

7TH December 2008

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Readings:

1 Peter ch 2 v 21-24

Mark ch 8 v 34-38

Luke ch 12 v 16-21

Acts ch 1 v 24-25

Subject: The Cost

1 - Cost of our Salvation (1 Peter 2:21-24)

2 - Cost of being saved (Mark 8:34-38)

3 - Cost of not being saved (Luke 12:16-21; Acts 1:24,25)

1. Cost of our Salvation

As humans we are possessive of material things. We should be grasping to possess Christ tonight. He showed His love by His death on the cross. The Bible says: "Cursed is everyone that hangeth on the tree" (Gal 3:13). It was the death of a criminal. "He bore our sins in His own body on the tree" (1 Peter 2:24). He has taken your place. We preach because "The love of Christ constraineth us" (2 Cor 5:14). It is a love far greater than human love.

Isaiah 6 tells of the scene where Seraphim cried, "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God". The Lord Jesus Christ came from the heights of heaven. He was the subject of angel song. He came from the splendours of Glory to earth. He was a good man, He did many miracles but He showed that man was sinful and in need. When He came into the world, He said, "A body had thou prepared me" (Heb 10:5)

He was conceived by the spirit. Christ came Himself and allowed Himself to be nailed to the cross. He asks, All this have I done for you, What have you done for me?

He instituted the breaking of bread. "This is my body which is given for you"

We are opposed to the Christ of God. We need liberation and Salvation. He died for you that you might have eternal life. He "gave His back to the smiters"; He "hid not His face from shame and spitting"

2. Cost of being saved

"What shall it profit a man if he should gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" The soul is far more valuable than the whole world. "Let a man deny himself take up the cross and follow me" Are you willing to make Christ your Lord and turn over your life to Him.

What is your barrier?

Don't be caught up in worldly pleasures. They rejected Christ. There was "no room" for them at the inn. There is a cross to bear for every believer, there will be opposition and persecution.

3. Cost of not being saved

The rich farmer never acknowledged God at all. God speaks to every human being sooner or later about their soul. We all have a never dying eternal soul. Self is the I between the S and N in the word SIN. "Christ died for our sins"

Judas went to His own place. If we choose to reject Christ there is only one place: Hell and the lake of fire. The devil entreats you to do things. "There is weeping, and gnashing of teeth" (Matt 8:12); weeping because of missed opportunities. Jesus Christ is the only Saviour. "He that have the Son hath life" (1 John 5:12). There is wailing because of hopelessness and no escape. Should we die without Christ there is no deliverance. Once you are in Hell you are there forever. There is no sleep, no rest and

millions of people together wailing. “Flee from the wrath to come” (Luke 3:7) The Lord could come at any moment. Gnashing of teeth is hatred and blasphemy towards God but still no release.

What about those who know the Saviour. Do you really believe that? If God came now what about those who we know who are not saved? Are you praying for them? Do we convey the love of Christ.

“He that winneth souls is wise”