

**The Latter Rain**  
**Sermon Bible Notes**  
**Pastor Cary Rodgers, Jr.**

**LATTER RAIN**

Before we can understand the spiritual context or application of the “latter rain” we must first understand the physical understanding of what Latter Rain means.

In the land area where Israel is located there are two main climate seasons 1. The rainy season which lasts throughout fall, winter, and spring (Nov – April). 2. The dry season, with practically NO rain, summer from May through October. During this dry season all the green grass, and flowers of the spring are scorched and dried up.

**Early (Former) Rain**

**After a long dry hot and baking summer, May to October, at the beginning of the fall (November), the first rain is called the “early” or “former” rain.** The “early” rain is welcomed greatly because it moistens the sun-baked soil to allow for plowing and sowing before the heavy rains of winter. The “early” rain allows the planted seeds such as barley grain to germinate and sprout. The early rain gives the barley grain a good start before the cold of the winter.

**Latter Rain**

The “latter” rain fell in the spring just before the barley harvest during the month of March and early April. The latter rains brought crop to full maturity. Literally the spring rains at the close of the wet season in region of Israel that **matured winter grain for the harvest.**

**What is the Spiritual context of the Latter Rain?**

**Joel 2:23-25**

23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former (early) rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first *month*.

24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

The latter rain is given with great power right before the harvest of the saints of God during the mark of the beast crisis.

**The promise of the outpouring or raining of the Holy Spirit.**

John 15:26

26 But when the Comforter (Holy Spirit) is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

Acts 1:5

5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

**What is the purpose of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost?****Early Rain****Acts 1:8**

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

**Fulfillment of the Early Rain****Acts 2:1-6**

- 1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.
- 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- 5 And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven.
- 6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

Before the end of time there will be another outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the latter rain, the rain to mature the harvest.

**Latter Rain****Revelation 14:6**

6 And I saw another angel fly in the midst of heaven, having the everlasting gospel to preach unto them that dwell on the earth, and to every nation, and kindred, and tongue, and people.

**Matthew 24:14**

14 And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

**Remember, the 144,000 represents the worldwide discipleship of Christ that is giving the last urgent message of the everlasting gospel to come out of Babylon.**

**What are the results of the latter rain?****Joel 2:28**

28 And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

**Revelation 7:9-10**

- 9 After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands;
- 10 And cried with a loud voice, saying, Salvation to our God which sitteth upon the throne, and unto the Lamb.

**The purpose of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is to empower His faithful to give the everlasting gospel with power during the mark of the beast crisis.**

### **Mark 13:9-11**

- 9 But take heed to yourselves: for they shall deliver you up to councils; and in the synagogues ye shall be beaten: and ye shall be brought before rulers and kings for my sake, for a testimony against them.
- 10 And the gospel must first be published among all nations.
- 11 But when they shall lead *you*, and deliver you up, take no thought beforehand what ye shall speak, neither do ye premeditate: but whatsoever shall be given you in that hour, that speak ye: for it is not ye that speak, but the Holy Ghost.

***“The outpouring of the Spirit in apostolic days was the “former rain,” and glorious was the result. But the “latter rain” will be more abundant. Joel 2:23.” {Desire of Ages p. 827.2}***

**The crisis of Covid-19 is bad, but the mark of the beast crisis of the enforcement of the Sunday law in opposition of the true seventh day Sabbath is going to be a MUCH greater crisis! The covid-19 crisis is preparing the entire world of government to control every area of the lives of the people. It is setting the foundation of the mark of the beast crisis.**

**Preparation Time before the Mark of the beast crisis is ALMOST over**

Preparation - The state of being prepared; readiness.

- Prepared –
1. Ready, fit, or QUALIFIED
  2. Provided with what is needed to do the job! Equipped and ready

### **What is the goal of preparation?**

The goal of preparation is to be prepared and not stuck in the process of preparing!! Preparation does not last forever. For example when you are in full combat war this is not the time to prepare for it! You prepare or make ready before the war comes. Many times you have no idea when war will break out, but you must be ready. When a new recruit for the army first enlists, do they send him out to war immediately? No, he has to be trained and equipped first. Boot camp is preparation time for war and combat. And once the soldier is trained and ready for war, he must stay ready or prepared.

