

A GOOD DEAL

By Rod

This sketch seeks to illustrate the cost of becoming a Christian; what we have to give up but also what we gain in return. Based on Matthew 19 v 29 which is read at the end.

CAST

Dealer Car salesman. Probably well-spoken. Not to be played as a typical second-hand car dealer!

Customer Probably played as a cockney in the stereotypical way that a second-hand car dealer might be portrayed.

Jesus Not seen. Quotes Matt 19 at end.

Dealer Good morning, sir, welcome to Kingsway Cars. How may I help you?

Customer Ah, ‘ello mate, I’m thinking of getting a new set of wheels.

Dealer Oh, we don’t do spare parts , sir. Why don’t you try ‘KwikFix’? It’s just round the corner. We only sell complete cars

Customer That’s what I mean – a new set of wheels - a new motor – a new car.

Dealer Oh, I see. Forgive me, sir; I misunderstood you.

Customer Only I was told that this was the place to come. I’ve got a pal who got a new car from you last month and he’s over the moon with it. He really raves about it. Says it’s like being a born again motorist.

Dealer It’s always most gratifying to hear of a satisfied customer; and I am sure we can find the car to suit you too, sir.

Customer That won’t be easy.

Dealer How is that, sir?

Customer Well the car I’ve got is something special.

Dealer Really, sir?

Customer Yes, I’ve had it all my motoring life. It’s like an old friend.

Dealer Yes, it must be old, sir.

Customer Now look here ...

Dealer [*Hastily*] But we on the other hand can offer you an entirely, brand new car; indeed a whole new motoring experience.

Customer [*Doubtfully*] Hmm. It sounds expensive.

Dealer In one way it is, sir – very costly. You will have to give up a lot to get it; you will have to give up your old car.

Customer You mean a trade-in?

Dealer In a manner of speaking, yes.

Customer I suppose that would help me to afford the new car. Do you want to have a quick shoofty? It's on the forecourt.

Dealer That won't be necessary, sir. I can tell you what your old car is worth without looking at it.

Customer How much?

Dealer Nothing at all.

Customer What! Zilch? You must be joking. The extras I fitted are worth a fortune in themselves. People often comment on how good it looks.

Dealer I don't doubt it, sir.

Customer It's got alloy wheels, metallic paint and a hole in the head.

Dealer Hole in the head, sir?

Customer Yer know – hole in the head. Sunroof. And dim views on all windows.

Dealer Well if the windows need cleaning, you'll be glad to get rid of it, sir.

Customer No. Dim views. Tinted glass. I admit it's got a big speedo..

Dealer I'm sure that's very helpful if you are a trifle short-sighted, sir.

Customer *[Getting angry]* Look mate, there's nothing wrong with my eyes. You , on the other hand don't seem to know the first thing about cars. A big speedo means it's done a high mileage – but it's on the button.

Dealer I thought you said it was on the forecourt.

Customer No. On the button. It starts first time. It always has done.

Dealer Oh right, sir. But it's still of no value to us

Customer *[Interrupting]* And the sound system is state of the art. It's got the full orchestra: radio, cassette, CD, quadraphonic surround sound and a ladder – an electric aerial to you.

Dealer Sir, I don't care if your car contains the massed bands of the Household Cavalry conducted by Simon Rattle up a scaffolding tower, it's still worth nothing at all.

Customer Nowt?

Dealer Nul point – even with the Norwegian jury. And you will have to give it up if you want one of our new cars.

Customer I'm not sure I can.

Dealer Is your car Do It Yourself, sir?

Customer You mean, did I make it myself. Yes, I suppose, in a manner of speaking, I did. That's why I'm so proud of it. It's like a member of the family – my own child.

Dealer No. Do It Yourself – manual transmission.

Customer Hey, there's a bit of jargon I didn't know. Perhaps you're not as clueless about cars as I thought. Yes, it is manual transmission - and I do have to admit that third gear is a bit crunchy.

Dealer All our cars are fully automatic. You can sit back and let the car take control.

Customer Wow, that is different! Now I see what you mean by a whole new motoring experience. [*Hesitating*] But I'll never be able to afford it. Can I get it on the never never; on tick?

Dealer Yes, you can, sir. [*Pointing to a contract*] All you do is tick this box and I promise you will never never regret it.

Jesus Everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or fields for my sake will receive a hundred times as much and will inherit eternal life.

THE END