

[Come and Rest](#)

Mat 11:28 Come unto me, all *ye* that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Mat 11:29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.

Mat 11:30 For my yoke *is* easy, and my burden is light.

What a promise. In "coming" there is resting. By "taking" rest can found. So many people are working very hard to please the Lord. The harder they work to meet the demands they feel God desires of them the more burdened they get. They sense they need to try harder to really please God and to overcome their weaknesses. Many come to the Lord but they find no rest because they just ask His help in bearing the load of producing the Christian life. They might be encouraged to continue on but soon are coming again for strength to bear the load. There is a better way. You can have lasting rest right now! The first step is by coming to Him. No one is excluded. It is a call for all and it is a call to come now, just as you are. The word "come" is an interesting word. Almost all Greek verbs have a tense either past tense, present tense, or future tense. This verb has no stated tense. It is wide open! Come now, come later, and come often! This verse was realized by all of us when we got saved. We realized that we could do nothing to produce salvation for ourselves and just took from the Lord His offer of salvation that He worked for and produced. We simply received and rested. However, many have been taught after salvation it is up to us to get up and get busy for God and start producing a pleasing Christian life to both God and others. However, this does not work very well. It did not work before you got saved and this approach to God will not work after you are saved. We must renew our minds to how God wants us to live.

Jesus said that once we have come to Him we need to take from Him. He offered to us a yoke. This seems so strange. A yoke is an emblem of hard work. In the time of Jesus the religious community used the emblem of a yoke to describe a commitment to the Mosaic Law. Once someone was of age they took the "yoke of the Torah"- the Law- and committed themselves to obey it to the letter. The law was exacting and demanded complete obedience to receive anything from the Lord. The people in Jesus day were burdened and

completely exhausted and empty! He offered them a new way of living. He offered them a new yoke. It was a new system of working. **It was working that came from resting!** To operate in this new way there must be something learned. Jesus said, learn of me! What was Jesus teaching that would cause them rest in the midst of their work? A few verses before this passage Jesus disclosed the secret that He wanted to teach. It was how Jesus Himself operated and stayed at rest.

Mat 11:27 "My Father has given me all things..."

Here is the secret of the powerful life of Jesus. He said the Father has given me all things. **Jesus never tried to produce for God. He only manifested and acted upon what God gave to Him!**

I never found rest and victory in my personal Christian life until I had learned this principle. For so long I tried to overcome habits and sins by my will power and efforts. I tried to do it even by spiritual things such as Bible study and prayer. I made these works to produce for God. I am so thankful that it sank into my heart one day that God does not want me producing for Him at all. He wants me to live FROM Him! **It was a glorious day that I quit my day job in the Christian production department and got reassigned to the receiving and shipping department.** I am much better suited for my new position! I was specifically made to perform this function. Now I work but it is no longer I but the Lord that works in me! I now only distribute what Jesus gives me and what Jesus gives to me is Himself! He is victory, He is holiness, He is healing, He is peace!

Jesus offers a yoke to you today. In the times of Jesus a yoke had two openings in it for two horses or oxen to be yoked together. A younger weaker ox was yoked with the stronger. The stronger ox actually did more of the work than the younger weaker one. Jesus wants to be in the yoke with you. **However, He wants to be the producer of the work and He wants you to walk along and enjoy the ride.** The Christian life is work but it is a work of rest. **The Christian life involves many works but now they are works of faith.** Come unto Him today and receive all from Him. Walk with Him resting in His power and strength working for you and in you. You have been joined and yoked to Christ by the Spirit of God.

1. What department in the Christian life have you been employed in? The production department or the receiving and shipping department?
2. What habit are you trying to overcome in your life right now or what blessing are you trying to work to get? Jesus is offering to be your victory if you will just believe and receive. Jesus earned the blessing you are seeking and He wants you to just receive it by grace upon His performance not yours.
3. Faith exercise: Turn achieving to receiving. What you have been trying to achieve by your efforts, now trust the Lord and just receive it. If He tells you to do something in the natural then do it knowing if He told you to do it He will provide the strength and wisdom to carry it out.
4. Confession: Lord I resign from the production department in my life. I am now learning of you. You received all from the Father and now I will receive all from God also. I believe that I am joined to you and that you produce the Christian life for me and in me. I will walk with you in rest. You have earned all the blessings of God and you love to just give them to me. I receive them Lord!