Matt 115

We are all under a yoke

Mat 11:25 At that time Jesus said, “I praise You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from *the* wise and intelligent and have revealed them to infants.

[Mat 11:26](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/26/s_940026) “Yes, Father, for this way was well-pleasing in Your sight.

/[Mat 11:27](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/27/s_940027) “**All things have been handed over to Me by My Father**; and no one knows the Son except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, **and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal *Him****.*\

[Mat 11:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/28/s_940028) “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest.

[Mat 11:29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/29/s_940029) “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.

[Mat 11:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/30/s_940030) “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

In verse 27- *whom the Son wills to reveal* speaks to the fact that in eternity past all decisions were made…the Trinity in its infinite wisdom knew who would become positive toward the gospel and who would reject the gospel.

/Mat 11:27 – points to the power and foreknowledge that only God can have which would be the beginning of Jesus’s clarifying that He and the Father are one. This would be a recurring theme in His teaching which sparked great anger among the religious crowd.\

You can see that TLJC put the power of God the Father at His disposal and an equal term that to know God the Father you had to know the Son.

This teaching and these sayings built up over time and became a very inflammatory set of principles that brought out the arrogance of the Jewish leadership and led to the Cross at Calvary.

/Mat 28:18 and Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**

[Jhn 3:35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/3/35/s_1000035) “The Father loves the Son and **has given all things into His hand**.\

This would be the call to recognize that Jesus was the Son of God in the flesh but also that Jesus was God Himself concerning the deity of the Hypostatic Union.

/[Jhn 5:21](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/5/21/s_1002021) “For just as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, even so **the Son also gives life to whom He wishes.** 22 “For not even the Father judges anyone, but **He has given all judgment to the Son**,\

I’ll put a few more on the board but most of you recognize this theme within TLJC messages.

/Jhn 6:46 “Not that anyone has seen the Father, **except the One who is from God**; He has seen the Father.

Jhn 14:6 Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; **no one comes to the Father but through Me.\**

The amount of passages I could put up here are pretty numerous.

I just want you to have a taste of what Matt 11:27 was getting into because TLJC used this language over and over again to everyone around Him.

/Jhn 14:8 Philip said to Him, “Lord, **show us the Father**, and it is enough for us.” 9 Jesus said to him, “Have I been so long with you, and *yet* you have not come to know Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; how *can* you say, ‘Show us the Father’?\

And there is the statement of the great I AM which came from OT scriptures.

When God spoke with Moses He was clear that the statement is - I AM.

/Jhn 8:58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, **before Abraham was born, I am.”**

Exo 3:14 God said to Moses, **“I AM WHO I AM**”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, **‘I AM has sent me** to you.’”\

In John chapter 8 in the original Greek it means before Abraham ever existed I was here….I AM as the same I AM who spoke to Moses.

Because TLJC is deity and He is the way and truth and the only source of eternal life HE then ends with this statement.

[Mat 11:28](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/28/s_940028) “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. NO OTHER YOKE OFFERS REST!

/[Mat 11:29](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/29/s_940029) “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.\ (Jer 6:16)

[Mat 11:30](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/mat/11/30/s_940030) “For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

ELABORATE

The fact is we are all under a yoke which is a form of a harness or a restraint it can even be considered a burden.

/That word *yoke* (Bible) has about 8 different versions in Hebrew/Aramaic and the Greek- either pointing to a physical restraint, a pairing of two together as oxen or cattle were coupled, or a tool in the spiritual or natural realm that controls or guides a pair or a single person or animal.\ REPEAT

That is the shortest definitions I can give that make sense to the layman and that will open this study up to us.

The most common yoke you would research and see in ancient times was a harness that wrapped around an animal’s upper torso and it was a way to control and guide the animal for labor and often times it had a coupling device attached to it to add a second harness along side the first….giving two animals a side by side work load to share in.

/The fact is we all (Bel & Unbel) have a yoke that we are attached too – actually several throughout our life time. The laws of the government are a yoke, the jobs/careers we embark on have a yoke, relationships & limitations in our flesh all have a yoke upon us. We may break free of them but that comes with a cost/consequence.\ REPEAT

ELABORATE

Think about what I am telling you.

Just a simple fact like gravity places a yoke upon our limitations….you and I can’t fly we can’t step off a ten story building without a severe consequence.

/Even the person who claims to live free from all rules and regulations has a yoke upon them….their freedom has limitations. The yoke of living for self, independent from God is in view concerning Mat 11: 29-30.\

What was Satan’s first sin…he wanted independence from God….I will do it my way…I will be like God…I will raise myself above all others.

