

SIX PARALLEL PASSAGES ON DISCIPLESHIP

1. Matthew 10:24-39

-He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than ME is not worthy of Me.

-And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me.

-He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

2. Matthew 16:24-27

-If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

- Whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

- What profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

3. Mark 8:34-38

-Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

-Whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it.

-For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul?

4. Luke 9:23-26

-If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

-For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it.

-For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?

5. Luke 14:25-35

-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.

- And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.
- Count the cost...
- Whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.
- He who has ears to hear, let him hear!

6. John 12:24-26

- He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.
- If anyone serves Me, let him follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also.

NOTE:

- 1) All of these passages deal with the concept of death to self and following Christ.
- 2) All of these passages use similar terminology (e.g., love life = lose it - lose life = save it, etc.).
- 3) Jesus clearly relates these parallel concepts to the issues of salvation/discipleship.
- 4) All of these passages involve salvific content in a context emphasizing salvation.

Discipleship is really a LORDSHIP issue, and saving faith is a matter of believing in Jesus as Lord as well as Savior. To truly believe on Jesus as Lord is to personally recognize Him for WHO He is as Lord-God and Savior! That is a life-changing proposition!

John 10:26–28 (NKJV)

26 But you do not believe, because you are not of My sheep, as I said to you.

27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me.

28 And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.