

(22) Demands of Discipleship (Lk. 14:25-35)

1. As the crowds started to increase once again, Jesus delivered some tough talk on discipleship.
2. In John 8, one qualification for true discipleship is given (Jn. 8:31). In Luke 14 five expectations for discipleship are detailed (Lk. 14:26-33).
 - a. Temporal-life living must be placed in absolute context against spiritual-life living (Lk. 14:26; Mt. 10:37,39; Deut. 13:6-8).
 - b. Discipleship demands total obedience. We cannot draw a line in the sand and fix a point beyond which we will not cross (Lk. 14:27 cf. 9:23; Mt. 10:38; 16:24).
 - c. Discipleship carries a price to calculate as a project that demands completion (Lk. 14:28-30). This calculation is much more important than the best numerology of Rev. 13:18.
 - d. Discipleship involves warfare against greater numbers (Lk. 14:31-32; Prov. 20:18).
 - e. Discipleship entails total surrender of ownership “rights” (Lk. 14:33; 18:22,23,28-30; Phil. 3:7,8; 2nd Tim. 4:10).
3. Meeting the five expectations of discipleship results in operational saltiness (Lk. 14:34-35; Matt. 5:13 & Lev. 2:13).
 - a. Faith, hope, & love are operational functions in the Christian Way of Life. Grace is a seasoning function—the season of salt (Col. 4:6).
 - b. Becoming tasteless = being made foolish. μωραίνω mōrainō ^{#3471}_{4x}. Abandoning discipleship expectations equals abandoning grace equals desalinization.