

Title: Obedience and Yoke-up to Jesus Brings Divine Rest

Pastor: Dr. John Geeter

Scriptures: Matthew 11:28-30; Exodus 31:15; John 11:9

By: Ms. Isabella Busenbark

Date: 9/08/2024

In this sermon, Pastor Dr. John Geeter emphasizes the importance of Christians embracing Jesus' offer of divine rest. He connects this with the concept of the Sabbath, explaining that just as God commanded the Israelites to observe a physical rest, there is a deeper spiritual rest available to Christians through obedience and commitment to Christ. This rest is not only a pause from physical labor but a state of inner peace and spiritual alignment with God's will. Dr. Geeter explores how accepting the "yoke" of Jesus – symbolizing His teachings and the guidance of the Holy Spirit – brings Christians into a state of divine rest that transcends circumstances and life challenges.

1. **There is a Sabbath-rest for us who enter into Jesus's Rest**

This point underscores that Jesus offers a rest that mirrors the Old Testament concept of the Sabbath but is even greater. By taking on the yoke of Christ, Christians enter into a rest that brings peace to their souls, no matter the struggles they face. Matthew 11:28-30 highlights this promise, where Jesus invites all who are weary to find rest in Him.

2. **Jeremiah's Pre-Christ Understanding of God's Rest Invitation**

Dr. Geeter draws on the teachings of the prophet Jeremiah to demonstrate that the invitation to find rest in God was always available. Even before Christ's physical ministry, the invitation to rest in God's presence was extended to God's people, illustrating the continuity of this message across both the Old and New Testaments.

3. **The Risk of Missing Out on God's Promised Rest**

A warning to modern Christians, Dr. Geeter explains that while the invitation to divine rest is available to all, not everyone will fully embrace it. Some will stop short, either due to disobedience or failure to fully commit their lives to Christ. This is a serious spiritual risk, as divine rest is not just a privilege but essential for Christian life and growth.

Conclusion: This sermon is significant for Christians because it reminds us that true rest comes from aligning ourselves with Christ's teachings and fully surrendering to His will. In a world where many are burdened by stress, anxiety, and constant busyness, Jesus offers a way to find peace and rest in the soul. The concept of "yoking up" to Jesus speaks to the importance of obedience and discipleship in our Christian walk. We are called to recognize the danger of missing out on this divine rest by being half-hearted in their faith or lacking spiritual discipline.

This message encourages us as Christians to not just hear Jesus' invitation but to actively respond to it by living in alignment with God's will, thereby experiencing the fullness of the peace and rest that He offers.