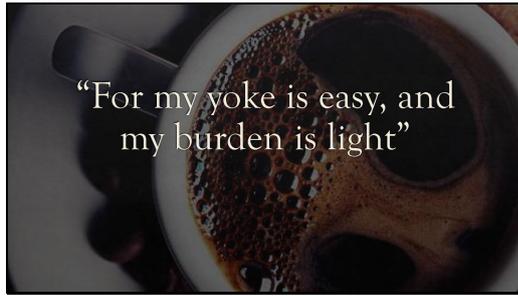
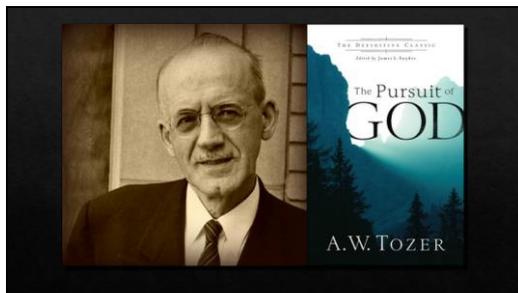


Slide 1



Slide 2



Slide 3

Matt 11:29-30 (ESV)  
<sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy and my burden is light

Slide 4

A statement I never understood

- ◆ Matt 7:12-13 (ESV)
- ◆ <sup>12</sup>Enter by the narrow gate. For the gate is wide and the way is easy that leads to destruction, and those who enter by it are many. <sup>13</sup>For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.

◆ 2 Tim 2:3

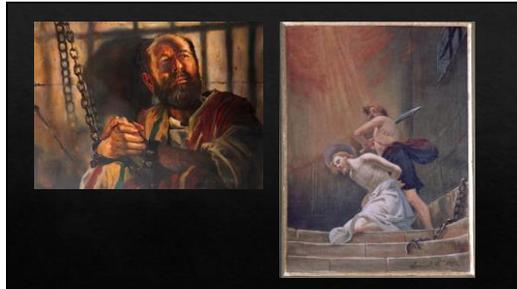
- ◆ <sup>3</sup>Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus

Slide 5



Paul getting shipwrecked

Slide 6



Paul imprisoned  
Beheading of John the Baptist

Slide 7

**FACTS**

**EVERY MONTH**

- 255 Christians are killed
- 104 Christians are abducted
- 180 Christian women are raped, sexually harassed or forced into marriage
- 66 churches are attacked
- 160 Christians are detained and imprisoned without trial

Christians are a persecuted people

Slide 8

The yoke of the world

01

PRIDE

02

PRETENSE & ARTIFICIALITY

Slide 9

**Pride**

◆ If we are our own little god and focus on self-love, how can we have inner peace?

We have a desire to want “likes” and friends

Do we receive criticism poorly, because we can't accept that we can be wrong?

Do we feel the need to speak back to every criticism that comes our way?

- Do we always want to be the best? Workplace competition and politics?
- Do you toss and turn in bed at night because someone else is preferred over you?

Slide 10



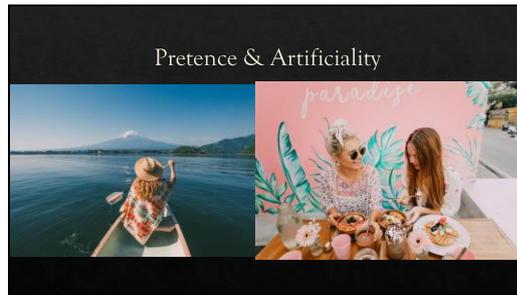
Are we lying to ourselves or want to be something we're not?

Do we tell ourselves that we want the biggest house, have the best grades or are the smartest person?

Do we pride ourselves in how we look or dress?

- What if someone comes along with a bigger house, smarter kids than ours, better fashion sense than we? We naturally stress ourselves out and want to do better than them.
- God does not ask us to have a big house, be the most intelligent or the most fashionable. If we let these things go, we no longer bear the yoke of the world (which is heavy and never-ending)

Slide 11



Do we pride ourselves in where we've travelled?  
But when we meet someone who has travelled to somewhere more remote do we become unsettled?  
Do we enjoy going to the most hipster coffee places in Perth and post them in social media, to show the world that they go to the most hipster coffee places in Perth?

- What do you do when you meet someone who's social media is filled with even more hipster coffee places?

Slide 12

A slide titled "What a burden!" with a list of points and a comic book panel of a woman looking stressed. The list of points is:

- ◆ These burdens are real
- ◆ They will affect their victims with this evil and unnatural way of life
- ◆ Imagine the psychology created in a person who lives this way for years
- ◆ Little children do not compare; they receive enjoyment with what they have without comparing
- ◆ As they get older, sin begins to stir and jealousy and envy creeps into their hearts

The comic panel shows a woman with a speech bubble that says "I'M NOT SURE HOW LONG I CAN COPE WITH THIS..."

Slide 13

A slide titled "Jesus calls us to be meek" with a list of points:

- ◆ The meek person
  - ◆ Does not care who is greater than them
  - ◆ Humbles themselves and ceases to care what men think
  - ◆ Knows that the world will never see them as God sees them
  - ◆ May know their inferiority but are bold when standing for their morality and truth

God doesn't call us to be popular or be the smartest person in the room.

If we don't have to focus to always be like this, then we will be at peace

A meek person will be patient and await a time when everything will have their real worth and value defined by God

- Being meek doesn't mean being a pushover with things that we believe in. We don't stay silent when ungodly things are

occurring or when the truth is  
being distorted (false teachings)

Slide 14

