

**The Gospel of Matthew #90**

**JESUS' WORTH**

**Matthew 10:32-39**

Jesus here makes claims to exclusive allegiance that only God has the right to make! Having Jesus in your life will bring tension and difficult choices.

And the consequences are heaven or hell!

He must be more precious than:

I. The OPINIONS OF \_\_\_\_\_ : v32-33

Acknowledge (Rom 1:16; 10:19) or disown/deny Him (same word for Peter in 26:69-75)

(Note twice: "MY Father": unique. Who but God make such a claim?)

II. The ACCEPTANCE OF \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_:

v34-37 (Qt Mic 7:6)

Contrast the Jewish—and contemporary view of Messiah: brings peace, prosperity, tranquility. No! Warfare!

(Note uniqueness again: twice: "I have come")

Family much more painful than "others"

Cf. 5:10-12

Your situation? Jesus knows and cares.

10:37: sometimes He tests our hearts by seeing if we love Him more than our parents or children (eg Abraham: Gen. 22)

III. " \_\_\_\_\_ " YOUR OWN \_\_\_\_\_ : v38-39

Again unique: who else could say this?? Demands *total* allegiance!

Cross: *not* a difficult situation in life.

Rather *laying down* your life—your agenda or self-protection for Jesus.

Same for every Christian. Unique to every Christian.

Romans 12:1-2: what beckons you to crawl off the altar?

Alternatives:

**Find** here → **lose** for eternity (and here)

**Lose** here → **find** for eternity (and here)

Who claims such allegiance??

The One Who gave—**lost** His life for you!

How much is Jesus worth to you?

- People's fleeting opinions of you? Your job?
- Your family's acceptance? Or most important person in your life?
- Your agenda? Putting yourself first?

The amazing thing is that when you place yourself on the altar of His pleasure (Rom 12:1), you find His will for you to be better than what you would have chosen with your limited perspective (12:2). His pleasure and your pleasure are fused in beauty.