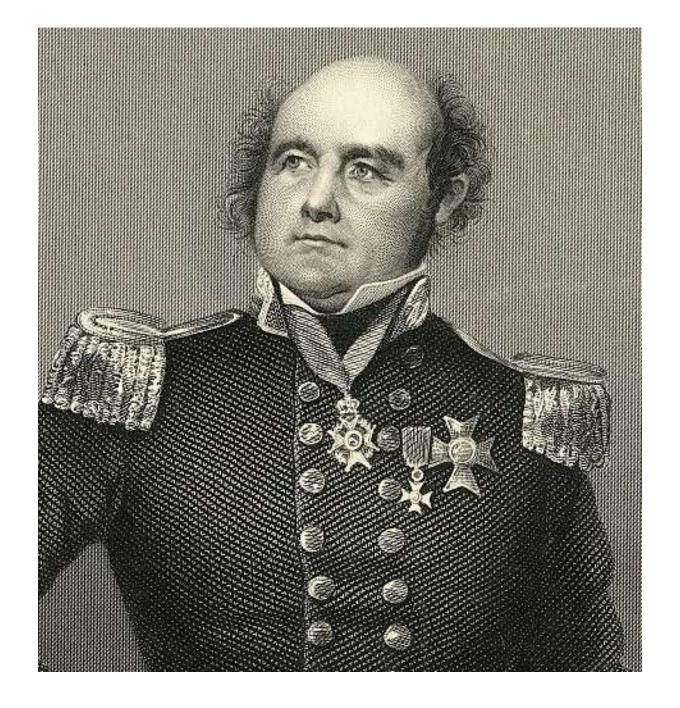
The Challenge of Discipleship

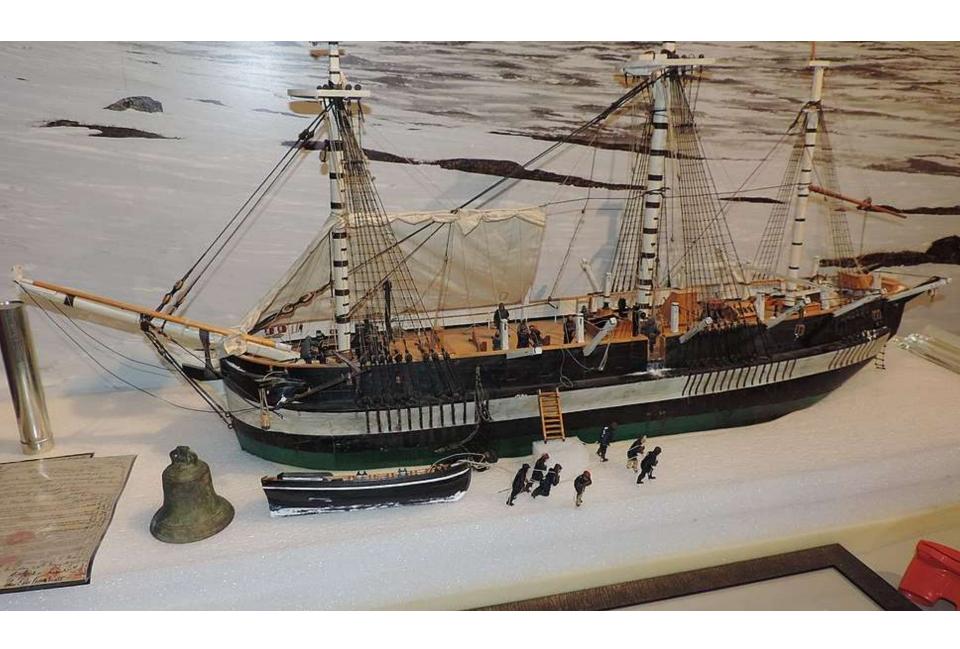


Distinctive #5





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Anne Dillard

"each ship made room for a 1,200 volume library, an [organ] playing fifty tunes, china place settings, cut-glass wine goblets, and sterling silver flatware of ornate Victorian design, very heavy at the handles, richly patterned, and engraved with the individual officers' initials and family crests."

The Challenge of Discipleship



Distinctive #5

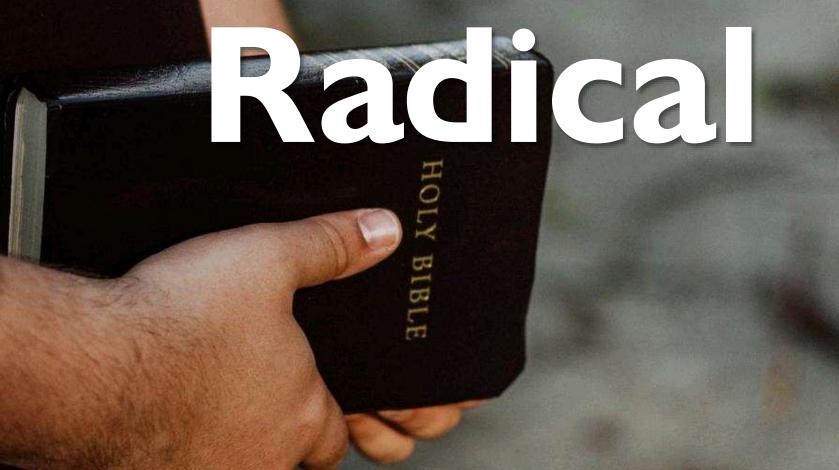
25 Now large crowds were going along with Him; and He turned and said to them, 26 "If anyone comes to Me, and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be My disciple. 27 Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after Me cannot

