

WALMART PRAYER:

A Pious Excoriation

Our Father who art in Walmart
hollow is your name.

Your bargains have come
& sales have begun
on Wall Street
as it is on Main Street. Amen.

Give us a special coupon
so we may continue our shopping spree
& forgive our debts:
which we don't want to see.

By the same token,
help us be compassionate
to those blinded by greed.

And may we strive for justice,
challenging corporate wrong-doings
just as David challenged Goliath
in Elah's valley.

Finally, Dear Lord,
Save those toiling in poverty
from Walmart Inc.
& similar industries.



Kris: Doesn't this poem make a mockery of the Lord's Prayer?

Sam: On the contrary – I think it mocks consumerism.

Tim: Perhaps we need to tackle the issue of what a religion is. To me, whatever you hold most precious is your "religion." And as whenever we shift priorities, we switch faiths. We should think of religion as a verb rather than a noun.

Sam: Hmm. By that standard, consumerism is one of the world's most widespread faiths.

Ted: So is hedonism. But what has this got to do with Walmart?

Tim: (sighing) Please take a moment and think.

- T Newfields

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