“I Will Give You Rest” BY Malusi Skunyana

Read Matthew 11:28-30

MAT 11:28 Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

MAT 11:29 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.

MAT 11:30 For my yoke [is] easy, and my burden is light.

Jesus invites all who are weary and burdened to come to Him to find rest for their souls. To those who are suffering and are weighed down by grief, care, and despair Jesus offers rest and peace of mind. Our Saviour knows all about our struggles in this world of sin and suffering, and as the Great Healer He offers to relieve our burdens if we will come to Him.

When Jesus came to our world, He became Immanuel “God with us.” God had come to live with us, to share in our struggles and in our sorrows, and to bear our burdens. Jesus came to bring hope to the human race, that we may know God and know that He cares for us and loves us. When He began His ministry on earth, the human race was suffering under a burden of wickedness, sickness, and hopelessness. For thousands of years the human race had been degenerating and moving further away from God. But Jesus’ coming was like a breath of fresh air to humanity. He brought hope to the hopeless, healing to the sick, comfort to the sorrowing, and He proclaimed the good news of salvation to all men.

As Jesus looked at the multitude that was following Him, He saw those who were suffering under very heavy burdens. He understood their cases and sympathized with them in their sorrows and cares. He sought to relieve their burdens and give them peace of mind. He invited all who were weighed down with care and sorrow to bring their burdens to Him so that He might give them rest. He proposed to give them His easy yoke in exchange for their heavy burdens. It was His mission not only to die for our sins but also to bear our burdens and to share in our sorrows. Jesus showed that God knew all the heartaches and sicknesses that plagued the human race, and He stood ready to help because He cared for man. In all their afflictions God wanted them to look to Him for help, for He would give them rest and relief.

Dear friend, Jesus’ invitation to the weary and heavy-laden is still sounding today. The rest that Jesus offers is more than just temporary relief from suffering and care, He offers a new life – life with God. In this new life, you are no longer overwhelmed with care, suffering, and despair. But you live in total dependence in God and you have hope in Him, you accept His will for your life, and live in anticipation of the fulfilment of His promise when He shall make all things new – and then there will be no more pain and no more suffering. When your life is hidden in God, the storms of life may rage but you will remain unmoved and at peace, for God will be your refuge. Will you not respond to Jesus’ invitation today and bring all your care to Him who cares for you? Will you not leave all your burdens at His feet and experience true rest and real peace of mind? May the Almighty God carry you through all the storms of this life until that day when Jesus will return to take His children home to heaven. God bless you! Amen!