

# The Message

Pastor Ron Smith

## **Come After Me . . . Follow Me!**

**Matthew 16:24-25**

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone desires to **come after me**, let him deny himself and take up his cross and **follow me**. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.



# Two Contrasting Desires

1. Whoever desires to come after me.
2. Whoever desires to save his life.



# The Self Maledictory Oath of the Covenant

“May God render to me the curse that He has been willing to take on himself, if I were to go back on the covenant.”



# The Reward

For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person . . . (16:27)



## Matthew 16:28

Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.



Are you afraid to die? Jesus says, 'Follow Me.'



# Cheap Grace and Costly Grace

Cheap grace justifies sin without justifying the sinner.



Cheap grace justifies sin without justifying the sinner.  
Cheap grace preaches forgiveness without repentance.



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Cheap grace preaches forgiveness without repentance.  
Cheap grace is grace without discipleship.



Only costly grace can save.



# Jesus said, “Follow Me.”

Christ calls, the disciple follows:  
That is grace and commandment in one.



“Only he who believes is obedient,  
And only he who is obedient believes.”



# **The Command to Follow Christ Is the Command to Come to the Church**

Ephesians 1:23 says the church is the body of Christ.  
To reject His body is to reject Him.



# The Payment

“For the Son of Man is going to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay each person according to what he has done.”



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