
Pray for Rain and Open Your Umbrella

Pastor Winston Perez
Sunday, January 10, 2021

1 King 18:1-2, 41-46

"1 After many days the word of the Lord came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, "Go, show yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain upon the earth." 2 So Elijah went to show himself to Ahab. Now the famine was severe in Samaria.

*41 And Elijah said to Ahab, "Go up, eat and drink, for there is a sound of the rushing of rain." 42 So Ahab went up to eat and to drink. And Elijah went up to the top of Mount Carmel. And **he bowed himself down on the earth and put his face between his knees.** 43 And he 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.**" 44 And at the seventh time he said, "Behold, a little cloud like a man's hand is rising from the sea." And he said, "**Go up, say to Ahab, 'Prepare your chariot and go down, lest the rain stop you.'**" 45 And in a little while the heavens grew black with clouds and wind, and there was a **great rain.** And Ahab rode and went to Jezreel. 46 And the hand of the Lord was on Elijah, and he gathered up his garment and ran before Ahab to the entrance of Jezreel."*

- Elijah's prayers and faith influenced the entire nation of Israel. By believing and delivering God's message, he was an example to them in **word and action**.
- You and I have the same power of God, just like Elijah.

James 5:17-18 (ESV)

*"17 Elijah was a man with a **nature like ours**, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months, it did not rain on the earth. 18 Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit."*

- **We must be ONE in our faith, ONE in our words, and ONE in our actions.**

WE MUST CONTINUALLY ASK

We must be a church that is always asking God. The Bible says:

Matthew 7:7 (ESV)

*"7 "Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and you will find; **knock**, and it will be opened to you."*

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WE MUST ASK WITH THE RIGHT MOTIVES

James 4:3 (NLT)

*“And even when you ask, you don’t get it **because your motives are all wrong**—you want only what will give you pleasure.”*

WE MUST BE READY FOR WHAT WE ASK

- Too often, we pray to God to do something, yet we don’t prepare for it to happen.

FAITH requires WORKS

James 2:19-20

*“**19** You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! **20** Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless. A man who claims to have faith without works is like a man who puts all his effort into building the foundation of a house and never builds anything on it.”*

- **A man who displays great works but claims no faith is like a man who builds a house on sand without any foundation**

FAITH requires OBEDIENCE

1 Kings 18:43-46 (ESV)

*“**43** And he 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. **44** And at the seventh time he said, “Behold, a little cloud like a man’s hand is rising from the sea.”*

James 1:6 (ESV)

*“**6** But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind.”*

FAITH MUST BE LINKED TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD

- Faith must be linked to knowledge to be exercised and to grow.
- If God said it, you better believe that the rain is coming!

FAITH MUST BE PERSISTENT

- Full Victory comes as a result of faith's persistency.