



meaning of fatigue and exhaustion. It is a spiritual weariness and exhaustion that depletes one of strength and happiness. The term heavy laden refers to those who are under a great burden. It is having a load that is too great to bear.

In Matthew 23:4, Jesus said of the Pharisees that they “bind heavy burdens and grievous to be borne, and lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.” The Bible says in John 8:36, “If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.” Jesus does not burden us down, He takes a load off of us. The Lord Jesus brings joy and satisfaction to the soul.



Submission. He says take my yoke upon you. The yoke is an instrument of submission. It went across the necks of a pair of oxen or mules to connect them to a plow. When both oxen pulled, their teamwork make the work easier for both. We are to be yoked with Christ. This is a very important truth. Jesus said, in Luke 6:46, :And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?: Submission is of utmost

importance. Some folks have no peace because they have never submitted and surrendered to Christ. They suffer under a load of stress and despair because they do not submit unto the Lord *or* they only submit when they hit a brick wall.

Solomon in Proverbs 29:1 said, “He, that being often reprov'd hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.” The analogy of hardening the neck is taken from the stubborn mule or ox that turns away and stiffens his neck to rebel against the yoke. The application is made to those who stubbornly resist God’s will. Rather than submit they live in stubbornness and rebellion.

BUT, the yoke is also an instrument of strength. When we are yoked with Christ, He adds strength to our lives. Instead of going it alone in the power of stress, He pulls for us. A lot of folks are loaded down with the stress of misery of life because they refuse the help of Christ. When things get tough and hectic, they push Christ aside and attempt to go it alone. They are operating in the power of flesh and they fail most miserably. However, when our relationship is with Christ, this strength becomes active and effective in our life. God told the Apostle in 2 Corinthians 12:9, “My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness.”

When we in our weakness Come to the end of ourselves, we become a candidate to receive God’s strength. Man’s problem is that he tries to handle everything in his own strength. But Jesus said, without me you can do nothing. The sooner we learn this truth, the better off we will be. There are too many people, even Christians, today who serve in the power of the flesh. The Apostle Paul in writing to the Philippians in chapter 4:13, said “I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me”. We can do nothing without Christ, nothing sufficient for the kingdom of God at all. But we can accomplish great things with Him. It is of utmost importance that we take His yoke upon us and submit to Him. Only then does His strength become a reality in our lives.

I know I have not finished this, so I invite you meet me in Prayer on Monday and Friday at 7PM as we conclude this consecration month. Jesus said “my meat is to do the will of Him that sent me”. I am asking all of you to conclude this Consecration, as we normally do, by making that scripture come alive and taking away all meat including seafood from your diet. I believe Jesus looked at seafood as meat even though a lot of you do not. Please meet us in prayer as we conclude this Consecration.