

***Our devotion today is an outline of the message at Belfield Baptist Church for August 22, 2021.***

**THE VOICE OF HOPE**

**Matthew 11:25-30**

***Let's look at a very familiar passage and maybe get some new points of ideas about it. Too often we will look at a passage, read it over one time and not get the meaning that God would have us to receive.***

***There are many places that we find HOPE. We have hope in many ways, yet we really don't stop and realize that the only place to find our true hope is in the Lord.***

***In our society today we don't put our trust in Jesus Christ, but ourselves and the society that we live in. Covid-19 has played a big part in our world today.***

***If I asked you today, what do you put your trust in, what would your answer be?***

***Today, do we put our trust and hope in the things of the world, or do we place all our hope in the Lord?***

***I would like for us to look at some points in this passage and especially in verses 28-29. Here we have one of the greatest invitations of all times. This is the invitation that Jesus gave to each of us. What does this invitation mean to each of us?***

***I. THIS INVITATION SPEAKS OF THE BOLDNESS GRACE OF JESUS. Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.***

***1. COME UNTO ME. This is a universal calling to all of us.***

***A. Good men***

**B. Sinner men**

**C. Christian men.**

2. **THE CONDITION.** Christ does not want anybody that is lazy. If we come to him, we must fulfill the next part of the verse. **ALL YE THAT LABOR.** Here we can see who Jesus is issuing the invitation too. People that are willing to work for Him.

3. **AND ARE HEAVY LADEN.** Those that have a burden for others and burden over many things. It doesn't matter what or how heavy a load might be, we will be looked after. How burdened are we for mankind?

**II. THE OFFERING THE GIFT. I WILL GIVE YOU REST.** This rest is a verb, action word. It is the type of rest that we receive when the burden is lifted from us. (The rest of the children, coming out of Egypt.) We must accept this rest to do what He wants us to do.

**III. THE RESULTS (V.29) <sup>29</sup> 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.** Here as in other places in the Bible we find Jesus telling us that He doesn't want us to just wear His name, but He means for us to work for His name.

1. **THE SECOND REST.** This second REST is a noun, and it means more than the rest found in Verse 28. This second rest signifies a deep, abiding, permanent repose that is undisturbed in the turmoil of life.

2. This is the rest that we receive when we take up the yoke of Jesus and wear it. This means that when we are willing to put ourselves as slaves to Him then and only then can we find complete rest.

***Jesus is Saying to us, COME AND I WILL GIVE YOUR REST....TAKE UP MY YOKE AND FOLLOW ME AND I WILL GIVE YOU COMPLETE REST OR PEACE OF MIND.***

***Are we happy in our Christian Life?***

***Do we have complete rest or just getting by?***

***Where is your yoke, are you wearing it, or have you left it behind some place?***

***What about us: In the society that we are living in today, with covid-19 running throughout our nation and world, and our national leaders as they are, where is our hope? Yes, we need to be concerned about Covid-19, we need to be concerned and pray for our leaders, but as Christians we must take up the cross and follow Jesus in all things.***

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