Satan then offered that in a very subtle way to the man and the woman in the garden.

/Gen 3:1 Now the serpent was more crafty than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And **he said to the woman**, “Indeed, has God said, **‘You shall not eat from any tree of the garden’**?”

Twisting the original yoke put upon them and tempting the woman into independence.\

Do things your own way….be free from rules and regulations….get away from that yoke that God placed upon you.

/The fact is the OSN is a yoke because it looks to buck against God and seek its own path which is the nature & ideology of Satan. Therefore, it is a yoke of cosmic independence which places the person at the mercy and regulations of Satan.\

There are never 3 or 4 choices concerning our spiritual walk.

Spirituality and where you spend eternity are not like the menu at the local restaurant where you have all kinds of choices and ways to add or subtract from the meal. REPEAT

There is only two my friends.

/Matthew chapter 11 finishes with Jesus offering the free gift of salvation but with that gift is the yoke of becoming a bride of Christ and a child as well as a royal member of the kingdom of God. This burden (yoke) is light and easy in comparison with Satan’s.\

Remember Jesus started in verses 7 and 8 warning not to put unrealistic expectations on the men of God and in fact remove the legalism from your midst so you can receive what God has already given you.

Jesus pointed out the implacable nature of mankind in verses 17 & 18…and He went on to warn the cities where He had just evangelized and performed miracles in that they should repent and turn toward Him.

TLJC then hints to a power or an equality, concerning God the Father and now He is finishing up saying take the yoke I offer you because it is light…it is eternal and it is the choice that brings inner peace and tranquility.

/There are only two yokes we choose from; it is our union with Christ or slavery to self (OSN) and Satan’s cosmic system. Both have guidelines, consequences and eternal weight attached to them.\

The so-called free thinkers of the world hate this type of teaching…it rubs their pride and arrogance the wrong way.

Because they want everyone to believe they are so unique and so free from everyone else that they just exist on this plain above everyone and everything else… yet… they are just another spoke in the wheel.

They want to so badly to live in the lie that all roads lead to heaven and It’s just not in scripture.

Turn to John chapter 8 with me.

They are of their father the devil….the original independent creature who rebelled against God.

/No one is above living either inside the plan of God or inside the plan of Satan. You are harnessed and being guided by one yoke or another. If you live in the cosmic freedom away from God you are inside the plan of Satan there is no middle ground.\ REPEAT

That is simply the illusion of grandeur that you are terminally unique and there was only one unique one and He died on the cross at Calvary.

If you are so unique… can you defy gravity and walk on water or leap from a ten story building with no injuries.

Can you raise the dead? Can you ascend up to heaven and sit at the right hand of God the father?

Look at what Jesus spoke to a group of Jewish Bels & Unbels.

Jhn 8:31 So Jesus was saying to those Jews who had believed Him, “If you continue in My word, *then* you are truly disciples of Mine;

[Jhn 8:32](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/32/s_1005032) and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”

/[Jhn 8:33](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/33/s_1005033) **They answered Him**, “We are Abraham’s descendants and have **never yet been enslaved** to anyone; how is it that You say, **‘You will become free’**?”\

How this is written in the Greek suggest that some of the crowd were getting angry or frustrated which means they were probably Unbels.

Where it says - *they answered Him* is a Greek term APO-CREAM-ME-MY which is already having an answer and **coming to a judgement or conclusion without really considering what TLJC was teaching them.**  ELABORATE

There it is right there…the lie of the cosmic system that you can be your own man or woman outside a relationship with Christ.

The hasty answer… almost interrupting because you know everything.

How often do Unbels do that when hearing a gospel message or doctrinal answer about a subject?

Like it or not….there are two choices and TLJC is clarifying that exact statement right here. This is the logic and words of TLJC not mine.

[Jhn 8:34](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/34/s_1005034) Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is the slave of sin.

This is a matter of fact statement…no way around it.

You are either in the cosmic system or walking inside the plan of God…in fellowship or out of it…that’s it folks!

Everyone of us can look back over the past week and if we have a clear head and we are being honest we can say yes…I was in the new nature more than the old nature.

Sometimes we are falling and failing all over the place & other times we are in fellowship and walking by means of the HS…it’s that simply! Nothing to be guilty about its part of our flawed nature.

[Jhn 8:35](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/35/s_1005035) “The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son does remain forever.

