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## Daily Rice 2023 July 1

Matthew 11:28-30:

"Come to me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am meek and lowly in heart; and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

This passage reminds us that when we feel sleepy and burdened, we can turn to Jesus for rest and encouragement. His yoke is easy, his burden is light, and he will help us endure and give us strength.

Romans 5:3-5:

"Not only this, but we also rejoice in our affliction, knowing that affliction produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope; and hope is not ashamed, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. "

This passage tells us that when we endure in difficulty, we can rejoice in hope. Difficulties develop patience and maturity in us, and the Holy Spirit of God gives us love and strength in our hearts.

These verses remind us that we can rely on God and find strength, courage, and endurance in the face of difficulty. He is our refuge and provider, and we can find comfort and encouragement in his promises and guidance.

Dear God,

We humbly come before You, seeking solace and guidance in the midst of the trials we face. As we find ourselves accused of wrongdoing, burdened by the weight of being labeled as bad, neglecting our responsibilities to our family and failing to fulfill what we ought to do, we turn to You, our eternal source of strength and truth.

In times of false accusations, we often feel disheartened and misunderstood. Our hearts ache for the unjust judgments that others may cast upon us, tarnishing our reputation and causing doubt to settle within our souls. But we find solace in knowing that Your divine justice prevails and that, one day, You will reveal the truth to all.

Grant us the patience and courage to endure these difficult moments, dear God. Help us find the strength to persevere and remain steadfast in our convictions, knowing that Your love and understanding surpass all human limitations. Illuminate our path with Your divine light so that we may navigate through the shadows of doubt and uncertainty, trusting in Your ultimate plan for our lives.

Teach us to respond with grace and humility when faced with accusations, understanding that our character is not defined solely by the judgments of others but by our unwavering commitment to live in alignment with Your teachings. Guide us to seek reconciliation and forgiveness, both from You and from those who have wrongly accused us, for true healing can only be found through genuine understanding and compassion.

As we walk this journey of redemption, may Your presence be our constant companion, providing us with the strength to persevere and the wisdom to discern the path of righteousness. Grant us the perseverance to continually strive to be better, to mend broken relationships, and to restore faith in our character through our actions.

Above all, dear God, we pray that You grant us the serenity to accept the things we cannot change, the courage to change the things we can, and the wisdom to know the difference. We trust in Your divine timing and Your unfailing love, knowing that You will uplift us, clear our names, and restore our honor in due time.

In Your holy name, we pray.

Amen.

## Genesis chapter 44

Genesis Chapter 44 continues the story of Joseph and his brothers as they face a critical test and reconciliation. Here's a summary of Genesis Chapter 44:

Chapter 44 begins with Joseph instructing his steward to fill his brothers' sacks with grain, place their money back in their sacks, and also to secretly place his silver cup in Benjamin's sack.

The next morning, as Joseph's brothers prepare to leave Egypt and return to their father in Canaan, Joseph gives his steward orders to pursue them and accuse them of stealing his silver cup. The steward obeys Joseph's command and catches up with the brothers.

The brothers are shocked when the steward accuses them of stealing the ruler's silver cup. They protest their innocence and offer to be searched. The steward agrees but assures them that only the guilty party will be held responsible, and the rest can go free.

The steward begins the search, starting with the eldest brother's sack and progressing down to the youngest, Benjamin. To their horror, the silver cup is found in Benjamin's sack, just as Joseph had orchestrated.

Overwhelmed with grief and fear, the brothers tear their clothes and return to Joseph's house. They fall before Joseph and plead for mercy, vowing to become his slaves if Benjamin is released.

Joseph, deeply moved by their repentance and genuine concern for Benjamin, reveals his true identity to his brothers. He reassures them that he is their brother Joseph, whom they had sold into slavery years ago. He emphasizes that God had orchestrated these events for a greater purpose.

Joseph forgives his brothers and urges them not to be distressed or angry with themselves for what they had done. He explains that God had used their actions to bring about a plan to save lives and preserve their family during the years of famine.

Joseph sends his brothers back to Canaan with grain, provisions, and instructions to bring their father, Jacob, and their entire household to Egypt, where they will be provided for during the remaining years of famine.

Genesis Chapter 44 highlights the final test and reconciliation between Joseph and his brothers. It emphasizes the transformation of their hearts, their remorse for their past actions, and Joseph's forgiveness and mercy towards them. The chapter sets the stage for the reunification of Joseph's family and the fulfillment of God's plan to preserve the line of Abraham.

Genesis Chapter 44 continues the story of Joseph and his brothers. After being reunited with his brothers and testing their character, Joseph arranges for them to return to Canaan with grain for their families. But before they leave, he has his steward hide a silver cup in Benjamin's sack of grain. When the brothers set out on their journey, Joseph sends his steward after them to accuse them of stealing the cup.

The central idea of this chapter is the theme of guilt and redemption. The brothers are brought face to face with the consequences of their past actions as they are accused of stealing from Joseph. They are forced to confront their guilt and take responsibility for their actions.

Important verses in this chapter include:

- Genesis 44:5: "Is not this the cup that my lord drinks from and that he uses for divination? This is a wicked thing you have done." - This is the moment when the brothers realize that they have been set up and accused of stealing the silver cup.
- Genesis 44:16: "What can we say to my lord?" Judah replied. "What can we say? How can we prove our innocence? God has uncovered your servants' guilt." - Judah acknowledges the guilt of himself and his brothers and accepts responsibility for their actions.
- Genesis 44:33: "Now then, please let your servant remain here as my lord's slave in place of the boy, and let the boy return with his brothers." - Judah offers himself as a slave to Joseph in order to spare Benjamin and redeem himself and his family.

These verses demonstrate the brothers' realization of their past wrongdoings and their desire to make amends. Judah, in particular, shows a willingness to sacrifice himself for his family's redemption, foreshadowing the theme of self-sacrifice and redemption that will be explored further in the biblical narrative.