be My disciple. 28 For which one of you, when he wants to build a tower, does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if he has enough to complete it? 29 Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who observe it begin to ridicule him, 30 saying, 'This man began to build and was not able to

finish.' 31 Or what king, when he sets out to meet another king in battle, will not first sit down and consider whether he is strong enough with ten thousand men to encounter the one coming against him with twenty thousand? 32 Or else, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace.

33 So then, none of you can be My disciple who does not give up all his own possessions. 34 "Therefore, salt is good; but if even salt has become tasteless, with what will it be seasoned? 35 It is useless either for the soil or for the manure pile; it is thrown out. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

Radical allegiance to God will lead to a radical difference in our lives.



Allegiance



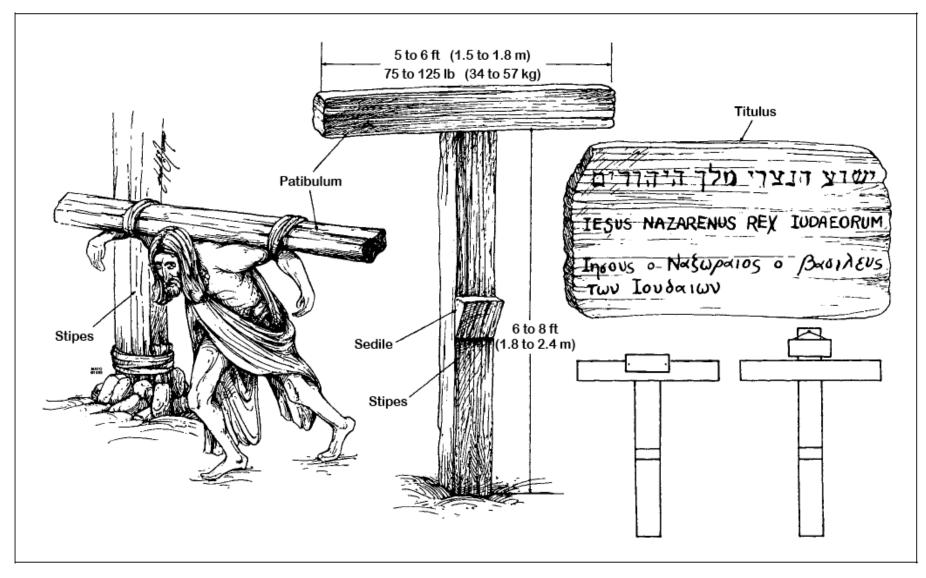
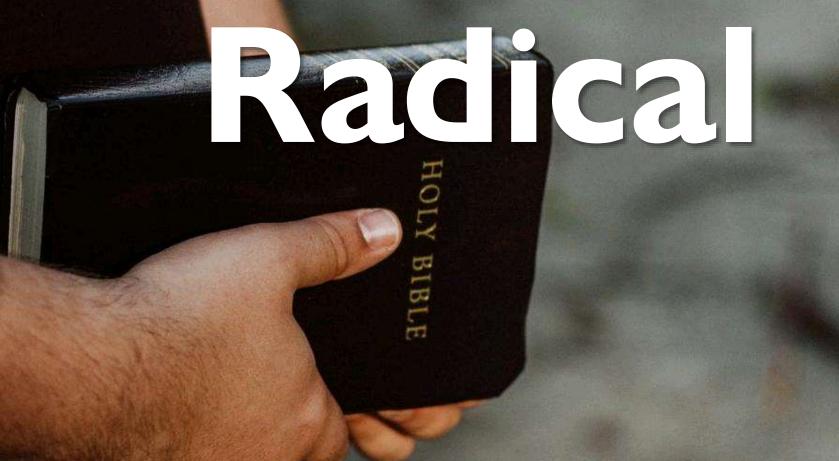


Fig 3.—Cross and titulus. Left, victim carrying crossbar (patibulum) to site of upright post (stipes). Center Low Tau cross (crux commissa), commonly used by Romans at time of Christ. Upper right, Rendition of Jesus' titulus with name and crime—Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews—written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek. Lower right Possible methods for attaching tittles to Tau cross (left) and Latin cross (right).

From: On the Physical Death of Jesus Christ, Journal of the American Medical Association 255(11):1455-63.



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Allegiance

Radical



Difference

Radical allegiance to God will lead to a radical difference in our lives.

