

Pastor's Corner

Rain

March 4, 2009

Dear Friends,

Rain is really an inconvenience, unless one has planned for it and is expecting it. Then it's not an inconvenience, it's usually welcomed! Today I planned to haul some wood and do some errands outside that really need to be done. Sloshing around in the mud and getting wet makes the worker harder and a lot slower. I wasn't expecting it to be raining hard all day. I just keep saying to myself that we need the rain, and it's good for the planet.

There have been other times I've planned for the rain, and it's been a lot better. I had all the wood on the porch, and the wood pile was covered with plastic. Wearing my rain slicker and mud boots kept me warm and dry, and the rain was hardly noticed. I planned for the rain.

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit is like the rain, and during the end of times the Holy Spirit will be poured out in what it calls the "latter rain", or the rain that occurs in the Bible lands just before the harvest is fully ripe. And so Christians talk about the latter rain, and they write books and hold seminars about it, and I wonder if when it actually happens it will be a real inconvenience, like a rainy day now.



Don't get me wrong, I'm sure most Christians say they want the Holy Spirit, but what if the Holy Spirit did come with more power than we've ever seen? Would it be a welcome experience, or would it be a real inconvenience to most of us? When we see the results of the Holy Spirit poured out back there at Pentecost, and people were flocking to the early Christian Church, that is just a small picture of what God wants to do on a grander scale in the last days.

I think the ones that are ready for the rain will be the ones planning for it. And the rest, the ones that have lived their lives and planned their schedules around their plans will be pretty disappointed and inconvenienced by the Holy Spirit.

Do you plan each day with God and your eternal interests in mind? Do you make time for God and learning His Word, and then share a tract or some other way to witness each day? If so, then when the latter rain comes, you'll welcome it. Otherwise, it will really cut into your plans.

Have a great day! We're praying for you!

Mark