

## **THE LABORER'S REST**

### **THE UNIVERSAL INVITATION**

**TEXT:**        *Matthew 11:28: Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

**Introduction:** This is a personal invitation from Jesus to the entire world. Jesus is calling you to come, and He really means it.

He is calling you to Himself because He wants you. He is calling you away from a life of sin, of guilt, of shame, and of selfishness, into a brand new life of joy and peace.

He is calling you away from the ways of the devil and the world, into the kingdom and family of God. This is a universal call. Jesus is tenderly calling each of you.

There is not a man, woman, boy, or girl who are left out of this call. There are many over the face of the earth that WHO have never seen a Bible or heard a preacher of the Gospel; yet they knew that God was calling them on the inside. In fact, every time they do wrong, there is something inside that says, "Don't do that". That's the Holy Spirit talking to you. He does not want you to go astray by sinning. Jesus is calling us away from sin unto Himself.

He is the only Savior from sin. We have the power within our hearts to receive or reject His call. We can believe in and receive Him as our personal Savior. We can choose to accept God's plan of salvation through faith in the Lord Jesus Who died upon the Cross in our place. Or, we can refuse to accept His offer of pardon and salvation. We have that power.

**By simply rejecting or refusing to come and receive Christ as our Savior, we are shutting ourselves out of Heaven.**

Do you realize that God made the entire universe? God has all power, and yet, you and I have been given by Him the power to say "yes" or "no" to His great invitation. By simply rejecting or refusing to come and receive Christ as our Savior, we are shutting ourselves out of Heaven.

As stated above Jesus said,

***Matthew 11:28: Come unto Me all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.***

This same call, which is very personal, is also universal and is going out to every person around the world. Why? Because:

***John 3:16: God so loved the world, that He gave His only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him, should not perish, but have everlasting life.***

**There is not a man, woman, boy, or girl, whether educated or uneducated, rich or poor, regardless of how terrible a sinner or how good a moral church member, this invitation is for everyone. Yes, this call is to church members too, because everyone needs salvation. Without Jesus' salvation, we are all lost and without hope in this world and in the world to come. Nothing we can do, no good merit, can bring us into eternity with God. It's all because of Calvary. Salvation is a free gift.**

***Romans 6:23: For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.***

When we are saved, our appetites and desires are changed by the Lord, and even the direction we are going is changed. We were on the broad road which leads to destruction; but now, we are on the straight and narrow road which leads to life everlasting. Old things will pass away, and behold, all things are become new.

***2 Corinthians 2:17: For we are not as many, which corrupt the Word of God: but as of sincerity, but as of God, in the sight of God speak we in Christ.***

When you get saved, you will want your family to find Jesus. You'll want your best friends to find Jesus when you are truly saved. One of the greatest proofs that a person has really come to Jesus and has been born again is when they want everybody in the world to have what they have and join them on the way to Heaven.

That is why the Bible says in:

***Revelation 22:17: The Spirit and the Bride say come. And let him that heareth say, come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the Water of Life freely.***

As Christians, we are part of Christ's Bride and are close to Him;



therefore, we feel His longings in our heart for the lost to be saved. He loves them through us.

The invitation is to **COME**, and nearly 640 times in the Bible you will find that word, COME. God is rolling out the welcome mat, the red carpet. None of us needs to feel excluded, for God wants all of us to come.

***2 Peter 3:9: The Lord is not slack concerning His Promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to Repentance.***

**The world is like a giant harvest field, and every person is like precious grain to be harvested, or it will be lost. Many souls are ripe for harvesting by the Lord.** The Lord Jesus said to His disciples:

***John 4:35-36:***

***<sup>35</sup>Say not ye, there are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, lift up your eyes, and look on the fields, for they are white already to harvest.***

***<sup>36</sup> And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.***

***Matthew 9:37a-38:***

***<sup>37a</sup> The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few;***

***<sup>38</sup> Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth labourers into His Harvest.***



All over the world, people are sick and tired of sin, sick of carrying their heavy load of guilt and condemnation. They want rest from their burdens and peace for their souls. Jesus even commands us who are saved in:

***Luke 14:23: Go out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in, that My House may be filled.***

Are you one of those whom the Lord is speaking to in this good news message?

Then you must be ready to pray with me the sinners prayer.

***Luke 18:13b: God be merciful to me a sinner.***

***Romans 10:13: Whosoever shall call upon the Name of the Lord shall be saved.***

**Remember, whosoever shall call means EVERYONE.** We have called for help all of our lives, and easily understand what that means.

The next part of the verse tells us on WHOM we are to CALL UPON: **THE NAME OF THE LORD**. Not on Mohammed, or Buddha, or Confucius, or on some preacher, priest, or pope, but **UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD**.

Then God Promises: **YOU SHALL BE SAVED**. It's guaranteed, with no *ifs*, ands or *buts* attached. God means it.

Only the devil would be mean enough to try and make you doubt God's Word. It is God's Word that has the wonderful power and benefits.

***Acts 16:31: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.***

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