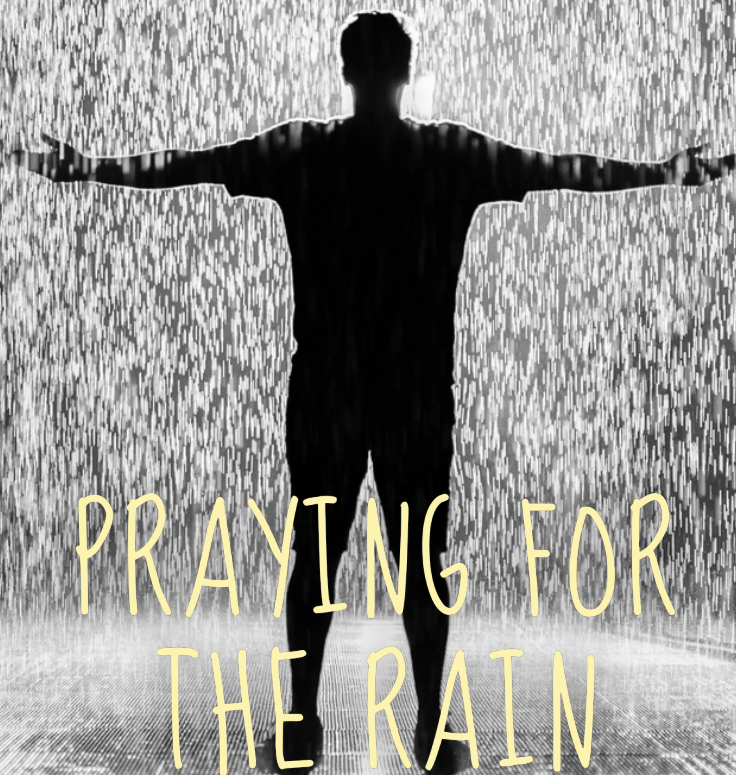


LOUD CRY COMPENDIUM



PRAYING FOR
THE RAIN

Will You Receive The Rain?

In the Scriptures, the return of Christ is compared to as a *harvest* and the principles surrounding this harvest can be seen and are explained in an allegorical (*metaphorical*) form throughout the Bible. As it is in the natural so it is in the spiritual; before the time of the wheat & barley seedtime & harvest in Ancient Israel there was a time of *early & latter* rain to first, cause the seeds to sprout and finally to prepare the grain to be ripened before the harvest time. Likewise, Scripture teaches us that at the beginning of the early Church there was a time of *early rain* and before the 2nd Coming of Christ, called *the harvest*, there will be an outpouring of *latter rain* upon His faithful elect.

The question is, *will you receive the rain?*

Q. What does the Apostle Paul say to us concerning the history of Ancient Israel?

A. The account and the experiences of Ancient Israel were written to teach us and to give us greater insight into spiritual things.

1 Corinthians 10:1-12

Q. What does Christ refer to Himself as during His earthly ministry?

A. He calls Himself a Sower of Seed.

Mark 4:2; Matthew 13:3; Matthew 13:24,36-37

Q. What does the Seed represent?

A. The Word of God in one sense but it also represents the faithful followers of God. We will be dealing with the latter for the purpose of this study.

Mark 4:13; Luke 8:11; Matthew 13:37-38

All references are from the KJV Bible



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Q. What did Jesus promise to His Disciples shortly before His ascension into Heaven?

A. He promised them power from Heaven by the Holy Ghost.

Acts 1:8; Luke 24:49

Q. What was the purpose of this power?

A. That they may be witnesses for Him during the time of the early Church and spread the gospel of Christ.

Acts 1:8; John 15:26-27

Q. What did the Disciples do once they received the outpouring of the Holy Spirit?

A. They preached and spread the gospel in a way that had never been seen before in their day.

Matthew 28:19; Acts 2:1:13; Acts 2:41-42,47; Acts 4:4

Note: In the days of the Apostles, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit represented the falling of the *early rain*. This rain, symbolised by the Holy Spirit, was showered upon the early believers and thus, the seed which was planted in their hearts by Christ during His earthly ministry sprouted, and thus, the early Christian Church sprang forth.

Q. What does Christ promise unto His faithful followers in these last days?

A. We also, if we are faithful shall receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the appointed time.

Joel 2:28-32; Ecclesiastes 1:9-10



Will You Receive The Rain?

Q. Will the latter rain be poured out upon all those who profess Christianity?

A. No. It shall only be poured out upon those who are faithful, obedient followers of God.

Deuteronomy 11:13-14;6:17; Psalm 119:4; Jeremiah 5:23-25; Hosea 6:3

Q. Along with being obedient to every word of God, what else can we be doing to receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit?

A. Ask God in prayer and be patient.

Zechariah 10:1; James 5:7-8

Q. Does the Bible truly compare the rain to the Holy Spirit?

A. Yes. The Holy Spirit at times in Scripture is compared to water.

Isaiah 44:3-4; John 7:38-39; John 4:14

Note: What we see here thus far is that the Holy Spirit will be given to those who obey God and His commands and statutes, it will not be given to those who partake willingly in sin, we must depart from our sinful ways and walk faithfully in Christ. **Repentance** and **Conversion** are necessary and only then will God bless us with His Holy Spirit.

Q. What will the faithful followers of Christ do, once the latter rain is poured out?

A. They shall proclaim the gospel of Christ Jesus with power as was seen in the days of the Apostles to prepare the world for the imminent 2nd Coming of Christ.

Joel 2:28-29; Revelation 14:6; Matthew 24:14; Revelation 18:1-4

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Q. What happens after the latter rains are poured out?

A. The fruit of the earth shall then be ripened and Christ shall come to harvest the earth. Both the righteous and the wicked shall be harvested.

Revelation 14:14-19; Joel 3:12; Matthew 13:30,37-43;

Mark 4:26-29

Under the figure of the early and the latter rain, that falls in Eastern lands at seedtime and harvest, the Hebrew prophets foretold the bestowal of spiritual grace in extraordinary measure upon God's church. The outpouring of the Spirit in the days of the apostles was the beginning of the early, or former, rain, and glorious was the result. To the end of time the presence of the Spirit is to abide with the true church. But near the close of earth's harvest, a special bestowal of spiritual grace is promised to prepare the church for the coming of the Son of man. This outpouring of the Spirit is likened to the falling of the latter rain; and it is for this added power that Christians are to send their petitions to the Lord of the harvest "in the time of the latter rain." In response, "the Lord shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain." "He will cause to come down ... the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain,"

Zechariah 10:1; Joel 2:23

Acts of the Apostles p.g, 54-55





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