

# I Will Give You Rest

#0518

Study by W.D. Frazee—March 23, 1976

“Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light”  
Matthew 11:28-30.

I have a great desire to see everybody in this program, experiencing this to the full. There is nothing we can do, evangelistically, or educationally, or medically, or any other way, that will accomplish as much for God, as this. You and I, demonstrated in our own experience, that Jesus' way, is the good way. It makes people happy, it takes them out of the rat race. (But only some win it. And even if they do, they are still rats.) And puts them in the Christian race, where everybody can win, and they don't need to develop ulcers, or high blood pressure, in the process. We have a great many things to accomplish here, but this is the greatest, this is the greatest. To let Jesus demonstrate the beauty of His way.

Now, you will notice He says, “My yoke is,” what? “Easy.” Is it? Now notice, He doesn't say, “My rocking chair is easy.” He says my “what” is easy? Well, what is the answer? Why, it is the instrument of work, the instrument of living. So God intends that you and I shall find, directly in the work, in the program, the rest and peace, the joy and the satisfaction, that He offers. We have either tasted and found this is true, or we haven't tasted yet. Right here, at this point, let me say, “If I can help any of you personally, to help you find somebody that will help you on this, I am far more interested in this, than most anything I know.” Because it would be too bad, to be here at Wildwood for three months, or three years, or thirty years, and not find this wellspring of life. This satisfaction, that comes from through yoking up with Jesus in service.

You will remember, in an earlier study, a week or two ago, I gave the illustration of riding along the freeway. We are going along 55 miles an hour, but what is a lot of the traffic doing? It's passing us. And unless we understand the principle, we are liable to think, “Well, my, everybody is leaving us behind, we have got to step on the gas.” Do you we have to step on the gas, just because everybody else on the road nearly, is breaking the speed limit, do we? No. Well now, there are two things we can do. One is to step on the gas and go ahead and break the speed limit too, and contributes to the accidents as well as the law-breaking, but the other is to just champ at the bit, as we say, and be restless, because we are being passed. Either one of those things is not very satisfying. Jesus says,

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shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" Matthew 11:28-30.

Now with this, I would like to put Ecclesiastes, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter, and the 10<sup>th</sup> verse. Before I read that, I want to read a statement in the book *Evangelism* page 656.

"In order to make a success in this work you must do one thing at a time, concentrate your powers upon that one work" *Evangelism*, page 656, paragraph 3.

Now this was written to two missionaries, who were leaving America, to go and open up the work in Africa. They were pioneer missionaries there. And they were told about the importance of concentrating.

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Now we are going to read that in this text, that I asked you to turn to. What is the first word? "Whatsoever." What is the third word? "Hand." All right, altogether now:

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might"  
Ecclesiastes 9:10.

That is enough; the rest of the verse gives us the reason, no chance to do it after you die. We all believe that when a man dies, his work is done on this planet, right? He can't come back via the spiritualistic séance, and make up, what he missed. So because of that, the wise man says, whatever your hand finds to do, do it with thy might. I wonder why he said, whatever your hand finds to do? Does anybody have a thought on that? (Several voices from audience speak at once) How far can you reach with your hands? How far can you reach with your eyes? Which reaches farther? (Audience answers: "eyes") Better use our eyes then, hadn't we? Turn to Proverbs 17:24. Is that an interesting text? Does it fit in right here? Now what did Solomon talk about over there in Ecclesiastes 9:10? The hand. And the same man, writing by the same spirit, talks about what, here in Proverbs? The eyes.

"Wisdom is before him that hath understanding; but the eyes of a fool are in the ends of the earth." Proverbs 17:24.

Now what did he mean by that? Prone to wander, prone to look upon all the things that might be done, that could be done, that I think ought to be done, either by me, or other people. Dear friends, right here on this campus, there is a lot more I should do, when I can get to it. And I know people are helping me every day, to find more to do. Praise the Lord, but I need wisdom to do that, which my hand finds to do, and you need wisdom. And I must not waste time lamenting the fact, that I am not bigger than I am, and that there are not more hours in my day. What my hand finds to do, I am to do it with what? My mind.

