

## The Fox, The Funeral and The Furrow

Luke 9:57 - 62

Presented by Bob DeWaay  
February 24, 2008

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
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Key theme of this section is: "The Cost of Following Jesus"

- Follow (vss. 57, 59, 61)
- Go (vss. 57, 59, 60 & implied 61)
- Cost (vss. 58, 60, 62)
- The first and third potential followers were volunteers who do not understand the cost
- The second potential follower was called to follow

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
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The key issue was the extended trip to Jerusalem to be rejected and killed

- **Luke 9:22, 23**

"The Son of Man must suffer many things, and be rejected by the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised up on the third day." And He was saying to them all, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me."

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The key issue was the extended trip to Jerusalem to be rejected and killed

■ **Luke 9:44, 45**

"Let these words sink into your ears; for the Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men." But they did not understand this statement, and it was concealed from them so that they might not perceive it; and they were afraid to ask Him about this statement.

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A Volunteer Who Does Not Realize the Cost

■ **Luke 9:57, 58**

And as they were going along the road, someone said to Him, "I will follow You wherever You go." And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

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Irony: Son of Man has no place

■ **Daniel 7:13, 14**

"I kept looking in the night visions, And behold, with the clouds of heaven One like a Son of Man was coming, And He came up to the Ancient of Days And was presented before Him. And to Him was given dominion, Glory and a kingdom, That all the peoples, nations, and men of every language Might serve Him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion Which will not pass away; And His kingdom is one Which will not be destroyed."

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## Foxes and Birds may symbolize Gentile nations and the Herods

### ■ Luke 9:58

And Jesus said to him, "The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head."

### ■ Luke 13:32a

And He said to them, "Go and tell that fox . . ." [Herod]

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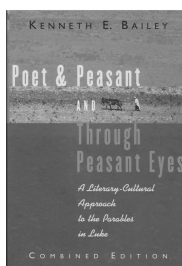
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"Jesus in a veiled fashion may well be saying: Look, if you want power and influence go to the 'birds' [Romans] who 'feather their nests' everywhere. Follow the "fox" [Herod] who manages his own affairs with considerable cunning. For in spite of your expectations, the Son of man stands powerless and alone." (page 25)




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## A person called to follow has family obligations

### ■ Luke 9:59, 60

And He said to another, "Follow Me." But he said, "Permit me first to go and bury my father." But He said to him, "Allow the dead to bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim everywhere the kingdom of God."

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“good-bye” means literally “take leave”

■ **Luke 9:61**

And another also said, “I will follow You, Lord; but first permit me to say good-bye to those at home.”

*apotasso\_* “to part from” “make a formal parting from his folks” (TDNT)

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“good-bye” means literally “take leave”

■ **Luke 14:33**

So therefore, no one of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions.

*apotasso\_* “to part from”

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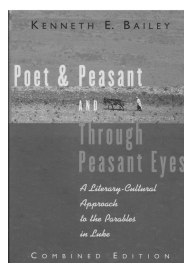
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“The point is that the volunteer is asking for the right to go home and *get permission* from ‘those at home’ (i.e. his parents). Everyone listening to the dialogue knows that naturally the father will refuse to let the boy wander off on some questionable enterprise.” (page 28)




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## An illustration from farming

### ■ **Luke 9:62**

But Jesus said to him, "No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."

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## Applications and Implications

- 1) We must serve the Son of Man by faith because the dominion and authority is unseen.
- 2) Being a part of the family of God is more important than our natural family
- 3) The demands of the Kingdom of God require our utmost attention

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- 1) We must serve the Son of Man by faith because the dominion and authority is unseen.

### ■ **Hebrews 10:12, 13**

but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God, waiting from that time onward until His enemies be made a footstool for His feet.

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1) We must serve the Son of Man by faith because the dominion and authority is unseen.

■ **Hebrews 11:1**

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

■ **1Corinthians 15:19**

If we have hoped in Christ in this life only, we are of all men most to be pitied.

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
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2) Being a part of the family of God is more important than our natural family

■ **Luke 14:26**

“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.”

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
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2) Being a part of the family of God is more important than our natural family

■ **1Peter 2:9**

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;

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3) The demands of the Kingdom of God  
require our utmost attention

■ **Luke 17:28, 29**

It was the same as happened in the days  
of Lot: they were eating, they were  
drinking, they were buying, they were  
selling, they were planting, they were  
building; but on the day that Lot went out  
from Sodom it rained fire and brimstone  
from heaven and destroyed them all.

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3) The demands of the Kingdom of God  
require our utmost attention

■ **Luke 17:30 - 32**

It will be just the same on the day that the  
Son of Man is revealed. On that day, let  
not the one who is on the housetop and  
whose goods are in the house go down to  
take them away; and likewise let not the  
one who is in the field turn back.  
Remember Lot's wife.

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