

Matthew 11:20 - 30

28 "Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

20 Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, because they did not repent:

21 "Woe

(tragedy, catastrophe, calamity, adversity, affliction) to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes.

- Tyre and Sidon in the Old Testament had constantly been judged and destroyed by different Kings because of their pagan worship.
- Jesus, in essence, shamed Chorazin, Bethsaida, and Capernaum—they, who were supposed to be God's representatives on earth, refused to listen; yet pagan cities would have quickly repented.
- ***"From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked"*** (Luke 12:48).
- These two cities, later, prospered during the Roman times.

22 "But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the Day of Judgment than for you.

- It will be more tolerable for the ones that don't repent in Tyre and Sidon than for you.

23 "And you, Capernaum, who are exalted (elevated, lifted up, raised to the very summit of prosperity, raised to dignity, honour and happiness) to heaven, will be brought down to Hades (death); for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day.

- If Sodom had been filled with remorse for its sins and repented, it would have been spared to this day.

24 "But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the Day of Judgment than for you."

25 ¶ At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent (intelligent) and have revealed them to babes (Nepios: for children who have not yet started speaking).

- Jesus once again tries to affirm His direct connection and link to the Father publically through the way He addresses Yahweh in prayer. No one before Jesus had had directly addressed Yahweh as Father in prayer.

- **Matthew 6:9** *"In this manner, therefore, pray: Our Father in heaven, Hallowed be Your name.*
- You have hidden these things from the skilled, the experts, and the skilled in letters, cultivated, and learned, the scribes and Pharisees.
- But you have revealed them to the speechless, like babies, who are not skilled in the writings of the Old Testament or orators like the Pharisees and scribes.
- Another kind of mockery to the teachers of the law or those who thought they knew the word of God more than others.

26 *"Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.*

27 *"All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.*

- **Matthew 28:18** *And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.*
- Matthew tries to show in his writings by quoting Jesus Himself who in these passages seemed to have been putting Himself on the same level as God by calling Himself the Son thus Him being God the Son.

28 "Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

- Receive and accept me all you who are tired, weary and weighed down, heavy with sin and its burdens.
- Let me free you from the cruel and burdensome laws of your Jewish leaders. From the burdensome traditions and ordinances. From the human suffering.
- And I will restore you to what the Father originally intended you to be. I will free you from the burden of sin and death. *John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

- *Embrace my laws and learn (about the Father) from Me for I'm compassionate and humble in heart, and you will find restoration and salvation for your souls.*
- You will be reconnected to the Father.
- Zechariah 9:9 *"Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He is just and having salvation, Lowly and riding on a donkey, A colt, the foal of a donkey.*

30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

- For my law, compared to the Jewish laws is easy and My load that you must bare, if you love Me, is light compared to what is out there in the world.

Conclusion

28 "Come to Me, all you who labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

What kind of rest does the Lord offer all those who come to Him?

- From sin. Romans 5:12 *Therefore, just as through one man sin entered the world, and death through sin, and thus death spread to all men, because all sinned—*
- From being separated from the Father. Colossians 1:19 *For it pleased the Father that in Him all the fullness should dwell, 20 and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross. 21 And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled 22 in the body of His flesh through death, to present you holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight—*
- But let us always remember to take up His yoke and learn from Him, then we shall find His rest.