

An Incredible Deal

JFK’s Cigar Box

The Order of the White Eagle Medallion

_____ (fill in the blank to prove you’re listening)

Jesus employs the economic language of making a beneficial transaction: gain, loss, profit, forfeit, return

The Cost of Belonging to Jesus

Follows Jesus vs. follows self

Denies self vs. gains the world

Picks up cross vs. saves their life

Acts 20:23-24 “The Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.

²⁴ But I do not *account my life of any value nor as precious to myself*, if only I may finish my course.”

The Benefit of Belonging to Jesus

Saves your life vs. loses your life

Gains soul vs. loses soul

Experiences glory on the day of judgment vs. experiences shame on the day of judgment

“The reference to the Father’s glory and to the accompanying train of angels [shows that]... Jesus was sent to reveal the glory of God in a world whose intoxication with its own glory is well expressed in the thought of gaining the world.” – William Lane

The Staggering Weight of this Teaching... and a Note on Spiritual Abuse and Manipulation

Questions for Personal Study

1. What does Jesus say following him will cost?
2. Why does Jesus warn of the costs, if the Gospel is good news of free grace? Is this a contradiction?
3. What do you lose if you refuse to follow Jesus?
4. Would something change if you started following Jesus today?