PLAYING RELIGION

Malachi 3:13-4:3

If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:26-33

I. **CHARGES (3:13):** God brings charges against the hypocrisy of a superficial faith.

II. **COST (3:13-15):** Are we content simply to play Christian as long as it costs us nothing?

III. **CONFIDENCE (3:16-4:3):** Though they may have no earthly possession to their name, those who truly fear the Lord find their confidence in Him.