Cost Me Something Religion

Tony Mauck · 2 Samuel 24

INTRODUCTION

- We want things in our fast-paced culture to come easy and cheap. And if we're not careful, that's the way we will think about our religion.
- I will not offer unto my God that which cost me nothing.
- True religion is going to cost you something, just like it cost our Lord something. This is a cost me something religion.

1 The Cost Is Everything

Mark 10; Romans 12:1; 1 Corinthians 6

- The call to renounce everything and follow Christ is commonplace in the gospel accounts.
- Jesus was up front about the cost that would be involved in being his disciple, as he admonished them to first sit down and count the cost.
- You present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.
- It doesn't cost you more than you've already been given. God has granted to us everything.
- That lessens the sting when we understand that I'm only giving to God what He has given me.

2 Our Time and Diligence

Romans 12:1

- If it is stressful for us to attend these services, we probably need to make some changes in some other areas of our lives. This shouldn't be the stress. This is the good stuff.
- Faith is not a part of my life. Faith is my life as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- I have been crucified with Christ. Does that not say sacrifice to you?
- But that's our problem. We do want it to be me who lives.
- It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. And the life which I now live in the flesh, I live by faith in the Son of God who loved me and delivered himself up for me.

3 The Cost Involves Unbelieving Family Members

Matthew 10:32; 1 Corinthians 5:11; 1 Peter 3:1–2

- Sometimes that cost involves unbelieving family members.
- A man's foes will be those of his own household.
- My relationship with this person is going to have to change because I cannot convey to him or her that everything's going to be okay on their present course.
- There is a cost for every teacher of truth. And that evangelism, trying to spread this truth to others, will not come painlessly.

4 Our Peers That Don’t Understand

Proverbs 18:24

- Sometimes beyond family, it’s our peers that don’t understand. And that’s particularly challenging and difficult for our young people.
- That may mean that people will reject you or that you won’t be a part of the in crowd because you have these scruples about things.
- These aren’t going to be your closest associates. And if they are, it might be the ruination of your soul.
- If anyone loves God, he is known by him. And that acceptance far exceeds the value of any earthly relationship.

5 Living With the Consequences of Sin

- I have seen where some have decided that the cost of Christianity is too severe when it involves the lives of beloved family members.
- I just wanted to use that as an illustration of what can happen when we exalt family members above truth.
- It’s going to change the very nature of your involvement and relationship with them. And sometimes that’s as painful as their spiritual condition.
- And sometimes these are the very costs of the gospel.

THE CHALLENGE

It all boils down to do we appreciate the Lord. Do we understand that through his poverty, his sacrifice, we become rich?

MY NOTES