Counting the Cost (Luke 14:27)

Jeff Barnett · Luke 14:25–33

INTRODUCTION

- Let's believe in God, even if it means sacrificing everything.
- What we obtain too cheap, we esteem too lightly.
- The idea is that you've got to count the cost of discipleship. We have to be aware that there is a cost, and we have to say that I'm willing to take that cost.

1 The Physical Cost of Following Christ

Romans 12:1; 2 Timothy 3:12; Luke 21:16

- To be self-controlled is a cost, is a physical cost of following Christ. You have to be disciplined as a Christian.
- People of the world who do not discipline themselves are acting just like dumb animals because they see something they want and they just go do it.
- I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.
- All who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
- We're talking about counting the cost physically, you can be killed for being a Christian.

2 Financial Costs

Proverbs 11:1; Romans 12:11; 1 Timothy 6:10

- We can't cheat on things as Christians.
- If you're not willing to do that, you're taking the high road, but there's a financial cost involved.
- A false balance is an abomination to the Lord, but a just weight is his delight.
- For the love of money is the root of all evil, which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith.
- Don't make things of the world your highest priorities. Be content with what you have.

3 Social Cost

1 John 3:13; John 15:18–21; James 4:4–10

- One of the things we can lose as Christians is our social standing.
- If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.
- It's going to hurt your pride. It is. And we all have got pride. But we have to keep that in check.
- God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.
- You humble yourself and let God take care of the rest. So care about what God thinks about you, not the world.

4 Love Not the World

1 John 2:15–16; Matthew 16:24–26

- Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him.
- For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life is not of the Father, but is of the world.
- If any man will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
- For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world and lose his own soul.

5 Jesus Had to Endure It

Matthew 4:1–10

- It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.
- You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve.
- Not only did Jesus teach it, he had to endure it. He had to face those temptations himself when he was weakened and he overcame them.

THE CHALLENGE

If you're not a Christian, before you do, you do need to count the cost.

MY NOTES