

I Broke the Bars of Your Yoke

“I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt so that you no longer be slaves to the Egyptians. I broke the bars of your yoke and enabled you to walk with heads held high.” Leviticus 26:13

Freedom is a blessing but captivity is a curse. For 400 years, the Jews had no freedom in a foreign land. They were slaves and captives by the Egyptian rulers. Until one historic day that changed their lot for years. How do they keep themselves in the side of blessing, and not step back to the side of slavery again?

God ruled out idol worship. They were told to stay away from committing the sin of idolatry; the very reason why they were captives.

Leviticus 26:1-2 “You shall not make idols for yourselves; neither a carved image nor a sacred pillar shall you rear up for yourselves; nor shall you set up an engraved stone in your land; to bow down to it; for I am the Lord your God. You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary; I am the Lord.”

Unfortunately, their God-given freedom was short-lived. Despite receiving repeated instruction not to engage in idol worship, the people of God kept re-offending. Jeremiah lamented:

“The yoke of my transgressions was bound; They were woven together by His hands, and thrust upon my neck. He made my strength fail; The Lord delivered me into the hands of those whom I am not able to withstand.”
Lamentations 1:14

In the New Testament, Jesus broke the bars of your yoke once for all at the cross. At the cross, Jesus redefined the negative connotation of a yoke. The yoke of bondage was eliminated.

Matthew 11:29-30

V28) come to me, all you who were weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

V29) Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

V30) for My yoke is easy and my burden is light.

The presence and awareness of sin brings guilt, self-condemnation, remorse, feeling of unworthiness. Jesus came to remove the power of sin and death.

Illustration: A no-fly zone or no-flight-zone is a territory or an area over which an aircraft is not permitted to fly. Aircraft that break the no-fly-zone may be shot down.

Consider disobedience as a Devil’s territory and a no-fly-zone for the believers’ in Christ.

Stay away where the grace of God is off-limits.

If the people of God follow the specific instructions of the Lord, God will:

1. Send seasonal rain. God promised them rain and fruitful harvest (Lev. 26:3-5, 10) Revere Lord’s “sanctuary” for I am the Lord.

2. Send bountiful harvest and surplus

“You will be living in last year’s harvest when you will have to move it and to make room for the new. V10; John 10:10

3. Peace (v5-8)

“Some trust in chariots, and some in horses, but we will remember the name of the Lord our God.” (Psalm 20:7)

4. Favour, fertility, multiplication, and increase in unimaginable measure