

# THE SOUTHEAST SOWER

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## EVERYTHING IS FOR SALE!

DONNIE RADER

I am amused at people who say that something they own is not for sale “at any price.” Really? If someone offered a million dollars, you wouldn’t take it? Surely, they must mean that they are not interested in selling what they own at a reasonable price.

For example, someone may own a car that they dearly love. Asked if they would sell it, they respond, “It’s not for sale.” Do you mean that you would not sell this car (worth \$10,000) for \$20,000 or \$30,000? “Well, yea, I would sell it for that!” Now, we are back where we started—everything is for sale.

When speaking of things material in nature I would agree, everything is for sale! At the same time, I have a number of things that I’m not really interested in selling—a piece of paper      President

Ronald Regan personally handed to me, a personal note from George H. W. Bush. They are not for sale...uh...unless the price is where I would be foolish to keep them. Then, I would sell.

So, I say again, everything is for sale! Or is it? What about things that are not material in nature? What about your family, worship or your soul itself? Are they for sale? You think that sounds crazy? Really? Are you sure these are not for sale?

Before you answer, consider the examples of people in the Bible who sold things of considerable value for little or nothing! Esau sold his birthright for a worthless bowl of stew (Gen. 25:29-34). Jacob’s sons sold their brother for twenty shekels of silver (Gen. 37:28). Judas sold his relationship to the Lord

for thirty pieces of silver (Matt. 26:14-16). Surely, we would never think of doing anything of the kind. Or would we?

Let’s start with our worship. Would you sell your privilege of worship? Did I hear you say, “Absolutely not?” Suppose someone said, “I’ll give you \$25 to miss one of the services on Sunday?” Would you take it? What if they bumped it up to \$100? Okay, let’s make it worthwhile. Suppose it was \$300? Is it sounding better?

So, maybe our worship is for sale. A close look at attendance records shows that at any given service something besides sickness is keeping a lot of folks away. What is it? For some it may be a little overtime. For others it may be something not worth a dollar. Yet, if asked, we would say, “My worship is not for sale!”

*The Southeast Church of Christ meets at:*

*35 Walnut Ct.*

*Mogadore, OH  
44260*

*Phone:*

*330.628.7432*

*SERVICES:*

*Sunday*

*Bible Study:*

*10:00 am*

*Worship:*

*10:50 am*

*6:00 pm*

*Wednesday*

*Bible Study:*

*7:30 pm”*

Well, at least until the offer is right!

Compare that with the context (textual or historical) of Hebrews 10:25. The thing that seemed to be causing some to forsake the assembly was the fear of persecution! Yet it was not to keep them from assembling with the saints.

We would cry long and loud that our worship is not for sale—at any price. But we would miss now and then (or even regularly) for a few dollars or maybe for no money at all! Really, our worship is for sale! How sad!

What about your family? None of us would put a “For Sale” sign on our loved ones. After all, “money is not everything” you know. Aren’t we proud of ourselves for having such values! So, we can safely say our families are not for sale. Or, are they?

Would you neglect your family for a job? Would you take a job that keeps you from being the father, mother, or mate you should be? Would you let someone else (grandparents or babysitter) do the real job of training your children so you can have the ‘extras’ in life? Maybe it’s not a matter of money. Maybe it is pleasure or relationships that we value above our families. Would you sacrifice your children’s spiritual well being for them to succeed in sports or academics? Would you risk your marriage with

a job that keeps you away from your mate so much that you really can’t have a marriage?

The most important thing of all is your soul. It is worth more than the whole world (Matt. 16:26). It is worth more than your mate or you children. What would you take for your soul? Would you take...aaah, no need to go there, we both know you would not put a price on your soul. Or, would you?

You see, whatever you let keep you from serving the Lord, is the price you put on your soul. For some, it is the pleasure of sin (Heb. 11:25) they don’t want to give up. For another, it is the friends they have in the world, from which they will not part (1 Cor. 15:33). For others, it is the fear of losing family approval (Matt. 19:29). Yes, their soul does have price! It can be sold—and in many cases has been sold. When I know what I should do, but just can’t bring myself to do it (Jas. 4:17), I am selling my soul for that price! In most cases it doesn’t even involve a dime!

Maybe it is true that “everything is for sale.”

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### THE TEACHER

Lord, who am I to teach the way

To other people day by day,

So prone myself to go astray.

I teach them knowledge, but I know

How faint the flicker and  
how low

The candles of my  
knowledge glow

I teach them power to will  
and do

But only then to learn anew

My own great weakness  
through and through.

I teach them love for all  
mankind

And all God’s creatures, but  
I find

My love comes lagging far  
behind.

Lord, if their guide I still  
must be,

Oh, let the other people see  
The teacher leaning hard on  
thee.

-- Leslie Hill

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### CANT’S AND CANS

If you would have some  
worthwhile plans,

You’ve got to watch your  
cant’s and cans;

You can’t aim low and then  
rise high;

You can’t succeed if you  
don’t try;

You can’t go wrong and  
come out right;

You can’t love sin and walk  
in light;

You can’t throw time and  
means away

And live sublime from day  
to day.

— author unknown