

From Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Question: IN WHAT SENSE ARE THESE WORDS TO BE UNDERSTOOD? PART 1

#1. "Come to me" (v.28.) Jesus promises to provide a certain kind of factor, and this scripture gives the impression that this peculiar factor cannot be gotten from someone else or something else. Therefore, this is a *supernatural factor*.

#2. "I will give you," he says, the peculiar factor of "rest." This factor is added to "all who are weary" and to those "heavy-laden." So Jesus "gives rest" which allows for burdens to be off-loaded and the weary to recover strength.

#3. "Rest for your souls" (v.29.) The soul is intangible and cannot be physically overburdened. However, it can be weary and heavy-laden. Specifically, Jesus means the mind. The spiritual part of us can be overstretched. Only a consciousness can be aware that it is "weary" and "heavy-laden."

#4. Generalization: As spiritual beings living in this temporal world with all its troubles, battles, pain, death and sin, we face a serious taxation of the soul. This sets up the need for "rest." We can drink Maalox, eat crackers, swallow pills, do talk therapy, and pursue diversions. Or we can act on this promise of Jesus.

#5. The Lord here is using the language manifold of direct effect! He promises to push the peculiar factor of "supernatural rest" upon the soul and the mind. Jesus offers us the most extraordinary thing: rest in the midst of the whirlwind! And by direct effect! Think of it!

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Question: IN WHAT SENSE ARE THESE WORDS TO BE UNDERSTOOD? PART 2

#5. THE LANGUAGE MANIFOLD OF DIRECT EFFECT:

- A) The *source* of direct effect = "Come to me" (v.28.) We obtain this "rest" from Jesus or we don't get it at all.
- B) The *result* of direct effect = "I will give you rest" (v.28.) This is not man induced, self-induced, nor socially induced.

- C) The *discipline* of direct effect = "Take my yoke upon you" (v.29.) There are rules.
- D) The restructure of human reason = "learn from me" (v.29.) We must rethink everything.
- E) The *restructure* of behavior = "I am gentle and humble in heart"(.29.) Thus, we do not respond in typical ways.
- F) The *power* of direct effect = "you will find rest for your soul" (v.29.) It works in the material world.
- G) The *benefits* of direct effect = "my yoke is easy," "my burden is light" (v.30.)

Jesus is a spiritual reality. Each one of us is a spiritual reality. A spiritual reality is a soul linked to a body. But soul outranks body. When we look upon one another, we see one-third of the whole person. Two-thirds of the whole person is unseen. The soul and its link to the body remains invisible.

Anyone who does not live as spiritual reality is living as the one-third person.

#6. THE POINT: The one-third person will always be "weary" and "heavy laden!" Of himself or of herself, such a one can find no "rest" for the soul!

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Question: IN WHAT SENSE ARE THESE WORDS TO BE UNDERSTOOD? PART 3.

#7. AN ARGUMENT: World political systems, and world ideological systems, do not comprehend a human as a spiritual reality. Theirs is the anthropology of the one-third person. Government does this too. The spiritual reality of a person is the unity of soul and body. The world fragments and fractures this spiritual unity and the result of this tearing is the one-third person.

- ABORTION: A baby in the womb is a spiritual reality. He or she is much more than protoplasm. The baby is a soul linked to its body. That soul belongs to the God who gave it. Therefore, the child's body belongs to God as well. It is more than the "one-third" some wish to abort.
- EUTHANASIA: A person who is ill, even mortally ill, is a soul linked to a body. Both belong to the God who created them. Those who suffer are more than the "one-third" some wish to extinguish.

- SAME-SEX MARRIAGE: This abomination is predicated on the idea of the one-third person. Its legalization is the pretext for legal oppression of those who disagree. This is nothing less than the imposition of regulatory naturalism.

It happens that some in the churches do not accept the revealed truth of direct effect of God upon time. Consequently, direct effect is ruled out of our language manifold and out of our reading of Scripture.

Why? Because one can effectively operate on the comprehension of the one-third person. This must be the case because they do not admit to the possibility of direct effect. The one-third person governs reasoning, and in such an arrangement, brain overrules soul and Scripture.

Sadly, a believer may possess spiritual inclinations, but not to the extent of the pursuit of direct effect, as offered by Jesus. But even the one-third person needs more than "rest!"