

Gian Carlo Villatoro

GOD'S RAIN

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22 Nov '20
WS 217

My **V**ICTORY
CHURCH

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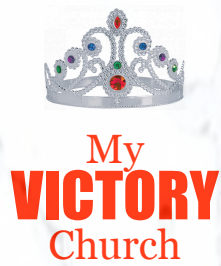
My **V**ICTORY
CHURCH

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Transcription: Chris Aaron

Date _____ WS# _____ Lord, I love You and trust in You. _____
Your name



Leviticus 26.3-4

“Faithfully _____ my laws, and I will send _____ to make your crops grow and your trees _____.”

Rain cycle:

H₂O _____

_____ will determine when it _____

Rain is produced by frontal air _____ versus _____

Wind spreads _____ to _____ and also wind waters the Earth.

Water works in a cycle for the preservation of _____

God's creation of 6 days are not _____

BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF GOD’s RAIN

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

Next WS 218 on Nov 29: _____

God uses rain & storms for His purposes: _____

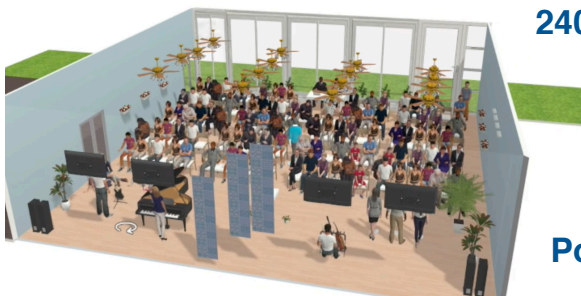
Evaporation = _____

Condensation = _____

Precipitation = _____

Collection = _____

Sanctuary 100



2400 W 81st Street Odessa TX 79764
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432.614.9798 vchurch.us
Founded on 9/25/16

Possession of our Promised Land
on 5/10/17
JESUS IS OUR LORD

New Parking Lot



GOD'S RAIN

We are alive because it rains. If there is no rain, there would not be life. It doesn't matter if you are not agriculturalist, you are alive because you eat what somebody cultivated as the rain came to water crops. Whether it's underground water or whatever kind of water, the rain made all water sources and bodies.

All water bodies, like lakes, rivers, and oceans, around the world, continue to have water because they are following through the water cycle created by God. They collect water from the rain and bring it back to the ocean, and the cycle goes on and on.

Scientifically speaking, rain is formed when the cloud droplets grow big enough to fall out of the clouds. Most of the rain that falls in the winter, and even a lot of it that falls in the summer, is from melting of snowflakes as they fall through warmer air. We all, probably, know that perspective.

The water on rivers, lakes and the ocean, receives the sun eventually through evaporation accumulates into the sky through clouds, and when the drops become heavy they come back down in form of rain, ice or snow. And all the rain water is collected by rivers which channel the water back to lakes or oceans again.

Perhaps you are residing near a lake or river that flows yearlong. Do you have an idea where the water goes? They are going back to the source – the ocean. Without doing that the rivers and lakes will run dry once and for all.

So this process or cycle has four main phases: Evaporation, condensation, precipitation, and collection.

Before getting immersed into the content let's read the Scripture in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The book of Leviticus 26.3-4 *“Faithfully obey my laws, and I will send rain to make your crops grow and your trees produce fruit.”*

Most of us are familiar with the formula H₂O, which when it is in liquid shape we call it water, in gas shape is vapor, and we call it ice when it is in the solid form. Do you know that the terrain determines when it rains? It is very interesting. Certain terrains receive rain more often than other terrains. Sometimes it is when two frontal air hit one another, when cool and warm frontal air collapse, a reaction leads to produce rain.

On the other hand, wind always will affect the rain and everything else. Interestingly, wind moves sand to fertilize all the earth and at the same time through wind the rain waters the earth. This is really a beautiful cycle. The water works in a cycle for the perseveration of life.

