

UNIT 3: LITERARY STRUCTURE; MATTHEW 11:20-30

In this unit we consider the literary structure and vocabulary of Matthew 11:20-30. One commentary (Richard B. Gardner (*Matthew*, Herald Press, 1991, pp. 191-193)) gives this outline:

Two pronouncements of woe (11:20-24)

- (1) A *woe* statement or its equivalent (21a, 23a)
- (2) An *if... then* statement (21b, 23b)
- (3) An *I tell you* statement drawing the consequences (21b, 23b)

Promise of blessing (11:25-30)

- (1) A prayer of thanksgiving for God's revelation (25-26)
- (2) A statement about Jesus' role as revealer (27)
- (3) An invitation by Jesus to receive his instruction (28-30)

Listen to the Greek on **Track #7** (slow) and **Track #8** (faster)

Introduction	Τότε ἤρξατο ὀνειδίζειν τὰς πόλεις ἐν αἷς ἐγένοντο αἱ πλείσται δυνάμεις αὐτοῦ, ὅτι οὐ μετενόησαν·	then he began to reproach the cities in which had-happened the many acts-of-power of-him because not they-repented
TWO PRONOUNCEMENTS OF WOE		
Woe statement #1	οὐαὶ σοι, Χοραζὶν, οὐαὶ σοι, Βηθσαϊδά·	woe to-you, Chorazin woe to-you, Bethsaida
If	ὅτι εἰ ἐν Τύρῳ καὶ Σιδῶνι ἐγένοντο αἱ δυνάμεις αἱ γενόμεναι ἐν ὑμῖν,	for if in Tyre and Sidon had-happened the acts-of-power the ones-that-happened in you
Then	πάλαι ἂν ἐν σάκκῳ καὶ σποδῷ μετενόησαν.	long-ago in sack-cloth and ashes they would have repented
"I tell you"	πλὴν λέγω ὑμῖν, Τύρῳ καὶ Σιδῶνι ἀνεκτότερον ἔσται ἐν ἡμέρᾳ κρίσεως ἢ ὑμῖν.	nevertheless I-say to-y'all for Tyre and Sidon more-tolerable it-will-be in the-day of-judgment than for-y'all.
Woe statement #2	καὶ σύ, Καφαριναοῦμ, μὴ ἕως οὐρανοῦ ὑψωθήσῃ; ἕως ᾗδου καταβήσῃ·	and you, Capernaum, not to heaven will-you-be-exalted? to Hades you-will-be-brought-down
If	ὅτι εἰ ἐν Σοδόμοις ἐγενήθησαν αἱ δυνάμεις αἱ γενόμεναι ἐν σοί,	for if in Sodom had-happened the acts-of-power that-happened in you
Then	ἔμεινεν ἂν μέχρι τῆς σήμερον.	it would have remained until today.
"I tell you"	πλὴν λέγω ὑμῖν ὅτι γῆ Σοδόμων ἀνεκτότερον ἔσται ἐν ἡμέρᾳ κρίσεως ἢ σοί.	nevertheless I-say to-y'all that for the land of Sodom more-tolerable it-will-be in the-day of-judgment than for-you.