

THE PERFECT STORM

Pastor's Bible Hour - February 7, 2010
Tabernacle of Praise – Pastor G. Richardson
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Job 36:26 Behold, God is great, and we know *him* not, neither can the number of his years be searched out.

Job 36:27 For he maketh small the drops of water: they pour down rain according to the vapour thereof:

Job 36:28 Which the clouds do drop *and* distil upon man abundantly.

Job 36:29 **Also can *any* understand the spreadings of the clouds, or the noise of his tabernacle?**

Job 36:30 Behold, he spreadeth his light upon it, and covereth the bottom of the sea.

1Ki 18:41 And Elijah said unto Ahab, Get thee up, eat and drink; for ***there is a sound of abundance of rain.***

1Ki 18:42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Carmel; and he cast himself down upon the earth, and put his face between his knees,

1Ki 18:43 And said to his servant, Go up now, look toward the sea. And he went up, and looked, and said, *There is nothing.* And he said, Go again seven times.

1Ki 18:44 And it came to pass at the seventh time, that he said, Behold, ***there ariseth a little cloud out of the sea, like a man's hand.***

And he said, Go up, say unto Ahab, Prepare *thy chariot*, and get thee down, that the rain stop thee not.

1Ki 18:45 And it came to pass in the mean while, that the heaven was black with clouds and wind, and there was a great rain. And Ahab rode, and went to Jezreel.

1Ki 18:46 And the hand of the LORD was on Elijah; and he girded up his loins, and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel.

HOW THUNDERSTORMS ARE DEVELOPED

Thunderstorms develop by the same process that forms cumulus clouds (*kuem – u- less*), the puffy clouds of summer skies. These clouds form

when a humid air mass (air with an abundance of water vapor) near the surface rises on currents of air called updrafts. As the air mass rises through the atmosphere it expands and cools. Eventually, the rising air cools to the point where its water vapor condenses to form droplets of liquid water, releasing heat in the process into the surrounding air. This **latent heat**, (*Latent Heat: The heat given off when water vapor condenses to from liquid water*), in turn it causes the air mass to rise ever more quickly. The upward movement of air in a storm cloud has been measured at more than 50 miles (80 kilometers) per hour.

As the upward movement of air continues, more moisture condenses out of the air mass and the suspended droplets form a large cloud.

Depending on atmospheric conditions, a storm cloud of this type may rise to a height of anywhere from 6 to 9 miles (10 to 15 kilometers). In the clouds of colder climates, droplets may freeze to form ice crystals, which grow as more and more water vapor condenses on them. The droplets or ice crystals only grow as long as they can be supported by the updrafts. When they grow too large they begin to fall out of the cloud as drizzle or raindrops.

1. **It takes the perfect elements and conditions** to produce a perfect storm. And when these conditions are met, the storm clouds begin to form and rain or snow becomes the evidence that the right conditions were met.

THE RAIN OF REVIVAL IS PROMISED IN THE WORD OF GOD

Deu 11:14 That I will give *you* the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil.

Lev 26:4 Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.

Joe 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you **the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.**

Joe 2:24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

Joe 2:25 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.

Joe 2:26 And ye shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the LORD your God, that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

Joe 2:27 And ye shall know that I *am* in the midst of Israel, and *that I am* the LORD your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.

Joe 2:28 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:

Joe 2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

1. **The Early and the Latter Rain:** “The early and latter rain,” coming respectively at the seed-time and the harvest, represent the beginning and the completion; and so, by the analogy of earthly and spiritual sowing, growth and ripeness, they represent preventing and perfecting grace; the inspiration of good purposes and the gift of final perseverance, which brings the just to glory consummated, (To bring to completion or to a final result; conclude)

Zec 10:1 **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.

Jas 5:7 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.**

Jas 5:8 Be ye also patient; stablish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Jas 5:9 Grudge not one against another, brethren, lest ye be condemned: behold, the judge standeth before the door.

Early and latter rain. The early rain was the November showers which prepared the ground for the seed; the latter rain, the spring showers needed to bring the harvest to maturity.

Son 2:10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Son 2:11 For, lo, the winter is past, the rain is over *and* gone;

Son 2:12 The flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of *birds* is come, and the voice of the turtle is heard in our land;

Son 2:13 The fig tree putteth forth her green figs, and the vines *with* the tender grape give a *good* smell. Arise, my love, my fair one, and come away.

Son 2:14 O my dove, *that art* in the clefts of the rock, in the secret *places* of the stairs, let me see thy countenance, let me hear thy voice; for sweet is thy voice, and thy countenance is comely.

1. **What God is saying to the church;** I know that there are some dark clouds upon this world. Such as economic disaster, fear, war, confusion; despair. But my dove (church) I have you in the clefts of the rock, in the secret places of the stairs.
2. **Let me see thy countenance:** Don't go in to spiritual hiding; and draw back; but let your spiritual countenance shine forth as the noon day.
3. **Let me hear thy voice:** Don't quit your times of devotion; prayer; worship. God loves to hear your voice.
4. **Not to quit witnessing and teaching Home Bible Studies**

Ecc 11:1 Cast thy bread upon the waters: for thou shalt find it after many days.

Ecc 11:2 Give a portion to seven, and also to eight; for thou knowest not what evil shall be upon the earth.

Ecc 11:3 If the clouds be full of rain, they empty *themselves* upon the earth: and if the tree fall toward the south, or toward the north, in the place where the tree falleth, there it shall be.

Ecc 11:4 He that observeth the wind shall not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.

Ecc 11:5 As thou knowest not what *is* the way of the spirit, *nor* how the bones *do grow* in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all.

Ecc 11:6 In the morning sow thy seed, and in the evening withhold not thine hand: for thou knowest not whether shall prosper, either this or that, or whether they both *shall be* alike good.

1. **You don't know what God is doing behind the scenes; how that God is working on your behalf.**

WE ARE NOT TO FEAR THE DARK STORM CLOUDS COMING UPON THIS WORLD

Joe 2:2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations.

Isa 60:1 Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the LORD is risen upon thee.

Isa 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, **and gross darkness the people:** but the LORD shall arise upon thee, and his glory shall be seen upon thee.

Isa 60:3 And the Gentiles shall come to thy light, and kings to the brightness of thy rising.

Isa 60:4 Lift up thine eyes round about, and see: all they gather themselves together, they come to thee: thy sons shall come from far, and thy daughters shall be nursed at *thy* side.

Isa 60:5 Then thou shalt see, and flow together, and thine heart shall fear, and be enlarged; because the abundance of the sea shall be converted unto thee, the forces of the Gentiles shall come unto thee.

Isa 60:2 For, behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and gross darkness the people,.... Like that which covered the land of Egypt, when there was light in Goshen: and this may be meant either of the darkness of ignorance, idolatry, superstition, false doctrine, and false worship, that should cover the far greater part of the nations of the world, before this light and glory should break out, as it does at this day;

1Th 4:15 For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

1Th 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.