Have you ever thought about the rainbow? Rainbow is one of the most beautiful things that we can see, and water is involved in it as it's made by God. Going back to the Scripture *"Faithfully obey my laws, and I will send rain to make your crops grow and your trees produce fruit."* Leviticus 26.3-4.

A lot of people have an issue with the creation. In the book of Genesis chapter 1, Moses describes God's creation in six days. They are not human days. There is proof and evidence stating that the creation of Earth dates back millions of years. We don't have an issue with science because what we know is that science confirms the wonders of God. So we are not anti-science, but God created Heaven and Earth. In fact, among the things that He created, one of them is the rain, as I explained it earlier.

FOUR BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF GOD'S RAIN

Let me share with you four Biblical examples of God's rain. It's my hope that you are going to learn something new. Something that you will love from God's perspective.

Example I: The Flood

We find part of the story of Noah in the book of Genesis chapters 5-9. The Scripture tell us that Noah was chosen by God because he believed in Him and lived a righteous life.

When you are thinking of the rain, which actually is a blessing from God, you might be wondering once you read this Scripture about the story of Noah. As we read in the Bible, the flood happened during the days of Noah, was caused by rain.

You must be asking yourself, why is that? Isn't rain a blessing? It sounds somehow like current days, where people are doing a lot of bad stuff everywhere, there is evil everywhere. And the Lord God was tired of that. At that point, His decision was to preserve humankind through Noah. But think for a moment, why Noah is the key person in this process? Because Noah listened to and believed in God.

The Lord spoke to Noah, and he heard His voice. He listened to God, but at the same time, he lived a righteous life. In these days, there are many people that are like Noah. Maybe you are one of those. You hear the voice of the Lord. You hear the preaching of the Word. You listen carefully to what the Lord is telling you. And you take that into consideration in your life. You apply it as an obedient child of the Lord God, and then you live a righteous life.

One think to note, however, is that our righteousness is not because we precisely are impeccable in our behavior and our decisions. We are righteous because our sins are washed away by the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. This is a graceful act that we all need to be appreciative and grateful for, every day. By the cleansing of all our sin we live the blessing of being saved.

Take your own challenge, from today, start listening to the Lord and live a righteous life. By doing that, God will select you to save people. The current crisis is similar to the Noah's Era, when the flood was going to come. And a lot of people who didn't receive salvation, getting into the Ark, died. Same thing happens today.

But what about you and I? Perhaps you are committed to the Lord, do you say, "I want to do something for others." Do you really care for others or you are the kind of a person that only cares for your own business? Do not ignore a call of God to save others.

It is very important that you see yourself as a key participant in the God's business – to save humankind.

Example II: Fist in the Sky

The second example is found in the first book of Kings chapter 18, that describes something amazing. The Scripture talks about Elijah. God chose Elijah because he believed in Him and he spoke God's Word. So here's something even more interesting: is someone like you and I, who listen, speak, and believe in God's Word.

Elijah wanted to help others. But due to his true character, while speaking the word of God, many enemies emerged against him.

When you listen, believe, and speak the word of God, some people will reject you, maybe they don't like to be around you, or even hanging out with you. This is because the Holy Spirit is taking you to a new life – the purposeful life that God wants you to live. But you must be brave, like Elijah.

This process of transforming you is going to grow you spiritually. You will start to understand certain things, also other things will be removed from your life. The transformation also opens your eyes so you can see things exactly as God sees them. And you start detaching yourself from the things you perceive not glorious to God. You disengage with friends who are obsessed with bad stuff and all that.

Remember, at this time, those friends of yours will start questioning why you aren't cooperating with them. Why aren't you behaving like them anymore? Answer all their questions by letting them know that the Lord God is transforming you, and you have chosen to serve God. He saved you. Speak the word of God as Elijah did.

There was one moment, during Elijah days, when there was no rain and the enemies went to attack him. Elijah and his servants were in a mount. He prayed and sent one of his servants saying, "go and check if there is a cloud, it will rain."

The servant went six times and he didn't see any cloud, but finally, the seventh time, he came back and said, "I saw from the far sky there is a little cloud like a Fist in the Sky." This is really beautiful. Elijah knew what the Lord God was about to do. He listened.

