

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

A Message of Hope and Fulfillment For Those Longing For God

The Cost of Discipleship

Luke 9: 22-27

After Peter's great revelation of the true identity of Jesus, Jesus began to explain to them more fully, in plain language, what it would mean to be His follower. It is a great mistake to relegate this to some special kind of devotion and to take it away from the norm of the Christian life. Jesus makes the terms plain: If anyone wishes to follow me

I. Jesus' Mission: to seek and to save that which is lost

- A. Suffering
- B. Death
- C. Resurrection

*A servant is not greater than his Master,
If anyone wishes to come after Me:*

II. He Must Deny Himself

- A. This encompasses a loss of personal rights, the ability to assert ourselves and that to which we may rightfully be entitled.
- B. This encompasses a forfeiture of personal desires. As followers of Jesus We do not have the right to indulge our wants and emotions outside of His will and purpose for us.
- C. To follow Jesus is to surrender our ambition to His will.

III. And Take Up His Cross Daily

- A. The meaning in the context of Roman culture and language:
- B. To adopt an attitude of divestiture with respect to the world and its goods
 1. My Kingdom is not of this world (John 18:36)
 2. No soldier entangles himself in the affairs of everyday life (2 Timothy 2:4)
- C. It is an attitude that requires thoughtful, daily acknowledgement

IV. And Follow Me

- A. The first two verbs are aorist imperative in Greek (Deny! Take up!, a once and for all decisive action), this verb is present imperative: begin now to follow after Me
- B. This is a growing and unfolding relationship with the Lord Jesus, a daily experience of learning His ways and following within His will.

To be a follower of Jesus we must make some careful and intentional decisions. It will require the subordination of our will and desires to His and the recognition that we are no longer part of this world's system of politics, economics, and ambitions. It is to begin a journey with Jesus Christ that will be blessed with personal intimacy with Him and bring the satisfaction of fulfilling our highest created purpose as He lives through us.

"The Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed and be raised up on the third day." And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it. For what is a man profited if he gains the whole world, and loses or forfeits himself? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, the Son of Man will be ashamed of him

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1.

when He comes in His glory, and the glory of the Father and of the holy angels. But I say to you truthfully, there are some of those standing here who will not taste death until they see the kingdom of God.”

Luke 9: 22-27 NASB

NOTES

“A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign the members of his household!”

Matthew 10: 24-25