DIVINE DEFINITION OF DISCIPLESHIP

(Luke 14:25-33)

INTRODUCTION

(Matthew 28:19) "Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit: teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you ..." (note Acts 11:26)

"Disciple" - one taught; a student, pupil, or learner; adheres to the teaching of the Teacher.

We are blessed with a divine definition of discipleship, defined by Jesus.

1. (Luke 14:25-26) "There went great multitudes with him: and he turned, and said to them, If any man come to me, and hate not his father ... yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple."

The Bible defines this word "hate" - (Matt. 10:37) "He that loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me."

The Bible illustrates this in (Gen. 29:30-31) "... Jacob loved Rachel more than Leah ... And when the Lord saw that Leah was hated ..."

2. (Luke 14:27) "whosoever does not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple"

Jesus bore a wooden cross: (John 19:17) and Simon (Matt. 27:32).

Jesus also bore a cross that was uniquely His; the soldiers could not remove it, and no one else is qualified to bear it: (Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 2:24)

The cross we bear is not wooden: Must Jesus bear the cross alone and all the world go free? No! there's a cross for every one, and there's a cross for me.

3. (Luke 14:33) "So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsakes not all he has, cannot be my disciple."

We sing: "My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness ... "
"What can wash away my sin? Nothing but the blood of Jesus ... "
"Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling ... "

(Matt. 6:19-21; Luke 12:15, v21; 1 Tim. 6:7)

- 4. (John 8:30-31) "... Jesus said to those Jews which believed on him, If you continue in my word, then are you my disciples indeed."
- 5. (John 13:34-35) "By this shall all men know that you are my disciples, if you have love one to another"
- 6. (John 15:4-5) "As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine ... (v8) "Herein is by Father glorified, that you bear much fruit; so shall you be my disciples."