

## Matthew 11:28-30 Three Great Invitations from Jesus

Introduction: Jesus rebuked the masses for not having repented. They had heard John preach. They had heard Jesus and had seen Him work great miracles and still they had not repented. Yet He loved them and makes a strong appeal for them to be saved.

### I. The three invitations

#### A. The invitation to salvation, Verse 28.

1. Jesus said "Come unto me."
  - a. He did not say "Come unto the scribes and Pharisees, or John the Baptist or the Law of Moses or to the apostles or to the New Testament church or to baptism.
  - b. The idea is "Believe in me, trust in me, count on me, depend on me."  
(Trust me and me only.)
2. Jesus called for all to come.
3. He saw their great anguish.
  - a. He saw their labors. (Their great effort to achieve righteousness by the Law without success. They were condemned by the law they sought to keep.)
  - b. He saw their heavy burden. (The Law was never intended as a plan of salvation, Galatians 2:21. It was intended only to show man his need of the Savior. Therefore it is a heavy load for those trying to be saved by keeping it.)
  - c. He saw the sinfulness of every man, Romans 6:23. (There is no heavier load than the burden of one's own guilt of sin before God.)
  - d. Jesus makes not this invitation to men who are satisfied in their sin, but to those who are desperately seeking a way out. (They are trying to stay out of the fires of hell.)
4. Jesus promised rest.
  - a. "I (personally) will give you rest."
  - b. "I will rest you. I will refresh you."
  - c. "I will personally see to it that you do not go to hell."
  - d. "I will save your soul."
  - e. All that one must do to get this rest is to come in faith to Jesus.

#### B. The invitation to service, Verse 29a.

1. After one is saved he is to serve Jesus.
2. The yoke is symbolic of service.  
(Oxen in the yoke served their masters. The saved person is to serve his Master.)
3. This is a voluntary service, motivated by love.
4. This involves baptism, church membership, godliness, witnessing, giving, etc.  
(It involves every Christian service as set forth in the Bible.)

#### C. The invitation to learn, Verse 29a.

1. No man can fully understand the Christ, but the saved man does have the blessed privilege of learning more and more about Him.
2. Jesus Himself is the teacher, the instructor.
3. If we are going to do His work we need to learn His way; If we are going to do His work we need to learn His will; If we are going to do His work we need to learn His teachings.
4. Search the scriptures and learn of Jesus.

## II. The three encouragements.

### A. "I am meek and lowly in heart."

1. You would be coming to One who is loving and kind.
2. You would be coming to One who is in heart all that He ought to be.  
(The Pharisee made a great pretense of humility, but it was not from the heart.)
3. You will see in Him all that you ought to become.  
(He does not merely tell you what you ought to be, He sets the example.)
4. He is yielded to the will of God the Father.

### B. "Ye shall find rest unto your souls."

1. Rest because there is no danger for the soul in the hereafter.
2. Rest because the sins are forgiven.
3. Rest because there is peace with God.
4. There may yet be struggle in the flesh but there is rest in the soul.

### C. "My yoke is easy and my burden is light."

1. The word "easy" means "good, gentle, pleasant, profitable, beneficial."
2. The work of the Lord is all of these things.
3. The word "light" tells us that Christian responsibility will not be a crushing weight, but a real joy, a real delight.

## Conclusion:

1. The invitations which Jesus extended to those people back then He extends to you today.
2. I may be preaching today to someone who is laboring to be righteous and heavy laden with the guilt of sin. Come to Jesus today.
3. I may be preaching today to some saved person who needs to get in the yoke for the Lord.
4. There may be some who need to get in Sunday School on a regular basis so that you can better learn of Jesus.

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