

Would the Devil use Paypal to buy your soul on Ebay?

How much is your eternal soul worth? Would you sell it for a price or trade it for something in this world? Consider the interesting story of Hemant Mehta, an atheist who put his soul up for sale on Ebay:

[CLIP 1: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tIJZGkf1vI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5tIJZGkf1vI)

View the auction page for Hemant's soul:

<http://cgi.ebay.com/ws/eBayISAPI.dll?ViewItem&item=5660982226>

The idea of selling your soul, especially to the devil, has been around for hundreds of years. This modern idea has its roots in the German legend of Faust and has spawned tales such as “The devil and Daniel Webster” and even a hit song titled “The devil went down to Georgia.” Hollywood has made a number of films dealing with this subject and the independent short film “Black Button”(PG) that debuted on Youtube.com in 2007 offers yet another telling of this story.

Although the notion of “selling your soul” has become a part of our popular culture, the concept raises profound questions: What is my soul worth? Is it even possible to sell it to the devil? If the devil wants me, what am I worth to God?

Lets go to the Bible and to address these questions:

1)What is the true value of your soul?

First of all, let's discuss the concept of value. What are some things that people calculate or determine the value of? How is that value determined?

Now, let's see what Jesus says about your value and your worth.

Mark 8:34-37 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me and for the gospel will save it. What good is it for a man to gain the whole world, yet forfeit his soul? Or what can a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Jesus did not mince words about what it takes to be his disciple. Why is Jesus so demanding about what it takes to follow him?

Jesus then challenges his audience and poses these questions about our worth to everyone. Why did Jesus want us to consider these questions versus just giving us the answer?

World GDP, from the CIA world fact book, in 2006 was estimated at 65.96 trillion US dollars. Even with all this unimaginable wealth, Jesus points out that the whole world is not a good trade for our soul. Jesus is demanding because he knows the cost to your soul if you lose your life to sin. Once you understand how Jesus sees you and how valuable your soul is, you will never want to sell it at any price.

2) Can you sell your soul to the devil?

Good question. Before we discuss this proposition, let us consider the potential buyer of your soul, Satan. Let's examine some biblical passages about the devil that describe him:

I Peter 5:8

Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour.

John 8:44

“You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desire. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.”

Based on these characteristics, would you want to make a deal with him? Why not?

When you read about the character of the devil, the idea of striking a deal with him is completely ridiculous.

- He is not trustworthy nor reliable.
- His goal is to destroy you and cares nothing about your welfare.
- He holds the dubious distinction of being the father of lies and a murderer.

The fanciful stories of making a bargain with Satan simply fall apart under examination. Most people would not deal with anyone that they know will intentionally lie and double cross them. However, people do “sell” themselves by sinning and hand themselves over to destruction:

Galatians 5:19-21

The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

The devil doesn't have to do much to get souls-people that are selling out to sin are lost already! What are some sins that people sell themselves for today?

What are the end results of these sins?

There is a movie line that goes, “The first rule of dealing with the devil: Don't.” The notion that men can negotiate with Satan and sometimes win is a prideful and mis-guided proposition. He has no interest in your well being and will annihilate you at the first

opportunity. He doesn't need to bargain for souls because men sell themselves for a cheap price when mastered by sin.

3)What am I worth to God?

Have you ever considered how much are you worth to God? In stark contrast to the devil who has done nothing for our benefit, let us consider what God says in his word about how much he loves us:

I John 3:1

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are!

Have you been lavished or lavished someone with love? What was it like?

How does God lavish us in love?

An old song has a line, “drowning in the sea of love, where everyone would love to drown.” God wants to immerse us in love we will let him. He even goes searching for us when we are lost so he can bring us back into his love.

Luke 15:8-10

Have you ever found something that you lost and were very excited when you found it? What happened?

Why does God and his angels rejoice only one person repents?

To God, we are worth so much! He searches for us and has a party when he we come home. He even gave His only son, a part of himself, so that we could be forgiven and know him.

Would the devil use Paypal to buy your soul on Ebay? Let's hope we never find out! In conclusion:

- You soul is the most precious thing you have-it should never be bought, sold, or ever compromised.
- Playing with the devil is like bringing a knife to a gun fight-his only goal is to kill, steal, and destroy you.
- God not only created you but also bought salvation for you through the blood of his son Jesus Christ.

