

# Don't Look Back

January 1, 2006

**Luke 9:57-62**

## 1. Many commit to follow Jesus, until they realize there are problems—

### ♦ The comforts of this world may not be there for you:

- Until they realized what is involved in going to Jerusalem -
- He came born in a manger in the animal stable because there was no room in the Inn
- During his ministry he didn't even have a house to call home and even a pillow to lay his head on
- Even the animals had better provisions than He -
  1. Foxes have dens
  2. Birds have nest

### ♦ There will be legitimate things in this world to be done, but the work of the kingdom takes precedence over them:

- **Luke 18:28** - Peter tells Jesus "We have left all to follow you." Jesus tells him, everyone that has left houses, parents, wife, children, brothers or sisters for the kingdom's sake, shall receive much, much more in this life and life eternal in the next.
- There will be no sacrifice of legitimate obligations that will go unrewarded – if sacrificed in the service of the King

### ♦ Then there are things that we just want to do to make us and others feel better, but the work of the Kingdom must take precedence over them.

- Saying good-bye to loved ones
- Giving up the things that bring us comfort and joy
- Releasing some of the things we feel responsible for

## 2. Don't Look Back - you will become unfit

- **Lot's wife** – brought out and delivered, but looked back because what she left behind held a greater sway in her heart than the will and plan of God for her life.
- **Philippians 3:13** - Paul said he had not achieved everything that he wanted or should have, but this one thing I am doing – forgetting those things which are behind me and reaching forward for those things which are in front of me. I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- **Count up the cost** – tally your loss if you become unfit for the kingdom of God

- **In this new year** - drive forward and slack not the reins, for the kingdom of God is at hand.

**3. Luke 14:18-20 - What will cause us to look back:**

1. A love for this present world and the things in it
  - a. Bought a piece of land – need to go and see it, excuse me
  - b. Bought 5 yoke of oxen – need to test them – excuse me
  - c. Just married a wife – therefore I cannot come – excuse me
2. A loss of the vision – and the fact that the just must live by their faith.

**\*GOD will take care of all these thing. Leave them in His hand and don't keep looking back.\***

*(But seek ye first the kingdom of GOD and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt 6:33)*