



Repentance Tabernacle Church

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Come!

Scripture: Matthew 11:28 - Come unto me . . .

Jesus' call motivated these men (Matthew 4:18-22) to get up and leave their jobs—immediately. They didn't make excuses about why it wasn't a good time. They left at once and followed. Jesus calls each of us to follow Him. When Jesus asks us to serve Him, we must be like the disciples and do it at once. **The invitation to 'come' is from Jesus and contains no limitations or restrictions.** He will turn no one away. There is no need to stand afar off because Christ calls **ALL** to draw close to Him.

Although this gracious invitation to 'come' in the Gospel of Matthew 11:28 is Christ's first recorded general invitation, **it is offered to all people**, it was initially given by Jesus to Israel. He came to the lost sheep of the house of Israel in fulfilment of Scripture, calling the entire nation to repent of their sin, return to the Lord, and trust HIM as Saviour. However, this offer was made to an unresponsive and unrepentant generation, who were more interested in their temporal needs being met than their spiritual needs.

In Jesus' parable of the great feast (Luke 14:16-24), many turned down the invitation to the banquet because the timing was inconvenient. We too can resist or delay responding to God's invitation, and our excuses may sound reasonable—work duties, family responsibilities, financial needs, or whatever they may be. Jesus' never asks us to give up something good unless He plans to replace it with something even better. He is not calling us to join Him in a labor camp but in a feast—the marriage supper of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-9), when God and His beloved church will be joined forever. **Nevertheless, God's invitation is the most important event in our lives, no matter how inconveniently it may be timed.** Are you making excuses to avoid responding to God's call? His call consists of more than just coming to church, it consists of a consecrated life. Which means to set yourself apart from the world and devote your service and worship to God. **Jesus reminds us that the time will come when He will stop inviting us, and it will be too late to get into the place He has prepared for us "New Jerusalem."**

In these last and evil days, Jesus is giving mankind an invitation to "come" unto Him while they have a chance. In the Word of God, He is letting us know if you are burdened down with these cares of life bring it to Him and He will give you rest and you will never hunger or thirst. He just wants to refresh our lives with salvation and allow us to discover that He is gentle, humble, and easy to please. The world does not provide any peace that is why Jesus said, "*Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you*" (John 14:27).

This peace is certain in any circumstance; we have no need to fear the present or the future. If your life is full of stress, allow the Holy Ghost to fill you with Christ's peace. Sin, fear, uncertainty, doubt, and numerous other forces are at war within us. The peace of God moves into our hearts and lives to restrain these hostile forces and offer comfort in place of conflict. **Jesus says He will give us that peace if we are willing to accept it from Him.**

In this invitation Jesus is inviting us also into a place of safety, fellowship, a personal cleansing, satisfying portion, and rest for our soul. In the book of Revelation there was a three-fold call made by John while on the Island of Patmos also the last invitation, "*And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely*" (Rev. 22:17). **The Gospel is unlimited in scope—all people everywhere may come.** We live in a world desperately thirsty for living water, and many are dying of thirst. But it is still not too late. That's why He sends us invitations again and again to "come." It is not God's will for anyone to die in sin. He wants everyone to repent and follow Him (2 Peter 3:9). **Have you really accepted His invitation and completely surrendered your life unto Him?**

Jesus said, "*I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly*" (John 10:10). Life in Him is lived on a higher plane because of His overflowing forgiveness, love, and guidance. Jesus is waiting so that more sinners will repent and turn to Him. We must not sit and wait for Him, but live in the realization that time is short and we have important work to do. The parable of the Ten Virgins (Matthew 25:1-13) reinforces the call for readiness in the face of the uncertain time of Jesus' second coming. Spiritual preparation cannot be bought or borrowed at the last minute. Our relationship with God must be our own.

People of God, "Don't let it be said, too late, too late, to enter at the golden gate!"