An Easy Yoke and a Light Burden

Ken Chapman · Matthew 11:28–30

INTRODUCTION

- One word I think we can all agree upon, at times at least, to describe the teachings of Jesus would be the word challenging.
- Sometimes they may be challenging to understand or to interpret.
- Come to me. All you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

1 What Do You Mean, Easy and Light?

Matthew 11:30; 2 Corinthians 11:23–28

- What do you mean, easy and light? This is the challenge.
- The same Lord taught that you are to deny yourself and to take up your cross, which was a symbol of death, and follow me. That doesn't sound light.
- In labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often.
- But modern day life has its own set of challenges, its own set of burdens for the Christian, its own yoke that has to be placed upon our neck.

2 Not by Refusing to Bear It or Halfway Doing It

- I fear that for many Christians, Christianity is easy and light because they don't pick it up.
- We were a worldly sinner, and now we're a worldly sinner who goes to church.
- Trying to live the life of a Christian halfway will actually make the yoke seem tighter and the burden heavier.
- The way to make this burden easy and light begins by making a wholehearted commitment to Christ by putting our all into it.

3 Assuming the Attitude of Jesus Christ

Matthew 11:29; Philippians 2:5–11

- It is made easy and light by assuming the attitude of Jesus Christ.
- Take my yoke upon you and learn from me. For I am gentle and lowly in heart. And you will find rest for your soul.
- I think the key to the whole passage is Jesus saying, Come and learn from me.
- Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus.
- You humble yourself, you bear the burden, you wear the yoke, and God will exalt you.

4 God Does Not Ask Too Much of Us

2 Corinthians 4:17–18

- The burden is light because, first of all, God does not ask too much of us.

- The burden is light, and the yoke is easy in comparison to what God has done for us and will do for us.
- You see, the perspective changes when the comparison comes into play, doesn't it?
- For our light affliction. Which is but for a moment.
- When put on the other end of the scale to an eternity in heaven with God, Paul could honestly say it's a light affliction.

5 Because We Love Him

1 John 5:2–3

- But what every good godly parent realizes is that we do it again.
- By this we know that we love the children of God when we love God and keep his commandments.
- For this is the love of God that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.
- It's light. Because we love Him so. As John would remind us, because He first loved us.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Are you weary? Are you heavy burdened? Jesus says, Come to me, and I'll give you rest. Would you respond to that gospel call this morning?**

MY NOTES