

THE SPIRIT AND A DIME

Several years ago a pastor friend of mine moved to Houston, Texas. Some weeks after he arrived, he had occasion to ride the bus from his home to the downtown area. When he sat down, he discovered that the driver had given him ten cents too much change.

As he considered what to do, he alternately heard two sets of instructions whispered into his ears. One said, "You better give the dime back. It would be wrong to keep it." The other voice said, "Oh forget it. It's just ten cents. Who would worry about a dime? The bus company already gets too much as a fare. With their millions every day, they will never miss it. Accept it as a gift from God and keep quiet."

When his stop came he paused momentarily at the front door, and handing the driver the dime he said, "Here. You handed me too much change." The driver replied, "Aren't you the new pastor in town? I have been thinking lately about going to church somewhere. I just wanted to see what you would do if I gave you ten cents too much change." When my friend stepped off the bus he literally grabbed the nearest light pole and held on. He thought, "O God, I almost sold your Son for ten cents."

(Author unknown)

Friends, we must remember that as Christians we are under CONSTANT scrutiny by those around us - even though they may look down on us for our beliefs, they hold us to a higher standard. Some are looking for a reason to seek what we have through the blood of Christ, and others are looking for any opportunity to catch us "selling Jesus for any cost".

Jesus is our standard - and He never sinned - and although we will sin from time to time, we must learn from those mistakes, and not repeat them.... even if it seems "penny-ante" to us, because it could be one of the most costly mistakes we ever make if it keeps someone from coming to Christ! So give the dime back.... for the treasure stored up for you in heaven will be immeasurable!