

# ARE YOU SELLING YOUR SOUL ON THE INSTALLMENT PLAN?

## *Ahab Mortgaged His Soul*

Franklin W. Camp

“And Ahab said to Elijah, Hast thou found me, O mine enemy? And he answered, I have found thee: because thou hast sold thyself to work evil in the sight of the LORD” (1 Kin. 21:20). While the title of this article sounds repulsive, it is a grave possibility. When we first think of the question, we feel that no one would be foolish enough to sell his soul. If someone had asked Ahab early in life if he would sell his soul, he, no doubt, would have said no. But Elijah told him that he had sold his soul. We may do as Ahab did.

### ***DOWN PAYMENT—MARRIAGE***

Ahab took out the first mortgage on his soul when he married. “But there was none like unto Ahab, which did sell himself to work wickedness in the sight of the LORD, whom Jezebel his wife stirred up” (1 Kin. 21:25). “And it came to pass, as if it had been a light thing for him to walk in the sins of Jeroboam the son of Nebat, that he took to wife Jezebel the daughter of Ethbaal king of the Zidonians, and went and served Baal, and worshipped him” (1 Kin. 16:31). These verses tell the story of how he mortgaged his soul when he married Jezebel.

### ***SECOND PAYMENT—COMPROMISE***

The first down payment on his mortgage of his soul after he married was the compromise of his religion. The same verse that tells of his marriage, tells us that he served and worshipped Baal. No, he did not pretend to completely reject God; he tried to please his wife by recognizing Baal along with God, but Ahab could not worship both. He was in the position now of having to choose between his wife and his God. This is a lesson we need to write deeply into the hearts of our young people. While it is not always true that marrying one that is not a Christian leads to the selling of the soul, it happens too many times. I can point out many instances where husbands and wives are making the second installment on their mortgages by trying to compromise essential truths of Christianity. Let Ahab speak from the past and warn against the danger of mortgaging your soul in marrying.

*(continued on page 3)*

### ***THIRD PAYMENT***

Ahab’s next installment in selling his soul was a piece of land. “And Ahab spake unto Naboth, saying, Give me thy vineyard, that I may have it for a garden of herbs, because it is near unto my house: and I will give thee for it a better vineyard than it; or, if it seem good to thee, I will give thee the worth of it in money. And Naboth said to Ahab, The LORD forbid it me, that I should give the inheritance of my fathers unto thee. And Ahab came into his house heavy and displeased because of the word which Naboth the Jezreelite had spoken to him: for he had said, I will not give thee the inheritance of my fathers. And he laid him down upon his bed, and turned away his face, and would eat no bread” (1 Kin. 21:2-4). It is in reference to this incident that the prophet reminds Ahab that he had sold his soul.

Ahab was not the last one to sell his soul for material things. Judas sold his soul for thirty pieces of silver (Mat. 27:3). The rich young ruler sold his soul for his possessions (Mark 10:17-22). Ananias and Sapphira sold their souls for money also (Acts 5:1-5). The rich man in Luke 12 sold his soul for his crops and more and bigger barns. The rich man in Luke 16 sold his soul for high living while he ignored a hungry man at his gate.

These are but a few of the examples in the Bible of people selling their souls for land, houses and money. Multitudes today are doing the same thing. There are those who know what they ought to do to become a Christian, but refuse to do so because it would cost them money. Many in the church are neglecting their souls because of trying to maintain a standard of living that requires all of their time. Some in the church can barely spare the Lord an hour on Sunday morning because of the demands of material standards of this age. Our lives are so full of things involved in gaining a living that we have no time to do personal work, or visit the sick, or seek out and help those that are in need. We are like the excuse-makers in the day of Christ; we have no time for the Lord’s invitation to enjoy spiritual things because we have oxen or lands to see about. Brethren, **THINK ON THESE THINGS!** –

### **Hope in All Circumstances**

Anne Frank is perhaps the best-known victim of the Nazi Holocaust. Anne and her family left Germany for Amsterdam to flee Nazi persecution, hiding out in an attic after Holland was invaded by the Germans. To help cope with the fear and loneliness, Anne started a diary in 1942. They were eventually discovered and sent to a concentration camp. Anne died of typhus in 1945 before the war’s end. Her father later published her diary, showing how even in difficult circumstances, Anne managed to remain hopeful. Christian, do you remain hopeful no matter what challenges surround you?