Example III: Big Fish

The third example is about Jonah and the big fish. You can read his whole story in the Bible. Jonah chapters 1-4. Jonah was chosen by God, but not like in the previous cases, where the called ones obediently complied with the call of God. The case of Jonah is a little bit different. Jonah was chosen by God to set an example of a reluctant obedience to God.

This is a common thing that happens to many believers. They do believe, they want to obey God, but they are reluctant to do it. Despite the fact that these people know exactly what they are supposed to do, but reluctance pulls them away. Some people run away from their obligations with the Lord.

Jonah was one of those people, who initially accept to do what God tells them, but latter they run away to hide from the face of God. Jonah did exactly the same thing. He left to Tarshish running away from taking obligation for which God had called him.

When Jonah and other sailors were in a boat, the rain came and the storm hit roughly. Sailors had no idea where did such kind of storm came from. They were helpless only to hope for a luck for their survival. As the sailors struggled to save themselves from the storm, a question came to their mind: "Who brought to us this bad luck?"

At the moment Jonah had gone below deck, where he lay down and fell into a deep sleep. The captain went to him and said, "How can you sleep? Get up and call on your God. Maybe He will take notice of us so that we will not perish."

Jonah said, "I am the reason behind this trouble."

Have you ever thought that maybe sometimes there are situations around us that are a result of our fault – disobedient hearts to do what the Lord wants us to? We simply disobey God and are reluctant, the same way Jonah was. As a result of reluctance, the Scripture says, << Jonah was swallowed by a big fish. Three days later, the fish vomited Johan onto dry land. Thereafter, Jonah went to the city he was needed to preach as God had commanded him.>>

The whole story of Jonah is so interesting because we learn how reluctant he was to obey God. The lesson we get from Jonah is, when we are not willing to obey God or when we are reluctant to do what God tells us, we attract or subject our lives to bad things that God will release upon us.

Example IV: Shipwreck

This fourth Biblical example comes from the book of Acts chapters 27 and 28. This example talks about Paul. He was also chosen by God, because he believed in Him and obeyed Him.

He was sent with many other prisoners to face a trial, and in the midst of the process there was a storm. A storm made of clouds, winds, and rain. They found themselves into trouble. Paul was quite aware that he had to go to Rome to testify and be in trial with other prisoners heading to the same destination. Paul encouraged them saying, “Don't be frightened. We are going to make it.” Adding that, “I prayed, and the Lord said to me”, “I will be presenting my case in the trial.”

The Lord spoke directly to Paul in a very specific situation, and because of that they were saved. Prison guards wanted to kill all prisoners but Paul stopped them. It is so interesting. The rain of God sometimes comes for a test. In this initial part of the test, Paul was victorious. They all survived. They went to the island of Malta, and when they were onshore there was a little fire to warm them due to cold condition of the area.

Unexpectedly, a snake came to attack Paul. People said that Paul had a curse. They believed that there is something wrong Paul had done. They said, “Paul survives shipwreck and now a snake is going to kill him.” But the snake didn't, and then Paul chased the snake away to leave others in awe because they expected the snake would kill him.

The Lord saved Paul and preserved his life. As a matter of fact, immediately after that, there was someone that was sick and Paul went there and prayed for this person and got healed. The storm, the shipwreck, the rain, and all those horrible circumstances brought Paul to a point where he was able to testify his ministry, and he healed somebody.

After Paul's miracles people were like, “Wow you are like God.”

I want you to understand one thing: People will not pay attention to you probably not the first day that you show faith in your trials. Neither in the first month of your walk to the Lord. But people will eventually pay attention to you when they see you are a real deal.

There are moments that God uses rain and storms for His purposes.

Perhaps you are going through a huge storm in these days and don't understand why all those problems and difficulties. You have been asking yourself, “Why always me, when will I get out of these difficulties?” I have news for you. <<It is raining everywhere>> and <<There is a storm everywhere>>

All of us have been affected, but it is interesting that God uses the rain and storms for His purposes. Those purposes are for a particular person, and also for a group.

