

**General Topics :: The Call to follow Jesus****The Call to follow Jesus, on: 2010/4/25 0:29**

We Lutherans... have paid the doctrine of pure grace divine honours unparalleled in Christendom; in fact, we have exalted the doctrine to the position of God Himself. Everywhere Luther's formula has been repeated, but its truth perverted into self-deception. So long as our Church holds the correct doctrine of justification, there is no doubt whatever that she is a justified Church! So they said, thinking that we must vindicate our Lutheran heritage by making this grace available on the cheapest and easiest terms. To be "Lutheran" must mean that we leave the following of Christ to the Nomians, the Calvinists, and the Anabaptists--and all this for the sake of grace! We justified the world, and condemned as heretics those who tried to follow Christ. The result was that a nation became Christian and Lutheran, but at the cost of true discipleship... We poured forth unending streams of grace. But the call to follow Jesus was hardly ever heard.

... Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945), *The Cost of Discipleship*, London: SCM Press, 1964, p. 12-13

**Re: The Call to follow Jesus - posted by Areadymind (), on: 2010/4/25 0:47**

...terrifying, that we could fail of the grace of God. May history not repeat itself in our nations. There is no mandate saying it has to.

I remember when I first read that I had to pick my jaw up off the ground. Thank you for the reminder brother.