

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

BACK TO THE BOOK OF ACTS (BBA)

RLJ-1158

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PART 41: THE COST OF PREACHING THE GOSPEL

NOTHING TAKES PLACE WITHOUT PLANNING

Nothing takes place on this earth unless God has given consent to it; we can therefore logically conclude that every event is planned out in advance. Satan is the creator of evil and cannot make anything happen unless God has given permission beforehand based upon the performance of man.

1. Satan would never have got permission to strike Job unless there was a legal opening; that legal opening was fear. **Job 3:25; 1 John 4:17-18**
2. Man brings judgment upon himself. **Galatians 6:7-9**
3. The believer in Christ is commanded to plan his days according to the will of God. **Romans 12:1-2; James 4:13-17**
4. Every human has two master plans prepared for him in the spirit world. First there is *God's perfect will* and then there is *Satan's perverted will*. Each person must choose which one to follow. **Joshua 24:15**

If you do not plan your day, someone else will do it for you. Since God is not going to force His will upon you, Satan will step in and use his demons and people to move you according to his perverted mind.

The apostle Paul carefully planned out his days. **Acts 19:21-22**

THE DEVIL IS CONSTANTLY OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE

If you want to picture how Satan works, look at any attorney working for the American Civil Liberty Union, (ACLU), or attorneys from the National Organization of Women (NOW), or Planned Parenthood. For years these organizations have sent in their attorneys with perverted minds to argue in court and destroy the moral values in this nation. They do not just go to any court; they first investigate where they can find a crooked judge with no morals who will rule in their favor. This judge then rules according to the wickedness of these organizations and causes years of litigation before the case finally ends up in the Supreme Court.

This is what was done in California after the March 2000 election, when a majority of California voters spoke and passed Proposition 22 which stated that there will be a new state law specifying marriage is between a man and a woman only. Now they are fighting Proposition 8 in 2008, which seeks add to an



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amendment to the California state constitution that marriage is only between a man and a woman.

The Devil and his human cronies behaved the same way in the days of the apostle Paul, when the silversmith craftsmen in Ephesus got stung in their pocketbook and decided to go after Paul and the Christians. **Acts 19:23-28**

Once a mob was gathered and riled up, all their intelligence was replaced with confusion and commotion. **verses 29-34**

God used the town clerk to calm down the people and destroy the plans of the Devil. **verses 35-41**

THE COST OF PREACHING THE GOSPEL

When Paul and other Christians moved around in the Roman Empire and started to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, it was bound to clash with the followers of Satan. Evil cannot coexist in the same room with goodness, neither can Satan's disciple prosper when thousands of people are born again and the power of God is displayed. Something has to give one way or another. Each Christian must come to realize that there is a high cost to pay when we witness, pray and lead people to Christ. **Matthew 10:32-39**

HAVE YOU COUNTED THE COST IN YOUR LIFE?

It all comes down to planning as you make decisions what to do with your life on this earth. All the apostles, except Judas, had counted the cost and found it to be worthy to pay in order to have a position in the kingdom of God.

Have you counted the cost in your life?

What kind of plans do you have?

You cannot drift through life! Drifters are led by Satan!

*Make up your mind today! **Luke 19:18-30***

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

DO YOU HAVE AN EAR TO HEAR WITH?