



# Oceanside URC—Wednesday School of Theology

*Holiness #6*

**Rev. Danny Hyde, Pastor**

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*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? (Luke 14:28).*

\*All page numbers are from J. C. Ryle, *Holiness: Its Nature, Hindrances, Difficulties, and Roots* (London: William Hunt and Company, 1879).

## **Chapter 5: “The Cost”**

- Reflect on how becoming a Christian is free but being a Christian is costly.

### ***What it Costs to be a True Christian (98–103)***

- How does it “cost” self-righteousness?
- How does it “cost” sin?
- How does it “cost” love of ease?
- How does it “cost” favor of the world?

*“A religion that costs nothing is worth nothing! A cheap Christianity without a cross, will prove in the end a useless Christianity, without a crown.” (103)*

### ***Why Counting the Cost is Such Great Importance (103–111)***

- How does Ryle say counting the cost has been deemphasized in some circles?
- If we are trying to win people to Christ, should we mention the cost of discipleship?

***Helps to Count the Cost Rightly (111–116)***

- The profit and the loss
  
- The praise and the blame
  
- The friends and enemies
  
- The life now and life to come
  
- The pleasures of sin and happiness of God's service
  
- The troubles of Christianity and the troubles of the wicked
  
- The number of those who turn to Christ and those who do not

***Application (116–118)***

- Does your religion cost you anything?
  
- What did it cost God to save you?
  
- Persevere and press on

*It may cost much to be a true Christian and a consistent holy man; but it pays."*