

Luke 14:33

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.

Analysis

Jesus concludes: 'So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.' The phrase 'forsaketh not all' (Greek 'ouk apotassetai pasin tois heautou hyparchousin,' οὐκ ἀποτάσσεται πᾶσιν τοῖς ἑαυτοῦ ὑπάρχουσιν) means to renounce, say goodbye to, release claim on everything possessed. This doesn't necessarily mean literal poverty but holding possessions loosely, prioritizing Jesus above all else. The repeated 'cannot be my disciple' emphasizes absolute requirement. Discipleship costs everything—partial commitment doesn't exist. Jesus owns total allegiance or none at all.

Historical Context

This follows parables about counting the cost—a builder calculating expenses before starting (vv. 28-30), a king assessing forces before war (vv. 31-32). Jesus demands rational assessment before commitment—discipleship costs everything. First-century disciples literally left occupations, family, possessions to follow Jesus (Luke 5:11, 18:28-30). Early church history records believers selling possessions (Acts 2:44-45), fleeing persecution leaving everything (Hebrews 10:34), choosing martyrdom over recanting. Modern application varies culturally, but principle remains—nothing can rival Jesus for first place. Whatever competes with Him must be forsaken.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Romans 2:1 — Judging others

Study Questions

1. How does forsaking all possessions apply to modern believers in affluent cultures?
2. What does the repeated 'cannot be my disciple' teach about Jesus' expectation of absolute priority and total commitment?

Interlinear Text

οὕτως	οὕν	πᾶσιν	ἐξ	ὑμῶν	ὅς	οὐ	ἀποτάσσεται
So	likewise	all	he be of	you	that	he cannot	forsaketh
G3779	G3767	G3956	G1537	G5216	G3739	G3756	G657
πᾶσιν	τοῖς	ἑαυτοῦ	ὑπάρχουσιν	οὐ	δύναται	μου	
all			that he hath	he cannot		my	
G3956	G3588	G1438	G5224	G3756	G1410	G3450	
εἰναί	μαθητής						
be	disciple						
G1511	G3101						

Additional Cross-References

Luke 5:28 (Parallel theme): And he left all, rose up, and followed him.

Luke 14:26 (Parallel theme): If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.

Luke 5:11 (Parallel theme): And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

2 Timothy 4:10 (Parallel theme): For Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world, and is departed unto Thessalonica; Crescens to Galatia, Titus unto Dalmatia.

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