When I'm sitting down talking with a soul that needs help, I must be able to give that soul, while I am talking to that soul, all I have. Is that right? Well, when the time comes to quit than I must quit and go to something else, because there is somebody else that needs help. That's what our physicians have to do, our nurses have to do, our parents have to do, our teachers, every one of us, that is what we have to learn. And the beautiful thing is, that as we give God all we have, in the particular job we are doing at the moment, He is looking after the hundred and one other things, that we can't get to. I have fumbled so, again and again, I find, that things I have written down on my notebook, that I feel I just want to get to, and maybe some other people think I ought to, and something comes up that I can't control, and I don't get to it. I find sometimes that later on, God has solved that problem through somebody else, that did it a lot better than I could have done it. Isn't that cheering? Now some of those problems we will have to look at in eternity, and see there, how God solved them.

Now let me read these verses again.

"Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light"  
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"Whatever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might..."  
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"In order to make a success in this work you must do one thing at a time, concentrate your hours upon that one work"  
*Evangelism*, page 656.

And so you and I, are learning something that the world knows little about today. We are learning the science, of being led by the Spirit, and happy in doing what we can, the best we can, and leaving the rest with God. They don't know anything about it, they are frustrated, because they can't encompass all they would like to. And that is one reason why people turn to drugs, or burn the midnight oil, burn the candle at both ends. Jesus wants you and me, to be a demonstration of the peace and the rest that come, as we take Christ's yoke and do our best.

Now a little while ago some papers were passed out. You heard the message on it read, and you have looked it over. This is not primarily a commitment of yourself to some human being, or to some group of people. It is primarily a commitment of yourself to the Master, in a particular field of service. To sign this intelligently, means two things, and only two things. First, it means that you have committed your life to Christ, to be His and to be His servant, to go anywhere He wants you, as long as you live. I assume all of you have made that commitment, settled it. But the second thing that is involved in this, is that having made that commitment to Christ, you have come to the place, where you believe that the particular place He wants you to serve, for the time being at least, is in this program here at Wildwood. That is what that means. And having made the commitment to

Christ, to do anything He wants, anywhere He wants. And having arrived at the conclusion in your own mind, that the Lord wants you here, you make this commitment on this paper.

When the time comes, whether it be soon or later, that you come to the conclusion that God wants you somewhere else, than the same dedication that caused you to make the commitment here, will lead you to make it somewhere else, as God directs.

In the book *Evangelism*, page 648, I read.

“Freedom of choice is given to every soul, but after a man has enlisted, he is required to be as true as steel, come life or come death” *Evangelism*, page 648.

This, dear ones, is an army, it is an army made up of volunteers, but that doesn't make it less an army. Do you know the difference between an army and a mob? An army is organized, an army is under direction, an army moves under command, and an army moves unitedly. A mob is something else. This is an army. Oh, I am so glad to be in God's army, aren't you? The army in Heaven follows Jesus, and His army on earth follows Him. Here is a little section, a regiment, a company, of God's great army. And if this is where God has assigned me, and I have enlisted in this particular regiment, than I want to serve Him just as faithfully, even more faithfully, than the soldiers in the Federal Army serve their commanders.

“Freedom of choice is given to every soul, but after a man has enlisted he is required to be as true as steel, come life or come death” *Ibid*.

When Sister White was writing to Elder Burden about the plans for southern California, and urging him to seek for properties with buildings already on them, where sanitarium work could be carried forward, he finally located, under her guidance and prodding, the beautiful property at Loma Linda. And when the purchase of it was being considered, she wrote to him and others on May 24, 1905 as follows.

“We received your letter today....” *Loma Linda Messages*, page 95.

