

The Legacy

Mark 10:17-31

The last of the old man's belonging
were sold at an auction in town.
Of the crowd that was there just an hour ago,
only a few hung around.
The antique collectors and dealers in junk
had picked over the old man's estate.
Like ants on a cookie they left with their crumbs
all struggling under the weight.
And things that he treasured for most of his life
at nickels and dimes had been stamped.
The hand carved duck decoy he got from his wife
would soon be turned into a lamp.

There are things that we might leave behind when we die
that can't be so readily viewed,
like folks who for years will remember with tears
a friendship that can't be renewed.
For those who we touch with our gentle concern
share a legacy no one can sell.
As they who are loved very easily learn
how to love others as well.
So once we're restored to our place with the Lord,
we won't need any silver or gold.
We can leave as we came and we won't be to blame
if sunshine's not easily sold.

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