

**The Gospel of Matthew #93**

**COME TO ME: I**

**Matthew 11**

Ch 11 is a series of warnings, climaxing in a stunning invitation  
See His grace displayed in the face of rejection

I. Cousin John's \_\_\_\_\_ (v1-15) PARTNER

A. Words \_\_\_\_\_ John (v1-6)

Refers to Isa 35:5-6 and 61:1-2a: Mercy now.  
Judgment later (v20-24)

John does not see the Big Picture

Where are *you* doubting and lacking joy because you do  
not see the Big Picture of God's purpose &  
faithfulness?

B. Words \_\_\_\_\_ John (v7-15) 2 Qs:

1. Why does He say John is so great, but he who is least  
in the Kingdom is greater (v11)?  
We are not great in ourselves  
Your greatness is determined by how clearly you point  
to Jesus!  
You? What greatness do you aspire to??

2. What does v12 mean??  
a) Kingdom has been forcefully advancing since John  
(NIV 12a)

b) Violent men oppose it (ESV 12b) (eg: two Herods)  
Progress & Persecution til Parousia  
This intended as a comfort to John—and to you

II. Petulant playmates' \_\_\_\_\_ (v16-19)

**PETULANT**

They are critical of John because he is too strict; of Jesus  
because He is too free.

They expect religious leaders to meet *their* expectations  
So today: people "shop" for the church that meets their  
expectations (nursery, programs, parking, worship), rather  
than submitting where they will grow under God's Word;  
You?

III. Stubborn \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ (v20-24) **PASSIVE**

4 insights about the Final Judgment:

1. It is certain  
Jesus speaks of it frequently and with absolute authority
2. It will be worse for some unbelievers than others  
"more bearable": v22, 24
3. Rejection of the Gospel is worse than idolatry and  
perversion
4. It will be based, not only on all your actions, thoughts, and  
motives, but also what you *would have done* in every other  
circumstance!

Perfect justice!  
Who can quarrel with that? You will stand in awe.

And you realize *now* that your only hope is not justice, but  
sovereign mercy! 11:28: Come to Me....  
The Lord's Supper is a picture and pledge of that mercy to all  
who admit your need and COME to Him.