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# NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)

## Remember in Prayer:

*Tom Carner* had successful surgery this week and is recovering.

*Virginia London* is also recovering from her successful surgery.

*Darlene Felts* is in *The Springs*, Room 220. Her new address there is on the bulletin board by the office.

Please check the bulletin boards for updates on Prayer Request Lists. Please update us if needed.

Also please pray for those directly and indirectly affected by Covid-19, and please keep us updated.

## In Other News:

*Youth trip to Jackson Farm in Black Rock will be Saturday, October 24<sup>th</sup>*. Meet there at the farm at 1:30.

*Bible classes on Wednesday night and Sunday morning* have begun again with a great start.

Be sure to join us each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. as we grow in our knowledge of God’s Word and each Wednesday night as our classes begin right after our devotional in the auditorium.

### Those Privileged To Serve October 18, 2020

**SUNDAY MORNING**  
Song Leader: Scottie Blanchard  
Opening Prayer: Jody Pickens  
Closing Prayer: Micah Tindall  
Bible Reading: Barry Roush  
Preacher: J. L. May

**SUNDAY EVENING**  
Song Leader: Micah Tindall  
Opening Prayer: Steve Stoker  
Closing Prayer: Carroll Morris  
Preacher: J. L. May

**LORD’S TABLE**  
Presiding: Stacy Eddleman  
Hillard Holcomb Kevin Roush  
Jeff Presley Mike Felts  
Donnie Gilliland Carlos Wood

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT**  
October 21, 2020  
Song Leader: Randy Oden  
Opening Prayer: Jimmie Powell  
Closing Prayer: Kevin Roush

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Randy Oden

**DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER**  
October 21, 2020  
Micah Tindall

### NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK Week Of October 11, 2020

Sunday Bible Study	77
Sunday AM Worship	128
Sunday PM Worship	95
Wednesday Bible Study	83
Contribution	\$5731

**“The glory of young men is their strength: and the beauty of old men is the gray head.”**

*Proverbs 20:29*

# The Friend of Truth



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“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

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## KeeNotes

### HOW THE CHURCH VOTED

(Somewhere in Texas...)

The church on the corner took a series of votes on matters of importance to the congregation and the results were not just surprising, but alarming. Listed below are some of the issues that were voted on, along with the final tallies:

### SHOULD THE CHURCH:

	FOR	AGAINST
Sing during the worship?	90%	10%
Partake of communion weekly?	78%	22%
Worship on Sunday evening?	49%	51%
Attend Wednesday Bible Class?	39%	61%
Give generously to the Lord?	20%	80%
Visit the sick in hospitals?	15%	85%
Visit those in nursing homes?	12%	88%

When asked how the votes were taken, the elders replied that the members were not asked their opinions on these matters, nor were they asked what the Bible taught. Instead of asking for a show of hands, the congregation voted with their feet! In other words, if their feet brought them to services on Wednesday they voted “for” attending Wednesday evening services. If their feet did not carry them to Wednesday Bible Class, they voted “against.” They also voted with their voices (singing), participation (communion), and wallets (giving). The elders felt that a show of hands would have produced a result more in keeping with the guidance of Scripture, but taking the votes in this manner allowed them to find out how the members lived, and not just claimed to believe. If your vote had been tallied, how would you have voted: For or Against?

- Author Unknown

### SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols  
Randy Oden  
Jody Pickens

### DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard  
Jerry Dodson  
Mike Felts  
Jason Garland  
Marshall Lands  
Mark Wooten

### EVANGELIST

Terry Joe Kee

### MISSIONARIES

Michael Hughes  
Samrit Kammanee  
Arnold Kelley  
Guyana, South America  
Warren, PA

### SERVICES

#### SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 10:00 a.m.  
5:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

### What Must I Do To Be Saved?

**Hear** the Word of God  
*Romans 10:17*  
**Believe** the Word of God  
*John 8:24*

**Repent** of your sins  
*Luke 13:3*  
**Confess** your faith in Jesus as the Son of God  
*Romans 10:9,10*

**Be Baptized** for the remission of your sins  
*Acts 2:38*  
**Live faithfully**  
*Revelation 2:10*

“Where there is no vision, the people perish...”  
*Proverbs 29:18*

God Give Us 2020 Vision in 2020