

Come to Me **Matthew 11:28-30**

INTRO:

We are going to look at an invitation the Lord Jesus gave in **Matthew 11**. Remember the Bible teaches salvation has two sides like a coin. When we present the Gospel it talks about how free salvation is. We just have to come to Christ and believe. The other side we learn after God saved us. We learn how God was at work in us and how we were chosen in Him before time began. We will glimpse at both sides in this text and will focus our attention on the first side of the coin.

I. Come to Me (verse 28)

II. Learn From Me (verses 29-30)

I. Come to Me (verse 28)

Matthew 11:28 *“Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.”*

A. This could be the most remembered invitation in the New Testament. Jesus uttered this invitation in the shadow of His great statement in the preceding verse.

Matthew 11:27 *“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.”*

B. The word *“come”* is not a command. It is an interjection like our word “OW!” Jesus calls people to come to Him. Who does He call? *“all you who labor and are heavy laden,”* The first word, *“labor”* means to toil to exhaustion. The second word, *“heavy laden,”* means to be under a heavy burden. This brings to mind an old country song that said, *“Stop the world and let me off. I’m tired of going round and round.”* The point is Christ calls those who have come who know the aching emptiness of life. Do we recognize how empty and hopeless life is without God? *“I am’. I said / To no one there / And no one heard at all / Not even the chair / “am’. I cried/” am’ said I / And I am lost and I can’t Even say why / Leavin’ me lonely still.”*
Neil Diamond

C. The promise for those of us who come to Jesus is rest. *“Rest”* is not sleep. Rest is recuperation. **John 6:36-37** helps us understand what the Lord meant by coming to Him and finding rest for our weary hearts.

“But I said to you that you have seen Me and yet do not believe. All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.”

II. Learn From Me (verses 29-30)

Matthew 11:29–30 *“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. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”*

A. Not only must the one who wants to know Jesus must come in faith. After coming to Christ, that one must take up a yoke. The yoke can be we need to follow Him, be committed to and connected to Him. It also may connote serving together with Him. A second idea in the thought of the yoke may be to learn from Him.

B. What must we learn and why must we learn it? We must learn because of Who the Lord is, and we must learn to be like Him.

1. Are we surprised that the Lord did not say, “You need to learn from me because I am the eternal Son of God, all-powerful and Sovereign Lord of the Universe?” Could He have truthfully said this?

2. He said we needed to learn from Him because He was *“meek and lowly in heart.”* I think that we need to learn to be like Him.

C. What does it mean to be *“meek and lowly in heart?”*

1. Meekness is a word that the newer translations like to translate as gentleness. Let me show you how this word is used. The Lord Jesus used this Greek word in places like

Matthew 5:5: *“Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth.”*

James used it in **James 1:21** to describe how we should receive the Word of God when we read it.

“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.”

The most defining use of this word is found in **Numbers 12**.

v.3 *“(Now the man Moses was meek, more than all men who were on the face of the earth).”*

The LXX used the same Greek Word to translate the word *“meek.”* Moses showed his meekness by accepting what God did in his defense. So, I define meekness as recognizing that before God we have no rights. We come to the Word of God knowing that before the Word we have no rights. Christ’s example to us was of total submission to the Father’s will. Have we learned meekness from Christ? If we fight with the Lord over whether we will obey or not, we will not find peace for our souls.

2. The second word is *“lowly of heart.”* We find the cognate in

Philippians 2:3 *“Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.”*

The Apostle Paul defines this concept through the example of Christ.

Philippians 2:5-8 *“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a slave, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.”*

He did not think poorly of Himself. Rather, He put us and our needs before His own rights. Are we humble in this sense of the word? Will we learn to trust Christ and put others first to do His work? If we will we will find rest for our souls.

D. Why? Because, *“For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”* Our Lord loves us and promised He knows our hearts and our work.

1 Corinthians 15:58 *“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord.”*

Little Is Much When God Is in It

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KITTIE J. SUFFIELD

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1. In the har - vest field now rip - ened There's a work for all to do;
2. Does the place you're called to la - bor Seem so small and lit - tle known?
3. Are you laid a - side from serv - ice, Bod - y worn from toil and care?
4. When the con - flict here is end - ed And our race on earth is run,

Hark! the voice of God is call - ing, To the har - vest call - ing you.
It is great if God is in it, And He'll not for - get His own.
You can still be in the bat - tle In the sa - cred place of pray'r.
He will say, if we are faith - ful, "Wel - come home, my child - well done."

CHORUS

Lit - tle is much, when God is in it! La - bor not for wealth or fame;

There's a crown - and you can win it, If you'll go in Je - sus' name.

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