

## The Parable of the Widow's Mite, in the palm of your hand

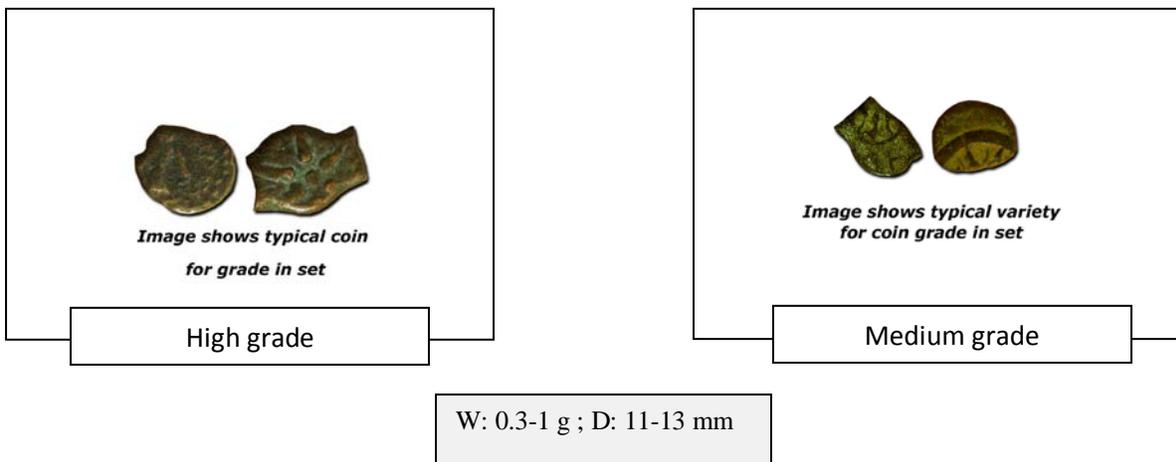
Twice in the Gospels, in Luke and Mark, we hear the Parable of the Widow's Mites—a tale of charity and humility told by Jesus in the last days of His life.

After three years of itinerant preaching in the lesser cities of Galilee and Judea, Jesus has brought His Ministry to the City of David. Once arrived in Jerusalem, the hub of Jewish life and the capital of the Roman province of Palestine, there will be no turning back. In a week's time, He will be crucified.

Jesus is preaching in the Temple, which represents both the city's religious center and its business district. On the Temple grounds, goods are bought and sold, money is changed, and taxes are paid. Jesus watches rich men in flowing gowns put pieces of silver into the treasury—generous offerings to the Temple. Then he watches a woman, a certain widow, deposit two “mites” into the till. He observes that “this poor widow has put in more than all those who have given to the treasury; for they all put in out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all that she had, her whole livelihood.” (Mark 12:41-44). The parable, repeated in Luke 21:1-4, is understood to both extol the virtues of charity and impugn the vices of avarice. As Jesus remarks in Matthew 19:24, “it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

This “Widow's Mite” coin is a genuine bronze coin issued by King Alexander Jannaeus, the Great Grand Nephew of Judah Macabee and the Jewish leader of the Holy Land from 103-76 B.C. It is this type of coin that circulated in the Holy Land during Jesus' life. The coin features an anchor and star.

The actual size, shape and weight of these coins vary widely, the smallest being not much larger than a pencil eraser. The value of the coins was based on combined weight with other coins and not on an individual basis.



**Specifications:** Order Code: **MITECOIN-CLRBOX-Please specify grade when ordering.**

Box measures: 4 5/8" x 3 1/5" x 1/2"

*All coins in each set are protected in an archival capsule and beautifully displayed in a clear box. The box set is accompanied with a story card and certificate of authenticity.*