of the story, struck the note of a “sounding brass or a tinkling cymbal.” But the rattle “tinkle, tinkle” of the widow’s two mites had the clarity of a trumpet sound to our Saviour’s discerning ear. He perceived, and duly noted to His disciples, her sacrificial giving and humility and devotion to God.

Let the approval of the Saviour be sufficient as He hears and discerns and notes the rattle “tinkle, tinkle” of your two mites – your sacrificial giving, your humility, your devotion to God.

Robert Hollow

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Եփեսացիներին 4:25

Կրկ	Երկ	Երեք	Չոր	Հինգ	Ուրբ	Շաբ
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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