Date: 12/2/17

Title: The Deal of a Lifetime

Theme: Satan offers a rotten deal, but Jesus offers the deal of a lifetime.

Object: Check for $1,000,000 with two strings and signs attached.

Text: Prov 14:12 (NKJV) There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

This verse tells us that there is a way of living that seems to be right to a lot of people, but in the end, it brings them death instead of life.

When I was a boy, there was a program on TV called *The Millionaire*.

And each week it was a story about a different person and the troubles he ran into in life.

When the person had reached the end of his rope and was about to be overwhelmed by his troubles, Mr. Anthony would show up at his door and give him a check for $1,000,000.

And there were no strings attached! He didn’t have to do anything to receive it; he didn’t have to pay it back. It was his to spend however he liked.

You see, Mr. Anthony worked for a billionaire who liked to give money to good people to help them through the difficult times in life.

And I think a lot of people who watched *The Millionaire* hoped that Mr. Anthony would come to their door and give them a million dollars.

Wouldn’t that be great?!? How many would like to have somebody give them $1,000,000? Wouldn’t that be a great deal?

Well, I may not be Mr. Anthony, but I have a check here this morning that may interest some of you.

[Show check for $1,000,000. Describe how it can be cashed.]

So how many would be interested in this check for $1,000,000?

Now wait a minute. Before you take this check, notice that there are some strings attached.

If you take the check, you must abide by the conditions written on the strings.

Condition 1: you must spend the million dollars in just one year.

Condition 2: you must die and be buried at the end of the year.

Now how many would like to have the million dollars with the strings attached?

Anybody with a brain that is working would say “No” to that deal.

You only get one year to spend all the money and then you’re dead! It’s a rotten deal!

But you know, kids, that’s just the kind of a deal the devil is offering us, and a lot of people are saying “Yes” to him.

The devil says you can have 70 years to do exactly as you please: no rules, no regulations, no commandments, nobody telling you what to do.

You can drink and smoke and take drugs; you can live it up and have fun.

BUT, (here’s the string} at the end of 70 years, you end up with the devil in the Lake of Fire and you’re dead forever!

Does that sound like a good deal or a rotten deal? Of course, it’s a rotten deal! Who wants to be dead forever?

But you know, kids, there are millions of people who are accepting the devil’s rotten deal.

The Bible says that there is a way that seems right to a lot of people, but in the end, it leads to death.

But Jesus offers you and me the deal of a lifetime: not just a million dollars or even a billion dollars.

All the money in the world can’t buy what Jesus offers us: He offers us eternal life in His heavenly kingdom where there is no sin, no sorrow, no tears, no pain, and no more death.

It is peace and joy and happiness for everyone who lives there.

But there is a string attached to Jesus’ offer too: He gives eternal life only to those who love Him, and trust Him, and receive Him as their Savior, Lord, and Friend.

How many would like to have the deal of a lifetime that Jesus offers them today? (I would too!)