

J.C. Ryle Holiness / The Cost

²⁸ "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish it-- (Luke 14:28 NKJ)

I. What does it cost to be a true Christian?

1. For one thing, it will cost him *his* _____-*righteousness*.
2. it will cost a man *his* _____.
3. it will cost a man *his* _____ *of* _____.
4. it will cost a man *the* _____ *of the* _____.

II. Why is it important to count the cost?

1. What happened to the Israelites in the wilderness because they did not count the cost?
2. What happened to most of those 5,000 men, plus women and children whom Jesus fed because they did not count the cost?
3. What happened to Herod?
4. What happened to Demas?
5. To those who seem converted by powerful preachers?
6. To those who had not figured that following Christ included a cross, trials?

7. To those who were brought up by Christian parents?

What does Jesus say about this?

²⁵ Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, ²⁶ "If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. ²⁷ "And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. ²⁸ "For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has *enough* to finish *it--* ²⁹ "lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see *it* begin to mock him, ³⁰ "saying, 'This man began to build and was O not able to finish?' ³¹ "Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² "Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. ³³ "So likewise, whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple. (Luke 14:25-33 NKJ)

What does Ryle say to other preachers about this?

What do we gain if we count the cost?

- a. Though we give up seeking the world, we will gain _____ of our souls
- b. You will be blamed by man, but praised by _____.
- c. You will have fierce enemies, including Satan but Who will be included among your friends?

- d. You may lose something in this life, but how does it compare to the next?
- e. Consider what are the troubles and trials of Christians compared with the troubles of evil men?
- f. Consider how many true Christians (how few) leave the path of Christ for this world, do any?

What do we learn from the examples of Noah, Moses and Paul?

1. What does your Christianity cost you?
2. What did our salvation cost Christ?
3. What does Ryle say to those who have counted the cost? "I bid him _____ *and* _____ *on*."