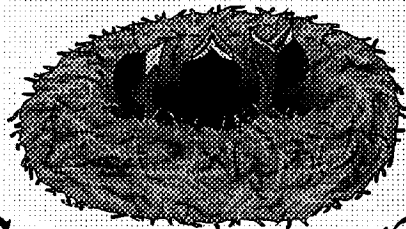
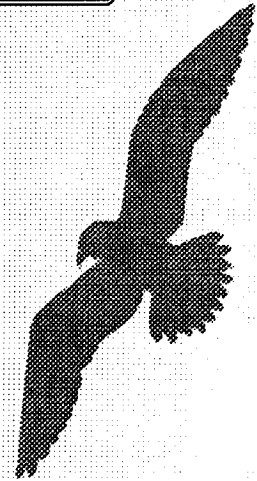


*"They shall
mount up...*

ON EAGLES' WINGS

*... with wings
as eagles."
Isaiah 40:31*



AERY NUGGETS

"Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and *I will give you rest*. Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye *shall find rest* unto your souls, For My yoke is easy, and my burden is light. Matthew 11:28,29.

His Yoke Is Easy

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want;
He maketh me down to lie
In pastures green, He leadeth me
The quiet waters by.

My soul crieth out: "restore me again,
And give me the strength to take
The narrow path of righteousness,
E'en for His own name's sake."

**His yoke is easy, His burden is light,
I've found it so, I've found it so:
He leadeth me by day and by night,
Where living waters flow."**

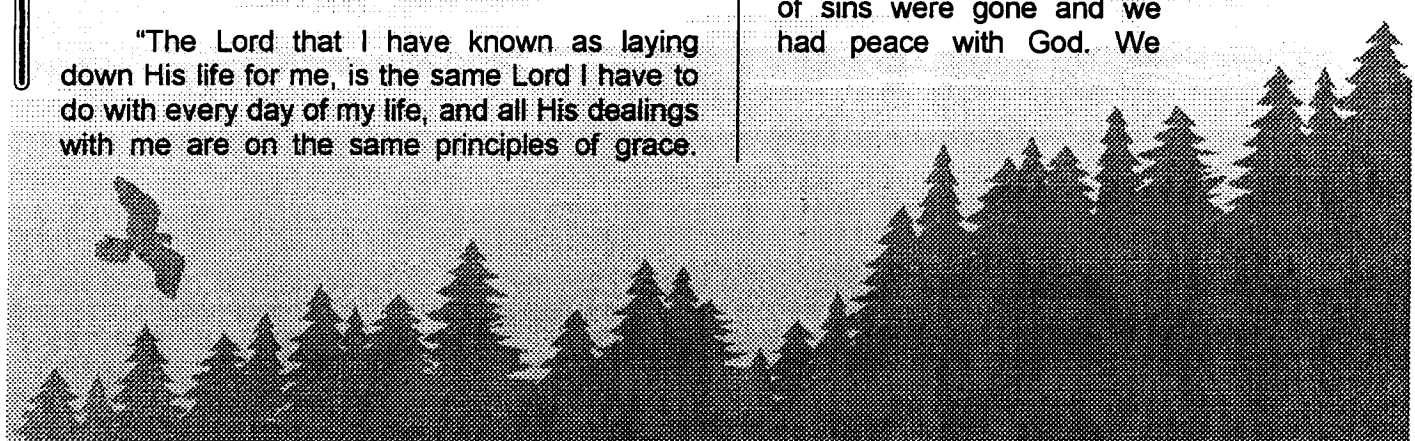
"The Lord that I have known as laying down His life for me, is the same Lord I have to do with every day of my life, and all His dealings with me are on the same principles of grace.

How precious, how strengthening it is to know that Jesus is at this moment feeling and exercising the same love towards me as when He died on the cross for me." J.N. Darby.

Dear Friends,

As we begin a new year I would like to call your attention to two kinds of rest that the Lord Jesus has promised to us. *There is a rest that He gives and a rest that we can find*. The first one has to do with our salvation and the second one with our daily walk through this world.

