



Grand Prelate's Monthly Message

September 2025

The month of September brings us the beginning of autumn. That season when trees let go of their leaves and focus back on their core. It's as if nature is reminding us to set our priorities in accordance with God's Word and reflect upon our lives. And reminding us to rest as well. Rest is important for everyone, but it is a Biblical command for God's people.

Another thing that occurs in September is Labor Day; a day where we honor and recognize the American labor movement and the workers who do so much to help our nation's prosperity. Most of us will have that day off as a time to rest and relax from our usual toils and labor.

On Labor Day, and during this time of year, as we honor our workers, we should also take time to rest in the comforts provided to us by our Heavenly Father. Remember that God loves us so much that he sent His Son to leave His place of perfect rest and enter the unrest of this world, so that we could find true rest.

In Matthew 11:28-30, Jesus says, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 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. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

As believers in Christ, we can give Jesus our burdens and experience true rest. A critical part of experiencing this rest is being proactive about the thoughts that fill our minds. Philippians tells us to think about things that are good and true. Colossians encourages us to imagine the glorious future that awaits us. 2nd Corinthians instructs us to recognize that our current problems are temporary afflictions compared to the eternal rest that awaits us. We can choose to follow this advice or be overwhelmed by life.

To rest fully is to anchor the mind upon Jesus and the perfect future that awaits all who follow Him. Hebrews 4:9-10 tells us, "So there is a special rest still waiting for the people of God. For all who have entered into God's rest have rested from their labors, just as God did after creating the world."

There is no true rest besides that which is found through Christ. In Jesus, we find complete rest from the labor of all our self-effort because Jesus, alone, is holy and righteous. 2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him." And because of this, we can cease from depending upon our own religious efforts and our spiritual labors, and we can rest in Christ. Not just for one day, but forever.

Always and All Ways in Christ
Rick Saunders
Grand Prelate