



# CHURCH & CULTURE

## SEEKING GOD'S FAVOR IN CRITICAL SEASONS

Matthew 11:20-30

Psalm 90:12, **Teach us** to number **our days**, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

Days – (yowm) - sunrises to sunsets

Matthew 6:33-34; Isaiah 34:16

Psalm 90:17, **May the favor of the Lord our God rest on us; establish** the work of our hands for us—yes, **establish** the work of our hands.

Turning Point – (*krisis*) - the moment decisions are made that determine outcomes whether good or bad

Proverbs 16:1-4, <sup>1</sup>To humans belong the plans of the heart, but from the LORD comes the proper answer of the tongue. <sup>2</sup>All a person's ways seem pure to them, but **motives** are weighed by the LORD. <sup>3</sup>**Commit to the LORD whatever you do, and he will establish your plans.** <sup>4</sup>**The LORD works out everything to its proper end . . .**

2 Chronicles 7:14, **if my people**, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves** and **pray** and **seek my face** and **turn from their wicked ways**, then **I will hear** from heaven, and **I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.**

*"I am a firm believer in the people. If given the truth, they can be depended upon to meet any national crisis. The great point is to bring them the real facts, and beer."*

President Abraham Lincoln

Matthew 11:20-24, <sup>20</sup> Then Jesus began to denounce the towns in which most of his miracles had been performed, **because they did not repent.** <sup>21</sup> **"Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida!** For 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 heavens? No, you will go down to Hades. For 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."

Matthew 11:25-27, <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 is what you were pleased to do. <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.**”

Matthew 11:28-30, <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.”

Chronicles 7:14

## Accepting and Enjoying Jesus Yoke for Us

### 1) Come to Jesus

Matthew 11:28), **Come** to me . . .

Come – (*deute*) - Come here!

### 2) Receive His rest

Matthew 11:28, . . . I will give you **rest**.

Rest – (*anapano*) - to cease from activity in order to be refreshed

### 3) Take Jesus yoke upon us

Matthew 11:29, **Take** my yoke upon you . . .

Take – (*airo*) - to lift up taking away the weight

### 4) Learn from Jesus

Matthew 11:29, . . . **learn** from me . . .

Learn – (*manthano*) - to increase in knowledge

### 5) Find rest for our souls

Matthew 11:29, . . . you will find **rest** for your souls.

Rest – (*anapausis*) - to be refreshed

#### Questions:

- 1) What did you hear from the Holy Spirit?
- 2) What will you do because of it?
- 3) How can we pray for you?