

Matthew 11:28-30

"Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light." Matthew 11:28-30

This is the time of the year when celebrations are abundant. Americans fill their days cooking and eating lavish banquets with friends and family.

Thanksgiving began as an opportunity to give God thanks for all of His blessings. Christmas reflections around the world look upon a manger bed cradling an infant. We are reminded that God sent His only begotten Son to this world to be a Savior, for mankind.

The verses that we are looking at speak of labors and heaviness. But then we are quickly directed to a place of rest. Many of us will crave a place of rest during these days of celebration. Each gathering accompanied by its own set of challenges will still be embraced, even if only for the predictability of tradition.

Yet the truth remains that life is unpredictable from our vantage point of sitting on this small footstool we call earth. There will be unexpected disasters around the world. Many of us have witnessed the aftermaths with our own eyes. Others will face separation from friends and family, many will lose ground financially and some will experience a decline in health. But God our Father sits in Heaven perfectly poised and in control. The yoke mentioned in the verses at the top of the page speak of His yoke. The yoke He offers gives guidance even when darkness seems to shadow all flickers of light.

The yoke He offers is easy. We may quickly think it doesn't feel so easy. But the truth is your circumstances have been tailor made, just as mine have been tailor made for a perfect fit. God knows exactly where you are and what you need. Every aspect of my life has been designed for that perfect custom fit!!!

Have you ever seen those, "One size fits all," garments?? Now that is something to LOL (laugh out loud) about!! We all have very specific differences when it comes to our physical shape, size and measurements. We would probably all love to have our own personal tailor to make the perfect garments for our physical frame.

We do have a Heavenly Father Who is working in our life to protect us and guide us with a tailor made yoke that is easy to wear. Just as a yoke was used to drive oxen in Biblical and early history, His yoke is guiding me in His great purpose for my life. He has promised that the burden will be light.

Unfortunately many of us spend time and precious energy fighting and resisting the trials of this life rather than being teachable. Only when we surrender our lives fully and completely to Christ will we understand and learn from the challenges of life. We are tempted to stack our days with pressures and activities that really won't matter one month from now or one year from now. Will the things consuming my life today matter in eternity?

It is only when we surrender our lives fully and completely to Christ that we can begin to comprehend the vastness of His mercy and goodness. When we yield our lives to Him, He enables us to learn from the challenges of life .

Often we stack our days with pressures and activities that really won't matter one month or one year from now. Will the things consuming me today matter in eternity?

God has been good in all of our lives. But even still He offers us one of the most coveted gifts of mankind that He alone can give and that is rest to our souls. Embrace this wonderful Savior and all of His gifts and find rest today.

May your days be merry and your burdens light.

from my tea cup,

Samantha Jeffcoat