

Thought for the Day 28th October - John Reed

Read Romans 5:6-11

What's the most expensive bottle of wine you've ever had? Perhaps you found something on special sale that was too good a bargain to pass up? Or maybe it was a gift?

A couple in New York recently drank a US\$2,000 bottle of wine, having paid only US\$18 for it.

The story is told by legendary restaurateur Keith McNally. One evening in his brasserie Balthazar in Manhattan, a table of Wall Street businessmen order the \$2,000 bottle of Chateau Mouton Rothschild. At the same time a young couple ordered the cheapest red wine on the menu, an \$18 bottle of Pinot Noir. Both requested that their wine be poured into a decanter. You can guess the rest ... The two decanters were accidentally switched and delivered to the wrong tables!¹

When staff realised the mistake, and informed Keith, he rushed to the restaurant to deal with the issue. Which he did by informing both couples of the mistake. A mistake that cost him a lot of money, as he decided to let the young couple keep their Chateau Mouton Rothschild, as well as having to serve another bottle to the businessmen.

You and I have been the beneficiaries of an even greater switch. And this one was not accidental, but deliberate. Jesus took our brokenness and sinfulness and swapped it for his holiness. He took our death and gave us his life. This is the very heart of grace, that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us (Romans 5:8).

¹ <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/couple-accidentally-given-1500-bottle-22888026>