A group that could be a community, a city, a state, or a country. The Lord will use rain and storms when He has a plan. And He has always a purpose in our lives. So stop wondering if God loves you, or if He cares for you, or if He's mad at you. You need to stop wondering about it and just say, "Lord I know You have a purpose for me, and I want to understand clearly that purpose."

APPLICATION TO YOUR PERSONAL LIFE

Evaporation

Remember the four stages of water cycle. One of the stages is evaporation. Evaporation comes during heat, and you should understand that heat represents problems. So stage number one is problems.

Condensation

Here's when all water drops come together in the clouds. After a period of time these drops become too bigger and heavier to stay in clouds. They form groups that latter come down as rain.

So when you are going through difficulties and problems, something is happening. What you need to do is to get together with a group of believers, don't get yourself isolated. This is a mistake many people commit. They keep it personal, thinking that nobody will understand. That's is a big mistake.

Importance of getting together

Engage yourself with a group of believers here in Victory Church. We have Bible study sessions online where everyone can participate. We are also use our App. We are on Skype. Eventually we can move to another platform, options to connect with others exist.

We meet at Victory Church, and we talk, and discuss, sometimes questioning, and receiving prayer requests. We share what's going on in our group.

You need to cultivate an opportunity of getting together even through virtual meeting with your friends. Take advantage of this kind of meeting, because it's important.

Precipitation

It happens when drops come onto surface which can be in form of ice, snow or rain. Precipitation means solutions.

Solutions are going to come to your life after going through the heat, which means problems, getting together with your friends, people that are wise, pray together.

You share with your friends what is going on in your life. By interacting with good friends you will find advice how to get out of your problems.

Through a devoted life of prayer, and being accountable, you will see the Power of God coming into your life. He will deliver you from your tribulations.

Collection

After the rain fall on Earth, rivers and lakes accumulate rain water and channel it back to the ocean. The cycle will start all over again.

What does collection mean? Collection means you need to focus on the future on behalf of everyone. Look at what rivers and lakes do. In fact, all waters flowing through various rivers are not for those rivers. They cooperate to take water back to the source – the ocean. They do this purposely to sustain the cycle: that is their life. God's creation is really amazing.

You need to understand that whatever circumstances you are going through, it's not just for you. The problem that you are going through is showing, teaching you something.

You need to focus on the future on behalf of everyone. Once you go through all these difficulties in life and you learn important lessons, then you are going to be so useful in the hands of the Lord on behalf of many people. You will be able, eventually to give back to others, what you have learned in your Christian life. It is a cycle.

Join the family of God today

Would you like to join the family of God today? Would you like to give your life to the good Lord? Read Leviticus 26, 3 4 *“Faithfully obey my laws, and I will send rain to make your crops grow and your trees produce fruit.”*

The key in order to be fruitful and blessed is to listen to the Word of God and obey it, faithfully. You need to become so faithful to the good Lord. By doing so, you will see a big difference in your life.

Now, if you have never given your life to the good Lord, almighty God, I invite you today.

Romans chapter 10, verse 9 declares. *“If you openly say Jesus is my Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from death, you will be saved.”*

Save your life in God by giving it to Him through this prayer:

“Dear God, I need your help. I need to find the way to believe. I would love to believe like others can. Help me God. I'm so sorry. Please forgive me. You are the Only One that is certain in life. You are my God. I open my heart to You, Lord. I confess my sins before You. I need to change. I want to obey You and trust You and serve You forever, my Lord. Starting today, I want to see life in people exactly as You do. Please help me, Lord.”

With faith in the name of Jesus Christ say this with me:

“I am forgiven and saved by faith in Jesus. Therefore I can also declare my life is going to be great and blessed.”

You are blessed in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I wish you a beautiful moment in your life.

Please feel free to contact us. Our email address is info@vchurch.us. And our phone number is (432) 614-9798.

Thank you for your time reading!

- Gian