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To our friends -- We have decided to use this area to share things with our visitors. It could be words of encouragement, revelations, prophecies, etc. We pray these writings will bless you. All glory goes to God. You may retrieve archived copies in the Storehouse section of this web page. If you would like to comment about this article, you may email at comments@ministryofprayer.org. We welcome your thoughts. We pray you will be blessed as you visit this site.

NOTE: We invite you to download our newly created "Promise Card" which is stored under Scriptures for Framing. We hope it will bless you.

The Invitation

The coming of Jesus has set before all of mankind an invitation. "Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Matt. 11:28 (NKJV) It is an invitation to spend an eternity with the Holy God who created all things. An invitation to dwell in His presence and explore all the intricacies of His glory.

But then what does He say? "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me." Matt. 11:29 (NKJV) He is asking you to come and join Him in the yoke He willingly wears. A yoke that leads to holiness and unity with your Creator. It is a walk from flesh to spirit; towards light and out of darkness. Let Him become Lord and He will lead you in the way everlasting. But can two walk together unless they agree?

The yoke is His and He asks you to share it. A yoke can be made uneven. Each side is purpose made for each animal, and so it was common to have a lead ox - one that was good at going straight; one that kept going, and maybe it was also the strongest one. It would teach the weaker animal what to do. It would take the strain; keep it going in the right direction; set a steady pace.

In recent years, most of churchdom just says you need to repeat this prayer and all your sins will be forgiven. All will be well in your life from then on. I think that is part of the reason some new believers fall by the wayside. Yes, your sins can be forgiven that quick, but have you really counted the cost of what it may someday mean to follow Him.

Do you just want to cover your bases and get to heaven or do you want a true relationship? Do you just want a savior or will you accept Him as Lord also? Can He really be savior without being Lord? If you do not find yourself wanting to do the things that please Him; if you continue to feel comfortable in sin; you need to check the sincerity of your heart. I remember when I was young they used to ask if you wanted to make a decision for Jesus. That's what it really is. You decide to reject your current way of life and follow Him.

That's what repentance really means; to be truly sorry for your ways; to turn around and go the other way. You make a decision to follow Jesus. Yes, there are some cases where a person has indulged sin so long they need deliverance to be set free. Too often it is just a case of someone not willing to let go of the sin they enjoy.

I have heard it said that gay people are born that way. That may or may not be true but they were not born again that way. Many are just experimenting in sin. Enticed by the forbidden, satan easily seduces them. I must speak God's Word in truth. I will not bear the responsibility of a life to be politically correct.



We do not seek to condemn. We speak life and warn of the judgment to come. There is a holy, righteous God and nothing is hidden from His eyes. We have all sinned and fallen short of His glory. Rom. 3:23 (NKJV) We all need a savior. Jesus told the woman who was going to be stoned that He did not condemn her either. But He also said "Go and sin no more". John 8:11 (NKJV) Without holiness no one will see the Lord. Heb. 12:14 (NKJV)

We must all be born again. Yes, you are born again as a babe in the spirit realm also. Just as a baby in the natural takes many tumbles as they are learning to walk, so it is in the spirit realm. But we are not expected to stay a baby. The Holy Spirit will guide and teach you as you seek maturity. You must, however, be willing to lay aside your childish things. Having made that decision, you must never turn back. The Hebrews wanted to return to Egypt when they thought the way forward too difficult; a return to the bondage they knew. You would be trampling underfoot the precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Are you prepared to suffer for your faith? "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men the most pitiable." 1 Cor. 15:19 (NKJV) "We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed -- always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh." 2 Cor. 4:8-11 (NKJV)

The cost of that decision may be great indeed. Even now it is costly for many around the world. It is becoming more costly here in America. You need to arm yourself now with your personal commitment. Will you follow Him to the end? When you share His cross, you will also share His resurrection. When you share His suffering, you will also share His immortality. When you share His shame, you will also share His glory. As you share His persecution with forgiveness, you become be a partaker of His divine nature.

He invites you come; but He invites you to come and die. Die to all the entanglements of this world. Die to all the fleshly desires that would ensnare you. Whoever loves this world or the things of this world more than Him is not worthy of His inheritance. He wants all of you; all your dreams and aspirations for this world. He will give you new dreams. We are to hold nothing above Him and nothing beside Him. We love and desire Him above all else. Are you willing to give all for that one pearl of great price? Matt. 13:46 (NKJV)

Parents, siblings and offspring may hate you and even deliver you to His enemies. The world will hate you but you no longer belong to this world. You are now a citizen of heaven. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Matt. 10:28 (NKJV) He did not come to bring peace, but a sword; a sword of division between good and evil.

You must decide which side you are on. To lose life for Him is the only way to find it. This mortal life is not meant to last forever. We are in training for eternity. Although we are in the world, we are no longer of the world. God will judge our lives. What did you do with that which was given you? Did you even care enough about the truth to seriously search it out?

Whatever is required of us in this life pales in comparison to the joys awaiting us. There are rewards to be had and crowns to be given. "Lord, I seek for a crown to toss at Your feet." Do you seek one also? Treasures we seek are only rewards to cast at the feet of the truly worthy One. But truth remains, you just can't out give God.

He does not take pleasure in the treatment of His children; even as our Lord did not take pleasure in the cross. When we are tried in the furnace of affliction, it is only to burn off the dross and bring us forth as gold. "He who has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin." 1 Peter 4:1 (NKJV) Will you patiently endure and overcome as He has His perfect work in you? Can you trust He is always working for your good and His glory? Are you satisfied to just attend the wedding feast or do you want to be the bride? Run your race to win, as the Apostle Paul puts it.

Now in this life He has promised to never leave you or forsake you or relax His hold upon you. There can be joy unspeakable and full of glory. 1 Pet: 1:8 (KJV) His Holy Spirit shall dwell within you; live with you as Comforter. As you dwell and walk in the Spirit, you can foretaste the wonders of God. Have you ever suffered rejection or persecution because of Jesus? How did you receive it; with dejection or joy?

So keep your lamp trimmed and full of oil. Look for His coming with each passing day. Occupy but live in expectancy; expectancy of what our Lord will do today; expectancy of His soon return. The gates of hell shall not prevail against His resurrection power. In receiving His invitation, He has commissioned you to extend the invitation to others.

“And the Spirit and the bride say, ‘Come!’ And let him who hears say, ‘Come!’ And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.” Rev. 22:17

I am reminded of a quote by the beloved man of God, Leonard Ravenhill. “Five minutes inside of eternity, I believe everyone of us would have wished we had sacrificed more, prayed more, loved more, sweated more, grieved more, wept more.” I guess he was off just a little here. There are no minutes in eternity, but we certainly grasp his meaning.

Father, I commit my life once again into Your hands. Every day with You is sweeter than the day before. Whatever the world may bring, I know You will be with me. My love for You and all You have done overwhelms me. Even as I worship, I recognize You are worthy of so much more. We can only gaze at You from afar while we inhabit this mortal flesh. Gaze and anticipate the inheritance You have prepared for those who love You.

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