

## What It Costs To Be A Sinner

Luke 14:25-33

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- ▶ **Only two courses. Matthew 7:13**
  - Wide gate.
    - Pleasure. Hebrews 11:24-26; 2 Thessalonians 1:7-9; Matthew 25:46
  - Narrow gate.
    - Eternal life. Matthew 25:46; Romans 6:22-23

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## Cost of Righteousness

- ▶ Joseph. Genesis 39:7-20
- ▶ Daniel. Daniel 6
- ▶ Stephen. Acts 7
- ▶ Christians.
  - Renounce selfish will. Luke 9:23
  - Accept the will of Christ. Matthew 7:21; Hebrews 5:8-9
  - Follow His steps. 1 Peter 2:21
  - Give up ungodliness and worldliness. Titus 2:11-12
  - Give up anything that hinders. Matthew 5:29-30

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## Cost of Unrighteousness

### All my life's work. Psalms 127:1

- Purpose of life. Ecclesiastes 2:3; cf. 12:13-14
  - Wisdom.
  - Pleasures.
  - Riches.
- ▶ *Matthew 16:24-26, "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" (KJV)*

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## Cost of Unrighteousness

### Peace of mind. (Good conscience) John 8:9; cf. Romans 7:7ff

- ▶ We can **violate** our conscience, which is **sinful** – Romans 14:22-23
- ▶ We can **defile** our conscience, leading to **unbelief** – Titus 1:15
- ▶ We can **sear** our conscience, leading to **apostasy** – 1 Timothy 4:1-2; cf. Ephesians 4:17ff

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## Cost of Unrighteousness

### Presence of God. (Conditional)

- ▶ "Keep my word ..." John 14:15, 23
- ▶ *Psalms 91:1-2, "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of Jehovah, He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in whom I trust."*
- ▶ Abide in the doctrine of Christ. 2 John 9
- ▶ Must open the door. Revelation 3:20
- ▶ Importance of God's presence. Romans 8:31, 35-39; Hebrews 13:5; cf. John 9:31; 1 Peter 3:12

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## Cost of Unrighteousness

### Fellowship of the best people on earth.

1 John 1:7; Hebrews 10:24-25;  
cf. 1 Corinthians 15:33

- ▶ I am not alone.
  - Encouragement.
  - Rebuke.
    - *Proverbs 9:8* "Reprove not a scoffer, lest he hate thee: Reprove a wise man, and he will love thee."
    - *Proverbs 27:6* "Faithful are the wounds of a friend; But the kisses of an enemy are profuse."

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## Cost of Unrighteousness

### My soul. Luke 12:16-21

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## Costly To Remain In Sin

- ▶ Costly to become a Christian.
- ▶ More costly to remain in sin!
- ▶ You cannot afford to:
  - Live without the Lord.
  - Die without the Lord.
  - Spend eternity without the Lord.

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