

Matthew 11:1-6, 20-28 - <sup>1</sup>After Jesus had finished instructing his twelve disciples, he went on from there to teach and preach in the towns of Galilee.

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples <sup>3</sup>to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?”

<sup>4</sup>Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor.

<sup>6</sup>Blessed is the man who does not fall away [stumble] on account of me.”

<sup>20</sup>Then Jesus began to denounce the cities in which most of his miracles had been performed, because they did not repent. <sup>21</sup>“Woe to you, Korazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>22</sup>But I tell you, it will be more bearable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. <sup>23</sup>And you, Capernaum, will you be lifted to the skies? No, you will go down to the depths. If the miracles that were performed in you had been performed in Sodom, it would have remained to this day. <sup>24</sup>But I tell you that it will be more bearable for Sodom on the day of judgment than for you.”

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, “I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. <sup>26</sup>Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure.”

<sup>27</sup>“All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.”

<sup>28</sup>“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

<sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

### Sermon Outline

- I. The Weariness and Weight of Human Existence is Complex and Cumulative.
- II. Jesus Offers Himself as the Solution to the Unrest and Brokenness of the Human Condition (Matt. 11:28).
  - A. “Come to Me” means coming to God who is the Source and Sustainer of life.
  - B. “Come to Me” with your physical and emotional ailments.
  - C. “Come to Me” to fulfill the essential need of reconciliation with God.

III. Taking up the Yoke of Jesus and His Teaching is the Way to Enter into God’s Rest (Matt. 11:29-30).

- A. The yoke of Jesus is to repent of self-sufficiency and trust in God.
- B. The essence of the teaching of Jesus is to abide in God’s Presence.

IV. The Rest of Jesus is Characterized by Love, Joy and Peace (Matt. 11:30).

### Questions for further study and review:

1. What things cause many people in the world to become weary and weighted down? What are typical suggestions offered by various sources to alleviate these?
2. Read through Matt. 11. Why did John the Baptist send his disciples to Jesus? Why did Jesus renounce the cities in which He had performed many miracles? What did Jesus praise His heavenly Father?
3. Go through the Sermon Outline and consider the scriptures given and the points made. Do you agree with each? Why or why not?
4. What challenges do you face these days that are wearisome and burdensome for you? Have you taken these to Jesus by simply laying them before Him quietly in His Presence? Start doing this with all of your daily concerns and see what happens in the days and weeks ahead.