

FAITH MAIL June 2023

Wear The Yoke!

As a young boy, my favourite Bible passage was Matthew 11:28-30. Before you go headlong into reading this mail, please take a moment to read it. It opens with some reassuring words from Yahshua: "Come to me, all of you who toil and carry [heavy] burdens, and . . . I will lead you into rest." Now you understand why it's a favourite of mine.

When the world leaves you feeling heavy with its lies, vices, and false morality, weighed down with sin, having no hope because you've drifted so far from Yahweh, the promise of rest is something to be grasped. We can all recall when we came to Yahshua and our heavy burdens were lifted. Finding an inner rest in Messiah is a cause for celebration, but it doesn't mean we will be in 'holiday mode' from here on out.

Immediately after coming to Him and finding rest, Yahshua says, "Put on my yoke and learn from me". A yoke is an industrial device used to connect two oxen for work – ploughing the ground. Coming to Yahshua, we're released from our former burdensome loads. He then invites us to harness ourselves to Him for work. What a magnificent thought! Yahshua wants **you** to partner with **Him** in the work of the Kingdom. But His work (yoke) is not heavy or difficult; it perfectly fits who you are.

Wearing Yahshua's yoke, being harnessed to Him, brings you into an ongoing, intimate fellowship. Through this fellowship, you learn about Yahshua and how to work in the Father's vineyard by following His lead. I say, "Following His lead" because it's His yoke you wear. He has the reins and is the wiser, more powerful partner guiding you.

There is ongoing rest and refreshment to be gained in working in the vineyard. The secret of experiencing this is to keep the Master's yoke on, continually drink from the fountain of His fellowship, and allow Him to lead. You will then discover that the burden of His work (His yoke) is light.

Alcot