

You're Invited

“What will be will be”

- Fatalism: events are fixed in advance; we cannot change them.
 - *Que será, será*
- Mt.11:28-30 refutes fatalistic, frivolous living

Preceding context

- 20-24, three famous cities near Sea of Galilee



Preceding context

- 20-24, three famous cities near Sea of Galilee
- He held them accountable for . . .
 1. Their sins. 22, 24; judgment; 12:41-42

This is the very judgment that John looked for in Jesus, 11:2-6

2. What they should have known. They wasted opportunities.

Preceding context

- 25-26, blind, proud of their sight.

Humble children received
what proud people rejected.

- 27, what gives Jesus the right to issue such judgments?

For the Father judges no one, but has
committed all judgment to the Son

– John 5:22

Specific context, 28-30

- Come: 642 x in Scripture
 - Invitation: we must respond. Mt.22. Ac.2:39.
 - Calvinism: we cannot come. Jn.6:44-45.
 - Drawn by teaching, 45.
 - All drawn by crucifixion, Jn.12:32.

“And I, if I am lifted up from the earth,
will draw all *peoples* to Myself”

Specific context, 28-30

- To: implies...
 - Direction: 'Go to store...'
 - Action, movement. Mt.7:21 ('do')
- Me: specific destination:
 - to Nashville / to school / to Jesus ...
 - Does not exclude Father, Spirit, apostles, Christians, Word... Jn.12:48.
 - Does exclude many ways, other saviors.

Specific context, 28-30

- You who labor: work hard, weary, toil, tired... Jn.4:6
- Heavy laden: load with a burden. Mt.23:4

Specific context, 28-30

- I will give you rest: Gn.8. Ec.1-2.
- I will – who else could make this offer?
- Give you – universal, inclusive. 1 Tim.2:4
- Rest – what world wants but most refuse.
 - Mental: conscience, peace
 - Physical: 1 Tim.6:17
 - Spiritual: hope
 - Eternal: Lk.16

Specific context, 28-30

- Take My yoke: designed to ease discomfort in carrying heavy load.
- Symbol: perfect surrender to will of God.
 - Rabbis: take on 'yoke of the law'
 - They often made it heavy, Ac.15:10

We are freed from power of sin;
not free to do as we wish

Specific context, 28-30

- Learn of Me... My disciple: ¹learn; ²follow
- Meek...Lowly
 - Scribes appeared so; Jesus is so – (servant mentality, Ph.2:6-8).
 - In ancient world, humility was a vice.

Specific context, 28-30

- Rest for soul... Jer.6:16
 - Yoke is easy.
 - Paradox: weary man invited to put new weight on his back.
- Ps.55²², Cast your burden on the LORD, And He shall sustain you; He shall never permit the righteous to be moved.

Specific context, 28-30

- Rest for soul... Jer.6:16
 - Yoke is easy.
 - Paradox: weary man invited to put new weight on his back.
- 1 Co.16¹⁷ I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. ¹⁸ For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men.

Specific context, 28-30

- Rest for soul... Jer.6:16
 - Yoke is easy.
 - Burden is light. 1 K.12:...4. Lk.11:46
 - Love lightens loads. Gn.29:20
 - Yoke not designed to be burden but to relieve the carrier.

For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome, 1 Jn.5:3.

Milkmaid's yoke



MILK MAID—ILE D'ORLEANS

From a private collection

I. Invited Ones Are
Away From Christ, 28

Americans deny that some are lost

- Mt.7:22 . . . (10:6)
- We were not born 'away' from God; we sinned. Isa.59:1-2

Lk.17:...12, lepers ... physically 'afar off'

Ep.2:17, Gentiles ... spiritually 'afar off'

I. Invited Ones Are Away From Christ, 28

**II. Invited Ones Are
Able To Come, 28-29**

How to come?

- Take My yoke:
 - Jews: yoke is figure of instruction.
 - Men of Belial are men without the yoke; uninstructed.
- Learn of Me: become disciples.
 - Mt.28:19
 - Lk.8:15 (cf. Mt.23:37)

WILLS

WILL NOTS

I. Invited Ones Are Away From Christ, 28

II. Invited Ones Are Able To Come, 28-29

**III. Invited Ones Are
Assisted In Carrying, 30**

Romans 7

- Paul: role of Jew; harder he tried to keep Law, more he met failure, frustration.
- “Find rest” – spiritual rest ‘*for your souls*’ – from what?
 - Burden of sin
 - Guilty conscience
 - Failure
 - Fear
 - Punishment

2 Cor.2:13

2 Cor.7:5

Paul enjoys rest,
while in unrest...

Hebrews 4:11 (rest, 7x)

Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest, lest anyone fall according to the same example of disobedience.

No Jesus, No Peace
Know Jesus, Know Peace