

Jesus Says...

Luke 9:46-50

The Cost of Following

We must resist the temptation to tame these words, to make them more reasonable, to make them say what we want...

The Cost of Following – Luke 9:57-62

Context and Overview

- **Jesus knew precisely what path He was following and what awaited Him there.**
 - Luke 9:51 *He set his face to go to Jerusalem*
i.e. resolute determination in light of something formidable, unwelcome, and hard
 - See Isaiah 50:7 – the Suffering Servant
'I have set my face like a flint'
 - Mark 10:32-34; Heb 5:7,8; Heb 12:2

The Cost of Following – Luke 9:57-62

Context and Overview

- **Jesus knew precisely what path He was following and what awaited Him there.**
- **Those who would follow Jesus must themselves resolutely determine to follow**
 - a hard road (vs. 57-58)
 - a high road (vs. 59-60)
 - a straight road (vs. 61-62)
- **Each one of us is called to follow Jesus on a toll way, not a freeway!**

Context and Overview

The Tollway

- **A Hard Road** (vs. 57-58)
 - Enthusiasm & idealism alone will not take you far
 - There is no guarantee of safety, security and ease
See John 16:33; II Tim 3:12
 - What *is* promised: His presence, peace & sufficiency
 - Do not believe or share a false gospel
 - Do not claim promises God has not made
 - The *Via Dolorosa* – the way of grief, of suffering
 - Christian life: doing good and suffering evil

The Cost of Following – Luke 9:57-62

Context and Overview

The Tollway

- **A Hard Road** (vs. 57-58)
- **A High Road** (vs. 59-60)
 - There is a higher road that must be chosen over *every* other, lower road.
 - Example: responsibility to family is right and good but it is *not* the highest good.
 - Nothing has a higher priority than God. Nothing.
 - Everything else takes 2nd place (at most). Everything.

The Cost of Following – Luke 9:57-62

Context and Overview

The Tollway

- **A Hard Road** (vs. 57-58)
- **A High Road** (vs. 59-60)
- **A Straight Road** (vs. 61-62)
 - You can not ‘cut a deal’ with God – and there is no ‘conditional surrender’ to Him.
 - The ploughman must not be distracted, looking around or behind.
 - Focused and forward-looking!
See Phil 4:13-15

The Cost of Following – Luke 9:57-62

Context and Overview

The Tollway

Summary

*No one who commits to following Christ,
and does so, lives a life of ease. No one.*

*If your Christianity has not caused you to
pay a price for following Jesus
then something is seriously wrong.*