She was in Washington, DC at that time.

“I wish to say that I cannot ask the Conference to invest in a sanitarium at Redlands” *Ibid*.

That was the Loma Linda property.

“They have enough responsibilities to carry without taking upon them others. If you in Los Angeles will do your best, we will do our best. If you will do nothing, say so, and we will do nothing” *Ibid*.

Now I pondered over that, that is a very interesting expression. Even the prophet of God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, back of her, waited for some human being to say, "Ok, I am with you, I will put my hand to the work and go ahead." And the prophet says, if you will do that, say so, and we will be with you, to hold up your hands and help you raise the money. But if you won't, say so, and we won't do anything. God has been waiting for this movement on some matters, for over a hundred and thirty years, my friends. And He waits for you and me, oh there are things that can be done, if I would give God all I have, that won't get done, today, tomorrow, nor next week, if I have some selfish plans that I want to carry out. God and angels, and God's servants, are waiting while I make up my mind, you see.

"If you in Los Angeles will do your best, we will do our best. If you will do nothing, say so, and we will do nothing" *Ibid*.

What a challenge! Thank God, Elder Burden says, "we will do it." And that is why that beautiful hill became the property of our people. Well, I thank God, all the marvelous things didn't happen seventy years ago, what do you say? They are happening all around us. You heard the good news Friday night, that it looks like the lights are green on the New Hampshire property, and within a matter of days or weeks, God willing, the property will be ours.

I hope you all will pray very earnestly, as I suggested Friday night, that the Lord will bring in the money, so that no mortgages will have to be made, and so that no money will have to be borrowed from a bank or a lending institution. For 34 years, we have been carrying on the work on this hill, and we have never yet gone to the bank and borrowed a dollar. Friends of the work have sometimes loaned us money, either without interest or with a moderate rate of interest, but it has all been in the family of God. And I would love to keep up the record if that is God's will. But I am not going to get ulcers over it if...no, no. I am going to do my best. I called a friend of mine that lives a thousand miles away the other morning, and I thought he might help us, and I told him the story. And I think he is going to send us a little. And do you have friends that you think might like to either give some money for this New Hampshire providence or loan some, either with interest or at a moderate interest, why, feel free to just write them in a personal way, and tell them about the providence. If you need more information, either Brother Wilson or I, can give it to you. This is a wonderful time to be in, dear friends. But I didn't read this to talk about New Hampshire, that is just an up to date example of it. I read it because every one of us here, is dealing with wonderful opportunities, that depend upon making decisions, as to what God wants us to do. And then putting all we have into that, to get it done.

The things that worries me, dear friends, is trying to do too many things at once. Some of you have heard me tell and I will repeat it, I don't do it just to make you smile, although you might smile. But I want you to think, and if you think hard enough, you might not even smile. But you can smile if you want too. I saw a cartoon years ago of a lady who obviously was not underweight, sitting in a doctor's office, getting a consultation on her obesity, and the doctor had just given her a diet list. And she sat there looking at it, and then she looked up and said, "Now Doctor,

do I take this diet before, or after, my regular meals”? And I have said that, to say this, if in any sense you try to take the program here at Wildwood, and add it to all the things you have been trying to do before you came here, the yoke won’t be easy, and the burden won’t be light. No, no. The man who enlists in the army leaves behind at home a world of things. Correct? He gets one thing done, the thing he enlisted.

Oh friends, if you and I can do the thing we have enlisted for, it will be worth missing a lot of other things, what do you say? If you need help on these matters, of how to live on 24 hours a day, go first of all to God and pray earnestly to Him. And if you don’t get all the help you need, pick out somebody you think is demonstrating it in the peace and rest that they have in their life, and counsel with them. Let’s keep at this, friends, and everyone one of us can say deep down in our hearts, we have found the easy yoke. Not the easy rocking chair, but the easy yoke. God bless you all, you are dismissed.

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