The slave either accepts salvation and the fact that Christ is the yoke they walk under or they accept cosmic viewpoint.

You can not remain in the house (kingdom) if you are an Unbel.

[Jhn 8:36](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/36/s_1005036) “So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.

[/Jhn 8:37](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/37/s_1005037) “I know that you are Abraham’s descendants; **yet you seek to kill Me, because My word has no place in you.**

Arrogance will not accept the truth, at some point it will lash out in frustration or anger toward the truth.\

Notice what is the key element…THE WORD! If you keep placing the truth in front of a person filled with bitterness, pride and arrogance eventually you will see an explosion or implosion…either way it will get ugly. REPEAT

[Jhn 8:38](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/38/s_1005038) “I speak the things which I have seen with *My* Father; therefore you also do the things which you heard from *your* father.”

Again, we are getting ready to see some hard teaching from TLJC.

[Jhn 8:39](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/39/s_1005039) They answered and said to Him, “Abraham is our father.” Jesus said to them, “If you are Abraham’s children, do the deeds of Abraham.

[Jhn 8:40](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/40/s_1005040) “But as it is, you are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God; this Abraham did not do.

OUCH! That had to sting the legalistic crowd.

[Jhn 8:41](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/41/s_1005041) “You are doing the deeds of your father.” They said to Him, “We were not born of fornication; we have one Father: God.”

There is a level of combative behavior brewing here that you can sense from the scriptures. There is a hint that they are calling out Jesus as a child born outside of wedlock.

[/Jhn 8:42](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/42/s_1005042) Jesus said to them, “If God were your Father, you would love Me, for **I proceeded forth and have come from God**, for I have not even come on My own initiative, **but He sent Me**.\

TLJC is illuminating His supernatural birth which came from deity not human understanding.

[Jhn 8:43](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/43/s_1005043)“Why do you not understand what I am saying? *It is* because you cannot hear My word.

The word is always the stumbling block for the Unbel…and even the Bel who refuses to grow up.

Human IQ has nothing to do with spiritual IQ…that is a fact!

[/Jhn 8:44](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/44/s_1005044) “**You are of *your* father the devil**, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth because **there is no truth in him**.

Whenever he speaks a lie, **he speaks from his own nature***,* for he is a liar and the father of lies.\

[Jhn 8:45](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/45/s_1005045) “But because I speak the truth, you do not believe Me.

[Jhn 8:46](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/46/s_1005046) “Which one of you convicts Me of sin? If I speak truth, why do you not believe Me?

[/Jhn 8:47](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/47/s_1005047) “He who is of God hears the words of God; **for this reason you do not hear *them****,* because **you are not of God**.”

The Unbel will never fully grasp spiritual concepts and will forever have a secular answer or viewpoint to counterfeit God’s word.\

[Jhn 8:48](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/48/s_1005048) The Jews answered and said to Him, “Do we not say rightly that You are a Samaritan and have a demon?”

Blasphemy against the HS which was to claim TLJC was the devil or demon possessed that is where the term comes from…when TLJC walked the earth and had these types of verbal attacks thrown at Him.

They are claiming He is not a full- blooded Jew and that He is a demon.

What does arrogance do when confronted with the truth….it lashes out!

As I recently mentioned feelings not facts…that is what we also have today with so many people….caught up in feelings not facts.

[Jhn 8:49](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb/jhn/8/49/s_1005049) Jesus answered, “I do not have a demon; but I honor My Father, and you dishonor Me.

As we close Matt chapter 11 take a few quick notes;

/The choices we have in this world are limited, but we do have a freedom to make them and also become responsible for those decisions. In other words, we do not have complete freedom to break laws in the natural or spiritual realm without a consequence.\

Jump off a building & risk injury or death. Act out in violence and risk losing your freedom and incur a financial penalty.

The freedom we have is limited and in the country we live in, here in USA freedom came with a price…it is not free. Blood… sweat and tears of many Americans before you paved the way.

/Everyone is under a yoke in one form or another. The only yoke that sets us free in the sense of eternal security and not being a slave to the cosmic system is our union with Christ. That like any other yoke has consequences when it is neglected or disrespected.\

The Bel who neglects or disrespects the plan of God for their life will face consequences…such as loss of rewards and blessings in time and in eternity.

The good news is… you can not lose your salvation. The cosmic system has no promise such as that…its end is always misery and separation from God in the end. REPEAT

What yoke will choose to be under?