Let's notice the first one. It is an invitation by the Lord Jesus: "**Come unto Me.**" I am sure that everyone of us who have accepted the Lord Jesus as our personal Savior can remember that first time when we came to the Lord Jesus "heavy laden" or burdened with our sins. We came to Jesus as we were "without one plea." We confessed our sins to Him, our heavy load of sins were gone and we had peace with God. We



believed that Christ died for our sins, that He took our place on the cross and bore our sins in His own body on the cross. See 1 Peter 2:24; 1 John 1:9. As a result we were no longer seeking to earn our salvation by good works: the heavy load of our sins was gone. We were no longer "heavy laden." Being "justified by faith" we found peace "with God through our Lord Jesus Christ." Romans 5:1. We then experienced the wonderful rest of conscience that the Lord gives to them who have accepted Him as Lord and Savior. "As far as the east is from the west, so far hath He removed our transgressions from us." Psalm 103:12. We were saved from the penalty of our sins.

How do we find or experience that second rest? *We have to take His yoke upon us and learn of Him.* First of all: What is a yoke? When we think of a yoke we usually think of two animals joined together by a wooden bar around their necks. In this way they are forced to work together when pulling heavy loads or in plowing fields. As one has described it so well "a yoke is designed to curb the will and bring one under control."

Those who would seek to keep the law for salvation put themselves under a yoke of bondage. See Acts 15:10; Galatians 5:1. But if we take Christ's yoke upon us then we share it with One who is far stronger and far greater than we. That makes His yoke easy to bear and His burden is light.

A servant of Christ was once asked the question: "Do you know why His yoke is light? The answer was "Well, because the Lord helps us to carry it I suppose." No, the questioner said and then replied: "When I was a boy at home, I used to drive the oxen, and the yoke was never made to balance the load. Father's yokes were always made heavier on one side than the other. Then, you see, we would put a weak bullock in alongside a strong bullock; the light end would come on the weak ox, the heavier end on the stronger one. That's why the yoke is easy and the burden is light, because the Lord's yoke is made after the same pattern, and the heavy end is upon His shoulder."

The Lord invites us to take His yoke upon us. The decision to take Christ's yoke is up to us. If we refuse to take His yoke and go our own way then we will miss the rest that He has promised. If we take Christ's yoke upon us then we must go where He wants us to go and do what He wants us to do. After the apostle Paul was converted his first words were: "Lord, what wilt Thou have me to do?" Acts 9:1-6. This should be the question that every believer should ask of the Lord after he or she is saved.

His yoke is easy and his burden is light because His love for us has filled our hearts. This verse of a hymn expresses it so beautifully

"The slave of sin and fear,
Thy truth my bondage broke;
**My willing spirit loves to bear
Thy light and easy yoke;
The love that fills my grateful breast
Makes duty joy, and labor rest."**

James G. Deck

Taking up Christ's yoke is really complete surrender to the will of God. Someone has said: "It does not matter how old we are or where we are when we are saved." On one hand we have little Samuel who heard the voice of the Lord calling him and he said, "Here am I." On the other hand we have Anna who was 84 years old. She "served God with fasting and prayers night and day." Luke 2:37.

As we take up His yoke and follow Him we will also begin to *learn of or from Him.* Our ears will be open to hear His voice saying unto us; "This is the way, walk ye in it." Isaiah 30:21. We will hear the Lord speaking to us through His Word and we will then grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ." 2 Peter 3:18. Our prayer will be: "Show me Thy ways, O Lord, teach me Thy paths. Lead me in Thy truth, and teach me: for Thou art the God of my salvation; on Thee do I wait all the day." Psalm 25:4,5.

As we begin a new year may each of us accept the invitation of our Lord Jesus to take His yoke upon us and follow Him. May our object be to learn more of Him and find that rest unto our souls.

Affectionately in Him,

John D. McNeil

We go to meet the Saviour,
His glorious face to see;
What manner of behaviour
Doth with this hope agree?
May God's illumination
Guide heart and walk aright;
That so our preparation
Be pleasing in His sight.

For address correction or free new name addition,
write to:
Leslie L. Winters or Christine Albury