

Episode #751 Matthew 11 Part 5-Knowing the Son

I. The purpose of the gospel of Matthew is to present Jesus as the Christ, the King of Israel. It is another grand treatise like John to prove to Israel Who Jesus really is. It is the book of being “in Israel,” in contrast to believers today who are “in Christ.”

II. In Matthew 11, the Lord had rebuked the stubborn cities that saw His mighty works but did not submit, making the radical revelation that it would be better for immoral cities like Sodom in the day of judgment than it will be for these Israelite cities! Today, He discusses His rest.

III. The Lord’s Rest. Matthew 11:25-30.

- A. Verse 25. “Thank” is *exhomologeo*, to profess the same thing as the Father. Who are the wise? God is called wise, Romans 16:27, I Timothy 1:17, Jude 1:25; and Paul is called a wise masterbuilder in I Corinthians 3:10. The only one in the New Testament called “prudent” is Sergius Paulus, the governor of Crete, Acts 13:7. God concealed these things from these and revealed (unveiled) them to little children.
- B. Verse 26. “Even so” is the Greek *nai*, yes. It seemed good in His presence.
- C. Verse 27. “Except” = *ei me*, if not. He is the only One Who does. Compare to Luke 10:22. Some compare Him to a human child and say that a son is lesser than the father. But those who say this do not know the Son! While the Son reveals the Father, the Father does not reveal the fullness of the Son. We can take what God has said and what He has revealed. But to compare this to human relationships is to show we do not know what we are talking about. John 10:33-36 shows that to call Him the Son of God is to call Him God. John 14:8-9 says He is a Son Who is the Father!
- D. Verse 28. Life can be a very burdensome thing. The burden on the people to whom He spoke at this time was particularly heavy. But He gave them this invitation! Rest is the Greek *anapauo*. This is what the Hebrews experienced when they at last entered into their inheritance in the Promised Land. Yet the final *anapauo* awaits the kingdom of God. Thus the final rest He promises is not yet.
- E. Verse 29. His rest is blessed freedom, but we also must take His yoke, so we are not just totally free. The souls are related to desires, frustrated by weariness and burdens.
- F. Verse 30. There is a yoke and a burden associated with taking your stand with the Lord Jesus Christ! But in contrast to the burdens the Pharisees laid on others, Matthew 23:4, or the lawyers, Luke 11:46, it is light in weight.

IV. Conclusion: The Lord prays and thanks His Father for hiding the truth from the wise and revealing it to little children, as this seemed good to Him. Are we child-like enough to believe God, or do we think ourselves too wise and cut ourselves off from the truth? The Lord invites all to come to Him, to learn of Him and God, and to enter His rest. His rest includes a burden, but it is a light one. Are we willing to take on the Lord’s burden, or will we remain under the heavy burden of this sinful world?