



# Abide in Christ

John 15:1-12

# Abide in Christ

- **Quick Summary on Abide in Christ**
- Christ's invitation to "Come unto Me" means also to Abide in Christ
- **Full blessedness** at coming to Christ continues by "Abiding in Christ"
- **Secret** of Abiding in Christ? **TIME for Jesus**
- Abiding in Christ needs **continual practise**
- **Fix our minds** on truth and **take action!**
- Let us **repeat to make this practice a part of us**



# Abide in Christ

- Practising Abiding in Christ
- John 15:4-5, John 6:63 (Spirit & Life) and 2 Cor 4:13 (Speak)
  - Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in Me. **I am the vine, you are the branches.** He who abides in Me and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing
  - **Picture in mind:** Jesus as the vine, and me as the branch
  - **Repeat verbally:** Jesus, you are the vine, I am the branch. Without You, I can do nothing. Now let the river of life flow from You to me to bear
    - Fruit (fill in the blank) eg love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, self-control, ...etc
    - Fruit of Divine healing, health, faith, ministry, outreach, ...etc\



# Abide in Christ

- **You shall find rest for your souls**

- Come to Me, ...and I will give you rest”
- Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me,...and you will find rest for your souls
- Matt 11:28-30

- **The Need for Rest**

- Since man’s fall, it’s been toil and heavy laden
- Gen 3:16-19 “...greatly multiply your sorrow....in toil you shall eat,...in the sweat of you face you shall eat bread....”



# Abide in Christ

- **Rest in Creation Genesis 1:1 to 2:3**

- V1 “In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth
- v2 Some unknown event happened, and there was chaos throughout the earth
- Day 1 to 3; **God restored order** via creation of separation viz,
  - Day 1 Light (Day) vs Darkness (Night); v3-5
  - Day 2 Sky vs Waters; v6-8
  - Day 3 Land vs Sea; v9-10
- Day 3 to 6; Creation
  - Day 3 Vegetation; v11-13
  - Day 4 Sun, Moon, Stars v14-19
  - Day 5 Birds and Marine life; v20-23



# Abide in Christ

- **Rest in Creation Genesis 1:1 to 2:3 (Cont'd)**
  - Day 3 to 6; Creation (Cont'd)
    - Day 6 Land animals and creatures; v24-25
    - Day 6 Man; v26-31
  - Day 7 God rested and **Man's first day of existence is a day of rest!**
- Can we agree man is designed with **need of REST?**
- Can we agree that **REST is an important need?**



# Abide in Christ

- **Our Saviour's Invitation and Promise**

- Come unto Me, and I will give you rest
- Promised rest to every soul who comes to Him

- **What is this rest?**

- Peace and security – Man had God-given authority. Total order and free from fear,
- Provision - All our wants provided
- Fulfillment – Our desires met
- Progressive restoration of all that was God given and lost in the Garden of Eden



# Abide in Christ

- **Everyone that comes to Jesus receives this promised rest**
  - You will receive rest
- **Where the truth hidden from many is revealed next!**
  - You will find rest for your souls
- **What's the difference?**
  - Fishing analogy
  - 1<sup>st</sup> instance is equivalent to being given the fish and being fed
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> instance is equivalent to having learnt the art of fishing for fish and being fed
  - Jesus wants us **not only to receive** rest but to **learn art of finding** rest





# Abide in Christ

- What is the *Hidden Truth of Finding* Continual Rest?
  - Take My yoke upon you
  - Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart
- **Take My yoke upon you**
  - Our voluntary surrender of all to Jesus
  - Farming analogy
  - Yoked animals are under the discretion and direction of the farmer
  - Farmer provides and care for his working animals



# Abide in Christ

- **Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart**

- Learn of Me: Be a disciple of Jesus Christ
- Meek: “Blessed are the meek; for they shall inherit the earth” Matt 5:5
- Lowly in heart: “Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” Matt 5:3
- “Surely He scorns the scornful, but gives grace to the humble” Prov 3:34
- “...God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble” James 4:6
- ***THE PROMISE: You inherit the earth and the Kingdom of Heaven!***

- **Receiving vs Finding**

- Receive rest upon coming at His invitation
- Find rest when you voluntarily take His yoke and submit to His Lordship and learn of Him



# Abide in Christ

- **Why do we struggle to voluntarily surrender?**
  - Lack of faith in God and His Character through deception
  - Example of Adam and Eve in Genesis 3
  - Why did created perfect Adam and Eve disobey God and chose independence from God
  - Deceived by Satan to look at their God-given carnal desires and think God will deprive them
  - The very antithesis (direct opposite) of God's plan and actions
  - Satan slandered God's Character and Adam and Eve believed the lie and doubted God
  - Will we fall into the same trap?

• **God Forbid!!!!**



# Abide in Christ

- **What God bestow needs TIME to become fully our own. It must be**
  - Held fast
  - Appropriated ie apply to our lives
  - Assimilated into our inner being and become part of us
- **Thus we will start by putting into practise as in 2 Cor 4:13**
  - Having the same spirit of faith according to what is written
  - “I believed and therefore I spoke”
  - **We also believe and therefore speak!**



# Abide in Christ

- **By His Grace, our response is**

- Forgive me the sin of believing Satan's lies slandering You, Gracious God
- I surrender all to You, Jesus, and I willingly take Your yoke upon me
- I now learn of Jesus to be meek and humble in heart
- And acknowledge I need You always in my life. I abide in You, Jesus"
- I now forget those things which are behind and reaching for those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize to Abide in Christ Jesus. AMEN. Phil 3:13

- **Praise and thank God, we find perfect rest for our souls!**

- **AMEN**





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