

"For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it"

—Luke 14:28

When your asked to enter into an agreement many times it requires your signature, your "John Hancock". John was one of the fifty-six signers of the Declaration of Independence, one that stands out above all the others. He was the first signer and the reason he gave for signing so large was so that King George III would not need to use his glasses. During the war of independence, the King offered amnesty to all who would stop fighting, all except a select few, John Hancock being one.

Many of those signers so long ago understood the cost of what they were entering and many of them died or lost much if not all their material possessions.

Jesus begins his teaching with a startling statement in vs. 26, then if that was not harsh enough doubles down in vs. 27. but then explains the hope in the verses following.



Jesus is not referring to the cost you must count but what He has already counted for you to build His eternal kingdom. He left, (hated) the perfect relationship He had with the Father. He left heaven and bore (lived) a life of hatred, hardship, heaviness culminating at the cross...Jesus has counted the cost.

But the good news is that Jesus had enough to complete His building, vs 29. Now He turns His direction toward you. He is going to use fallen men and women to build His kingdom, those whom He has done everything for, and like a good builder, He is picking out the choicest building materials. Those who love Him above all else, those devoted solely to Him far beyond any ties of this earth.

Our attitude then should never be "I'm working for God". No, no, you're not. Jesus is Lord and He takes you over to determine where you fit in His building and you have no right to decide where you will be put, and when there to glory in where He has you for His name's sake.

Consider the cost of being a member of the kingdom of heaven. How does it cost you in terms of resources and relationships? What value is His kingdom in comparison to everything else in this world? (Matthew 13).