

THE STUDY OF LAST DAY EVENTS

THE LATTER RAIN

As we studied last week lesson (The Sealing) we see that we must have the character and image of Jesus to be saved. The Sealing is my assurance of being saved in the kingdom of God. How are we going to finish God's work with a blaze of glory? How does the Early and Latter Rain affect the church? What about the Early Rain? When does it come? What about the work of the Holy Spirit? Tonight, we want to answer those questions.

- A. When you think about the Early and Latter Rain, what imagery come to mind that occurs in nature?

- B. When did the time of the Early Rain come?

1. Acts 2:1 - _____

2. "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." AA 54, 55

3. "We may be sure that when the Holy Spirit is poured out those who did not receive and appreciate the early rain will not see or understand the value of the latter rain." TM 399

- C. What was the purpose of the Early Rain?

1. Acts 1:8 - _____

2. Acts 3:19 - _____

D. When is the time of the Latter Rain predicted?

1. Rev 18:1 – 4 _____

1. “The latter rain, ripening earth's harvest, represents the spiritual grace that prepares the church for the coming of the Son of man. But unless the former rain has fallen, there will be no life; the green blade will not spring up. Unless the early showers have done their work, the latter rain can bring no seed to perfection.” TM 506
2. “Many have in a great measure failed to receive the former rain. They have not obtained all the benefits that God has thus provided for them. They expect that the lack will be supplied by the latter rain. When the richest abundance of grace shall be bestowed, they intend to open their hearts to receive it. They are making a terrible mistake.” TM 507

D. Why is it necessary to have the Latter rain?

1. Joel 2:28 - _____

2. “At that time the "latter rain," or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel, and prepare the saints to stand in the period when the seven last plagues shall be poured out.” EW 85, 86
3. “At that time the "latter rain," or refreshing from the presence of the Lord, will come, to give power to the loud voice of the third angel...” EW 86

E. What is the purpose of the Latter Rain?

1. “It is the latter rain which revives and strengthens them to pass through the time of trouble.” 1T 353
2. “The refreshing or power of God comes only on those who have prepared themselves for it by doing the work which God bids them, namely, cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” 1T 619

3. “Are we hoping to see the whole church revived? That time will never come. There are persons in the church who are not converted, and who will not unite in earnest, prevailing prayer. We must enter upon the work individually. We must pray more and talk less.” 1SM 122

F. What should be my response to God?

“I was shown that if God's people make no efforts on their part, but wait for the refreshing to come upon them and remove their wrongs and correct their errors; if they depend upon that to cleanse them from filthiness of the flesh and spirit, and fit them to engage in the loud cry of the third angel, they will be found wanting. The refreshing or power of God comes only on those who have prepared themselves for it by doing the work which God bids them, namely, cleansing themselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.” CD 33

Let us pray that we will do our part in preparing for the outpouring of God’s spirit.