

## **Following Jesus is Dangerous**

If we make a decision to truly surrender to Jesus and give him our dedicated devotion, then we are headed for trouble in this world. It does not solve all our problems. It could create more. It does not make life easy. It makes some things more difficult. It does not make things simple. It makes some things more complicated. It does not bring rewards and riches. It could cost us everything. It does not assure us of anything miraculous. It is dangerous to be a Christian. Jesus makes it clear, "*Deny yourself, take up the cross, follow me.*" He had been telling the disciples all along that he was going to Jerusalem to face the cross and there would be a cross for them.

Two of the disciples, James and John, came up to Jesus and asked for places of honor, on his right and on his left. He assured them they would have a place, but it would not be what they thought. They would have to drink from the same cup from which he would drink. Their destiny as disciples of Jesus was to be a dangerous one. As Christians today, everything is not sweetness and light. We have a dangerous destiny. If we serve Jesus the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords we must be willing to give ourselves completely, take a chance and never count the cost. God is calling us to be his witnesses in today's world, for there is no private Christianity. He is calling us to be servants, for there is no sideline Christianity. He is calling us to be His church, for there is no uninvolved Christianity.

A missionary home on leave was to spend several months speaking in churches. In order to help people understand where he was serving he decided to purchase a globe of the world. He went in a store and looked at several. The clerk showed him one which had a light on the inside. And the clerk said, "Of course a lighted world costs more." The missionary answered, "Yes, I know it does. A lighted world costs everything." It cost Jesus everything and it will cost us everything!

Would you like to have a lighted world enough to give all you are and have, enough to join Jesus out there on the road?