**Our main mission of the Everlasting Gospel and Health Evangelist Training course is to train and equip others to be effective workers for Christ at the end of the time. This course will start at our online training site BCMEonline.org on January 31, 2021.**

**Ask for the Latter Rain**

**Zechariah 10:1** <sup>1</sup>Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field.

### **James 5:7**

7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain.

**Before we receive the outpouring of the Latter Rain, you and I must fully reflect the image of God!**

**As a disciple of Christ – what specific role does God give you to do in order to glorify God?**

**John 8:31**

**31 Then said Jesus to those Jews which believed on him, If ye continue in my word, *then* are ye my disciples indeed.**

**John 14:12**

12 Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

***Jesus says “GO”, “teach” and baptize = all these are action words that are direct command from our Master.***

**Matthew 28: 19-20**

**19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:**

**20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, *even* unto the end of the world.**

**Who will the Lord pour out the latter rain of His Holy Spirit on?**

The promise of abundance of rain was given on condition of holiness and obedience unto our King, Jesus.

**John 17:17-19**

17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.

18 As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.

**Ellen White Acts of the Apostles p 55.2**

“But unless the members of God's church today have a **living connection** with the Source of all spiritual growth, they will not be ready for the time of reaping. Unless they keep their lamps trimmed and burning, they will fail of receiving added grace in **times of special need**.”

Those only who are constantly receiving **fresh supplies of grace, will have power proportionate to their daily need and their ability to use that power**. Instead of looking forward to some future time when, through a special endowment of spiritual power, they will receive a miraculous fitting up for soul winning, they are yielding themselves daily to God, that He may make them vessels meet for His use. **Daily they are improving the opportunities for service that lie within their reach. Daily they are witnessing for the Master wherever they may be, whether in some humble sphere of labor in the home, or in a public field of usefulness.**” - Ellen White Acts of the Apostles p 55.2

“I saw that many were **neglecting the preparation so needful** and were **looking to the time of “refreshing” and the “latter rain” to fit them to stand in the day of the Lord** and to live in His sight... I saw that **none could share the “refreshing” unless they obtain the victory over every besetment, over pride, selfishness, love of the world, and over every wrong word and action**. We should, therefore, be drawing nearer and nearer to the Lord and be earnestly seeking that preparation necessary to enable us to stand in the battle in the day of the Lord. Let all remember that

God is holy and that none but holy beings can ever dwell in His presence." Ellen White, Early Writings, p. 71.2

**The latter rain will only fill those who are kept clean by the blood of Jesus Christ, faithful, and obedient to God's Word. They have a love for the truth.**

**The latter rain will be poured out to empower God's faithful to give the last urgent message to the world during the mark of the beast crisis. The latter rain will NOT be poured out on lazy inactive professed Christians who cast the truth to the ground. The latter rain will be poured out and fill those who are actively sharing the testimonies and the everlasting Gospel of Jesus.**

**Inactive Christians who have united with the world and the beast will be dried up. They will conform to the ways of Babylon. There are some that believe that they can be inactive in giving the gospel now and will suddenly receive the power of the Holy Spirit during the mark of the beast crisis. That is not the truth. NOW is preparation time. NOW is the time to be on active duty for Christ.**

#### **Great Controversy p. 611.1**

**"The work will be similar to that of the day of Pentecost. As the "former rain" was given, in the outpouring of the Holy Spirit at the opening of the gospel, to cause the upspringing of the precious seed, so the "latter rain" will be given at its close, for the ripening of the harvest.... The great work of the gospel is not to close with less manifestation of the power of God than marked its opening. **The prophecies which were fulfilled in the outpouring of the former rain at the opening of the gospel, are again to be fulfilled in the latter rain at its close.**"**

#### **Appeal**