

It is time! Get ready!

Break up your unploughed ground; for it is time to seek the LORD, until he comes and showers his righteousness on you.

Hosea 10:12

Come, let us return to the LORD. ... He will heal us ... He will restore us. ... Let us know the LORD; let us press on to know him. ... He will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth.'

Hosea 6:1-3

Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people ...

Zechariah 10:1

Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing [revival] may come from the presence of the Lord, and that he may send the Messiah, who has been appointed for you – even Jesus. Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore everything, as he promised long ago through his holy prophets.

Acts 3:19ff

It is time!

We are living in the last days, before the return of Jesus, in the times of the spring, or latter, rain. We are living in the times of restoration. Pentecost was the early rain. The latter rain was much stronger than the early rain and came just before the harvest. God is waiting for the exquisite fruit of the earth (the harvest of souls) and is patient for its sake until it has received the early and latter rain (James 5:7f).

In these last days, God wants to pour out his Spirit like never before. He wants to do something new. God wants us to seek him and get to know him so that he can do what he wants to do through us. Nothing happens by chance. Success is not accidental. A harvest does not grow by chance and nor does revival happen by chance. Many people want to leave everything to the sovereignty of God, but God does nothing without us. God cannot give the farmer a harvest if the farmer just waits for God and does nothing himself.

Get ready!

Just before the rainy season in Ethiopia you can see how the farmers plough up and prepare their fields. When the rain then comes, the fields, which were arid and thirsty, are ready to receive the rain and the farmers bring out the seed. God says we should get ourselves ready as he will come like the rain. This rain is the Holy Spirit. That means we have to get our hearts into the right position – a position of faith and expectancy. John the Baptist paved the way for the first coming of Jesus. Nonetheless, many Jews were not ready to receive Jesus. They did not have a problem with God, but they had a problem with Jesus. Today many Christians do not have a problem with Jesus, but they have a problem with the Holy Spirit and his actions and demonstrations. The Holy Spirit was given 2,000 years ago, but you have to receive him. The gifts and workings of the Holy Spirit have to be welcomed and received. If you hoist the sails of a boat, you position them to receive the wind, which is, of course, already there. God's word and his Spirit get our hearts into a position to receive from God. God wants to use you in the supernatural. He wants to stretch out his hand for signs and wonders to happen. You are to prophesy in Jesus' name, to speak in new tongues and interpret them, to lay your hands on the sick and drive out demons, but to do so you have to get yourself into position and dare to take a step of faith. Get ready. You will be a sharp tool, not a blunt one, hot and not lukewarm, and God will use you.

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