***“Easy”* and *“Light”* Christianity?**

Let’s read Matt.11:28-30. Question: Do you believe what we just read? Really? Do you believe the *yoke* of Christianity is *“easy”?* Do you believe the *burden* of Christianity is *“light”?* Jesus said it was- do you believe Him? Or does being a *Christian* make you *“weary”?* And does it feel like a *“heavy” burden?*

**If being a Christian and living the life of one is *hard, heavy,* and *exhausting,* then one of two things is true:**

1. **You’re “doing it”** ***wrong****;* or,
2. **You’re “doing it”** ***wrong!***

**Jesus said:**

* He provides *“rest,”* v.28.
* He will *teach/guide,* v.29a.
* He is a *“gentle”* and *“humble-hearted” yoke-fellow,* v.29b.
* *Working with Him* is *“rest(ful) for your soul,”* v.29c.
* His *yoke is “easy”* and His *load is “light,”* v.30.

**So, if Christianity is *hard and heavy* instead of *“easy and light,”* then you’re doing it “wrong”… perhaps by:**

* **Trying to do it “all” yourself.** Remember/rely on your *Yoke-Fellow;* He did/does all the *heavy lifting/pulling!* You don’t have *devise a plan, implement it* (save yourself), and get to heaven *on your own,* Eph.2:8-10!
* **Trying to *go your way* rather than *His.*** *“Can two walk together except they be agreed?”* Amos 3:3. It will be “hard” to be *yoked with Christ* if you keep trying to *walk* “your way” way rather than His cf. John 14:6; 8:12.
* **Adding *extras* on *His load.*** His *easy yoke* and *light burden* only become *hard* and *heavy* when we “pile on” *weights* to it, Heb.12:1-2; 2Cor.11:3.

**What’s *hard/heavy* about:**

1. ***Hearing/listening***to an *omniscient* and *omnipotent God* who *loves* and wants to *save you* from eternal damnation, Rom.10:17; Eph.5:15-17?
2. ***Believing***something that is true (that Jesus *lived* and *died* as a man and was *raised, ascended,* and is *seated God’s right hand*), John 8:24; 1Thess.4:14?
3. ***Confessing* your faith in Him (if you *believe* it, why not *say so!)?*** Such is *easy,* especially if you truly *believe* and when you consider the alternative, Matt.10:32-33!
4. ***Repenting?*** What you’ve *thought, believed,* and *done* **before** has been *heavy and hard* (the way of the transgressor is hard, Prov.13:15!) and has brought you nothing but *guilt, shame, heartache,* and *despair.* Why not admit you’ve been wrong, *change your mind* and *commit yourself to His way?*It’s not really *hard* to change your *mind* and *way* about something that produces *destruction* and *death* rather than *life* and *liberty,* cf. Prov.12:28; 14:12; 16:25!
5. ***Baptism****?* Are you afraid of water? Do you take a bath to clean your *body* don’t you? What’s so *hard* about being *immersed in water* to clean your *conscience* and *soul* from sin, cf. Acts 22:16; 1Pet.3:21?
6. ***Living for Jesus?* Remember, your *Yoke-Fellow:***

* **Was *crucified* for you, Gal.1:3-4.** Is it really *hard* to *live through* and *for* Him, Gal.2:20?
* ***Intercedes* for you, Rom.8:34** (and provides the Holy Spirit to do so also, vv.26-27) **and *advocates* for you, 1John 2:1!**
* **Is willing to *forgive* you anytime and every time you fail we if you admit your mistake and sincerely ask forgiveness, 1John 1:9!**
* **Provides you with *“all things pertaining to life and godliness,”* 2Pet.1:3; *Shepherds* to *lead, feed,* and *watch for* your soul, Acts 20:28,32; 1Pet.5:2-3; and *brethren* to *love, encourage,* and *assist* you, Eph.4:11-16!**

**Conclusion: So if Jesus says being *yoked with Him* is *easy* and His *load* or *burden* is *light,* who are we to say its too *hard* and *heavy?***

**If that’s our conclusion about “Christianity,” then we either have the wrong *idea/concept* of Christianity, or we’re *doing it wrong!***

**Jesus *wants to* and has *provided the way* to give you spiritual *life* in *abundance,* John 10:10b; His *way* is *easy, light,* and provides *rest,* Matt.11:28-30; Satan wants to *steal, kill,* and *destroy* you, John 10:10a; He has convinced you that Jesus’ way is *too hard* and *to heavy.*  Whom will *believe* and to whom will you *submit,* and whom will you *disbelieve* and *resist,* Jas.4:7?**

**The *choice* is *easy* and the *burden* is *light* with Jesus!**