

The Jesus Yoke

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.

1. Bearing a burden. What is your burden today? Whose yoke are you wearing/bearing/carrying?
 - a. Exodus 6:5-7
 - b. Leviticus 26:12-14
2. Working together. Who/What are you yoked with?
 - a. Psalm 106:28-29
 - b. 2 Cor 6:14-18
3. Accomplishing a task. What are you yoked for? What are you seeking?



In Sin	In Christ	
Natural birth	Rebirth through faith in Christ	Titus 3:5-7
Law of sin and death	Law of Spirit of life	Rom 8:1-2
Doing the law	Being found in Christ	Phil 3:7-11
Wearied by work	Empowered by grace	Col 1:28-29 Titus 2:11-14
<u>Slaves</u> Used by people Merit in production Oppressed Condemned to die	<u>Sons and Daughters</u> Adopted, loved as children Righteous in Christ Set free Granted eternal life!	Galatians 3:26-4:7
Death	Rest for your soul	Matthew 11:29

The yoke is not the burden, but is a means of bearing the burden together. The burden of a life alienated from God in this fallen world is indeed heavy and difficult to bear, but the grace of God is given when we are yoked to Jesus and share His burden to love and care for others.

Instead of trying to pull the load of our lives by ourselves he is telling us to give our life to Him and we will find rest—rest in the midst of real life.

We cannot come to him trying to help him or impress him with how much we can do for him. We come to him as weak and willing to admit we can't carry the load by ourselves. We can't live up to his perfect law on our own. We can't do it without Him. Instead, we come to Jesus in complete trust that He can give us rest for our weary souls. He can free us from our burden of sin and guilt. He can do this because of His work for us on the cross.

Are you tired and weary today? Come to Him and receive rest for your weary soul. Lay down your burden at the feet of the Lord. And keep close to Him and you'll learn to live freely and lightly.

We had a good discussion on the burdens we feel we have and the outlets our culture promotes as ways to rid ourselves of these burdens. Weakness is a difficult thing to admit, but in doing this we can find more strength than we thought possible through Christ! Yet another paradox!

Isaiah 53: The Suffering Servant (700 BC, one of several servant songs)

1. What is 'our message?'
 - a. The good news about salvation – arm of the Lord? Power – Christ
 - b. John 12:38, Romans 10:16
2. What does it say about the appearance of the Messiah?
 - a. From the root of Jesse, Humble beginnings
 - b. Not bearing the identity of wealth or royalty
 - c. No stately form = not very handsome in Hebrew
3. What does it say about how the Lord was treated?
 - a. He was despised and forsaken
 - b. "We" did not esteem him
 - c. Sorrows and grief = physical and mental pain
4. What is this verse referring to?
 - a. Smitten of God, afflicted = People of Israel thought the servant was suffering for his own sins (Matt 8:17)
5. New Testament?
 - a. Pierced: John 19:34
 - b. We are healed, forgiven = 1 Peter 2:24
6. ALL of us? ALL are in need of a savior
 - a. Lord caused the iniquity of us ALL to fall upon him – his forgiveness is for all
 - b. Just as the priest laid his hands on the scapegoat and symbolically put Israel's sin on it
7. Oppressed and afflicted
 - a. John 1:29, 36 = Lamb of God by John the Baptist
 - b. He did not open his mouth – what does this refer to?
 - i. Jesus remained silent and uncomplaining before chief priests and Pilate
 - ii. Matt 27:12-14, Mark 14:60-61, 15:4-5, John 19:8-9
8. Oppression and judgment
 - a. Jesus was given an unfair trial, death without descendants – misfortune?
9. His grave was assigned with wicked men?
 - a. He was to be buried and executed with criminals / rich, got wealth by wicked means, it would not be a burial of honor -- Was he buried with criminals?
 - b. Wealthy Joseph of Arimathea gave Jesus an honorable burial by placing his body in his own tomb – act of love due to forgiveness
 - c. Had done no violence, no deceit – 1 Peter 2:22 – If we are to follow Christ, what does this reveal? we are to endure unjust suffering
10. What does this say about God? JUSTICE
 - a. Lev 5:15-16 -- Is God harsh or gracious? Substitutionary suffering!!!
 - b. God the Father will watch his perfect son be crushed to atone for our sin
 - c. He will live forever, death is defeated and Christ is vindicated by God = Savior, not a 'good teacher.'
11. What does the death of Christ do for God?
 - a. It brings him perfect satisfaction, others may now be declared righteous, we now have a bridge linking us back in relationship to God and may give him glory and honor and praise
 - b. Do we really understand God's way of doing things? Couldn't there be another way?
 - c. Forgiveness through faith is on the basis of what the servant has achieved in his sufferings, not what we ourselves have done or will do
12. How will God reward his servant?
 - a. He will now be a King

Names and Titles of Jesus

Name / Title	Significance	Bible Reference
Jesus (Greek for Joshua)	Meaning 'Yahweh is salvation'	Matthew 1:21
Jesus the Nazarene	To distinguish him from other people called Jesus	Matthew 2:23
Son of Man	Showing his human identity	Matthew 8:20, 18:11
Son of David	Descended from David. Fulfilled all the promises made to King David	Matthew 15:22
Son of God	Jesus was uniquely related to God	Mark 1:1, John 1:14
Holy One of God	Acknowledgment of Christ's divine origin	Mark 1:24, Luke 4:34, John 6:69
Teacher/Rabbi and The Teacher	Jesus taught people about God	Mark 5:35
Lord	A title showing respect	Luke 11:1
Prophet	He spoke the Word of God	Luke 24:19, Acts 3:22
Word	How Jesus revealed God	John 1:1
The Lamb of God	Jesus would be the sacrifice for sin	John 1:29
Christ (Greek for 'Anointed One / Messiah')	Sent to establish God's kingdom on earth	John 1:41
I am the bread of life		John 6:35
I am the light of the world		John 8:12, 9:5
I Am	Jesus existed before his human life on earth	John 8:58
I am the gate		John 10: 7
I am the good shepherd		John 10:11, 1 Peter 5:4, Hebrews 13:20
I am the resurrection and the life		John 11:25
I am the way, the truth and life		John 14:6
I am the true vine		John 15:1
Rabboni	My dear Master	John 20:16
Holy and Righteous One	Jesus was both holy and righteous	Acts 3:14
Author of Life	The one who gives life	Acts 3:15
The last Adam	A life giving spirit	1 Cor. 15:45
Chief Cornerstone		Ephesians 2:20
Head of the Church	The overseer of all Christians	Ephesians 5:23
Firstborn from the dead	First to rise from the dead with a resurrection body, never to die again	Col. 1:18
Mediator Between God and men		1 Tim. 2:5
High Priest		Hebrews 3:1
Savior	One who saves from sin	1 John 4:14
Alpha and Omega	The Beginning and the End	Revelation 1:8
Lion of the tribe of Judah	A title of the Messiah from the family of David	Revelation 5:5
Root of David	A title of the Messiah from the family of David	Revelation 5:5
Lamb	Lamb killed as a sacrifice for sin	Revelation 5:6-13
King of kings and Lord of lords	Ruler of all	Revelation 19:16
Word of God	Gives voice to God's truth	Revelation 19:13
The bright Morning Star	The one who brings light	Revelation 22:16
OLD TESTAMENT		
Immanuel	God with us	Isaiah 7:14, Matt. 1:23
Wonderful counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace		Isaiah 9:6
Root of Jesse		Isaiah 11:10
Branch		Zechariah 6:12