

**Matthew 10:34-42**  
**Jesus Brings a Sword**

I. I did not come to bring peace but a sword.

- A. Is not Jesus the Prince of Peace? [Isaiah 9:6; Isaiah 52:7; Psalm 72:7]
- B. Peace with God is linked with faith in Christ. [Eph 1:2; Isaiah 57:19-21]
- C. The sword of Christ divides the intimate relationships of life.
- D. The sword of Christ divides but the division does not overrule the Fifth Commandment.
- E. What of the person who has no conflict with family?

II. He who does not take his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me.

- A. The disciple's cross presses on every aspect of life.
- B. The way forward is to follow Christ with your cross. [Heb 13:12-14]
- C. He who loses his life for my sake will find it.
- D. Verse 39 is not a philosophical principle; it is a call to follow Christ and learn from him.

III. Jesus the sword-bearer brings rewards to those who receive him.

- A. The sword bearer is Christ himself [verse 34; Psalm 45:2-3; Rev 1:16, 17, 18].
- B. The sword bearer is the faithful disciple who obeys Christ's commands. [John 13:20]
- C. The sword bearer is the church which remains faithful to the full teaching of Jesus Christ. [Rev 2:9-10]
- D. The rewards ... [2Cor 5:20; Mark 9:41; 3John 5-8]
- E. The sword-bearer brings blessing.
  - 1. The word of peace: peace with God, peace with one another when our hearts are sanctified in him.
  - 2. The gospel may divide families, but later we sometimes find that the Holy Spirit has united divided families in Christ.
  - 3. The cross you bear may feel heavy at times. But rejoice at the prospect of inheriting the kingdom of God if you persevere!
  - 4. We hold back at losing our life in this world. We must not; there is nothing of value to lose.
  - 5. The call to be disciples of Jesus is a call to be at war in the world.