INTRODUCTION

*“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”* Matthew 11:28-30

I. What We Have Already

A. We Have a Restlessness about Us.

*“all you who are “ (vs. 28)*

*“They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people’s shoulders…” but you don’t practice what you preach!* Matthew 23:4

*“Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear? No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are.”* Acts 15:10-11

*“Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.”*  Philippians 1:27

*“They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people’s shoulders…” but you don’t practice what you preach!* Matthew 23:4

*“I don’t do what I ought to do and I do what I hate… who can save me from this body of sin?” “What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from myself?”* Romans 7:14, 24

B. We Have a “Yoke” upon Us.

*“Take my yoke upon you” (vs. 29)*

1. A Weight We are Pulling

2. And a Person/Thing We Are Harnessed To

*“All… have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified freely by his grace…”* Romans 3:23-24

II. What Jesus Offers Us As a Replacement

1. Himself – *“Come to me”* (vs. 28)

***16****This is what the Lord says:*

*“Stand at the crossroads and look;  
    ask for the ancient paths,  
ask where the good way is, and walk in it,  
    and you will find rest for your souls.* Jeremiah 6:16

2. A Yoke – *“Take my yoke”* (vs. 29)

*“It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption.”* I Corinthians 1:30

Illustration: *“It is Finished”* by James Proctor

Weary, working, burdened one,

Wherefore toil you so?

Cease your doing; all was done,

Long, long, ago.

Lay your deadly doing down,

Down at Jesus’ feet.

Stand in Him and Him alone,

Gloriously complete.

3. Discipleship – *“and learn from me”* (vs. 29)