



### Three Dollar Christians / Joe Stowell ...

Most of us can blow through three dollars without even thinking twice. It'll get you a cup of Starbucks, a few snacks for a road trip, or a squeak toy for your new puppy. But one thing is for sure: it won't buy you soul-to-soul intimacy with the Creator of the universe.

I wonder if you are among those who want just enough of God to get yourself to a comfortable place, but not enough to pay the price of a deepening relationship with Him. If we want to be in tight with Jesus, we've got to abandon the idea that a mere acquaintance with Him is enough and that we have all we really need in and of ourselves. **Self-sufficiency is life's greatest barricade when it comes to intimacy with God.**

I find it interesting that all the "self" terms we throw around make us wither with guilt. Just say the word self-centered and we wince. The same applies to self-indulgent and self-serving. But when we think of self-sufficiency, our eyes glaze over with pious apathy. We don't consider it as much of a no-no as the other "self" sins. But, I'm telling you, with God self-sufficiency is a big deal.

In fact, Jesus reproved the Laodiceans about their self-sufficiency in no uncertain terms. He said, "because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth" (Revelation 3:16).

**The Laodiceans were three-dollar Christians. Their self-sufficiency blinded them to their great need for Jesus.** They didn't have many material needs—in fact the text says that they were loaded—so they thought they didn't need God. But in their self-sufficient attitude they had left Jesus standing outside the door of their hearts. They had enough of Him to get into heaven, but He didn't have much of them in return!

(Joe Stowell, President Cornerstone University, former President Moody Bible Institute)

### Three Dollars Worth of God by Wilbur Rees

- I would like to buy \$3 worth of God, please. Not enough to explode my soul or disturb my sleep, but just enough to equal a cup of warm milk, or a snooze in the sunshine. I don't want enough of God to make me love a black man, or pick beets with a migrant. I want ecstasy, not transformation. I want warmth of the womb, not a new birth. I want a pound of the Eternal in a paper sack. I would like to buy \$3 worth of God, please.

### Jesus' Example of Speaking God's Truth to Build & Give Perspective ...

- **PETER, THE INSPIRED REVEALER OF TRUTH** / Matthew 16:16
- **PETER, THE ROCK** / Matthew 16:18
- **PETER, THE VOICE OF SATAN** / Matthew 16:22-23

### By Steve Highlander

- Some people think that God is a good thing to include in your life as long as He really doesn't get in the way or require too many changes. As long as the cost isn't too great, God is given His place—right beside all the other activities and obligations that vie for our attention.
- We are tempted to think we can get out of God what we put into Him. If I want a little more I can give a little more. I can read a few extra pages in the Bible, say an extra prayer, go to church a bit more. However, God is not for sale at any price.

**Church of Laodicea**

- Sign with us! No long-term commitment. Pay on your terms. Opt out at any time.
- Specializing in lip-service.
- Trending on Twitter.
- Read our review in Revelation 3:14-18.

(Revelation 3:15 NLT)  
I know all the things you do, that you are neither hot nor cold. I wish that you were one or the other!