

Invitation to Find Rest in Christ

Matthew 11:25-30

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Text:

Matthew 11:25-30,

25. At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children.

26. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

27. All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

28. Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

29. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

30. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

Commentary:

Jesus Prays to God

Matthew 11:25, 26, At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.

I. Jesus addressed God as his Father, Lord of heaven and earth.

II. Jesus thanked God that the truth of the gospel, his deity, which was hidden from sophisticates was revealed to ordinary receptive people.

A. Prideful intellectuals were rooted in tradition, their minds were shut tightly.

B. Simple men such as the apostles were receptive to the teachings of Jesus.

III. This pleased the Father!

A. Today also “sophisticates” continue to reject the gospel.

B. Today also “common people” are more often inclined to believe.

Matthew 11:27, All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

I. There is no way to know God except through Christ.

A. John 14:6, Jesus answered, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

B. If we truly believe this we will do our utmost to take the gospel to the whole world!

The Great Invitation

Matthew 11:28-30, Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

I. Jesus here promised to give **rest** to all who labor and are burdened by sin and the trials of life who come to him.

A. A person who makes such a claim has to be either genuine or a total hoax.

B. This is true of Jesus as well!

II. Jesus invites all to take his yoke (his gospel and way of life) and assures all that:

A. he is meek and lowly in heart, not a cruel taskmaster.

B. those who assume his yoke will find rest for their souls from the effects of sin.

C. Jesus stated that his way of life is comparatively easy and light.

III. Jesus can comfort those facing the problems of life because:

A. he has been through the most grievous painful suffering.

B. He is meek and lowly and is qualified to be the Master Comforter.

IV. Some eastern and middle eastern people still carry things by means of yokes on their shoulders.

A. Some yokes were padded and made so as to be more comfortable and functional in carrying loads than others.

B. Christ's yoke is the ultimate for bearing the vicissitudes of life.

V. How do we take the yoke of Christ upon ourselves? By believing in the deity of Christ and following him in deed and in faith.

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Questions

1. Jesus prayed, "I praise you, _____, _____ of _____ and _____, because you have hidden these things from the _____ and _____, and revealed them to _____."

2. "No one knows the _____ except the _____, and no one knows the _____ except the _____ and those to whom the _____ chooses to reveal him."

3. "Come to me, all you who are _____ and _____, and I will give you _____."

4. "Take my _____ upon you and _____ from me, for I am _____ and _____ in _____, and you will find _____ for your _____."

5. Jesus said, "... my _____ is _____ and my _____ is _____."