

What season are we in? Part one

I want to write to you this month and next month about what I believe is happening on the earth. This is not so much a prophetic type of teaching but more of a teaching that will give you some understanding of the times that we live in.

Before I get into that, I need to lay a foundation so that we can understand the times we live in. The first thing that I need for us to understand is that the Bible only mentions two different seasons in relationship to the harvest. The Bible was written by men who lived in an agrarian or a farming culture. Because of that, we need to use our understanding of farming to fully understand what the Bible teaches. To a farmer, there are only two seasons of the year. They are the sowing season and the reaping season. These two seasons are mentioned in the Bible as the latter and former rain. There are many prophecies given throughout the Bible that mention these seasons. The former rain is the rain that comes in the spring of the year. The term latter rain describes the rain that comes just before harvest.

One of the promises that were given to Abraham and consequentially to all believers is found in Deuteronomy 11:14 where God promises Abraham, "that He will give the rain for your land in its season, the early and late rain that you may gather in your grain and your new wine and your oil." The meanings of these two types of rain may mean little to a non-farmer but to a farmer both of these types of rain is essential for a bountiful harvest. The first type of rain or season is the rain that comes just before planting. This rain prepares the soil for planting and is the type of rain that is associated with the sowing season. If there isn't enough rain before planting, the seeds will not germinate and grow. The latter rain was the rain that would come in the late summer or very early fall. My father used to say about this rain, "that it would finish off the crops nicely." In other words, this rain would cause the ears of corn and the heads of grain to fill out and ripen nicely. This rain was also very important. I've seen corn that lacked this rain. There are many ears on a stalk but the ears are withered and kernels are very small and the corn isn't good for anything. You get very little nutritional value from it and you can't sow it as seed. The latter rain would be associated with the harvest of the seed.

I also want us to understand that there are several types of seed. In the days we live in, we seem to emphasize financial seeds or money. That is a type of seed and we all should be sowing financial seeds so we can reap a financial harvest. But that isn't the only type of seed that can be sown. The Book of Galatians tells us, "Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap. For the one who sows to his own flesh shall from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit shall from the Spirit reap eternal life." (Galatians 6:7-8) The type of seed that Paul is talking about is the seed of actions. If a person sows seed to his flesh he will reap corruption. Likewise, if a man sows seed to the spirit he will reap eternal life. I believe that many of the disasters that the world has experienced is because they have sown seeds to the flesh and the result is corruption. No matter who you are or what country you live in, what type of seed you sow will determine what you harvest.

Did you know that Jesus is called a seed? In Galatians 6:13, Jesus is called a seed. The Word of God is a seed. Jesus told the parable of the seed and the sower. If you study that parable you will find that the seed sown is the Word of God. So there are many types of seed sown. We need to understand that any type of seed that is sown and watered will bring a harvest.

Next month, we will be sharing with you what I believe is a completely new season. This new season will put the plowman, (he who prepares the soil), together with

the reaper and former rain coming in the same month as the latter rain. Wow! What a wonderful time to live in as long as you are sowing good seed!