



Do Not Miss The Rain



There is a pattern in life that's almost impossible to ignore, and that pattern is when one thing ends, something else starts. A lot of wisdom can be drawn from this observation and applied for daily living. In most cases, many are dreaded by the thought of something coming to an end, maybe due to the unknown that comes with newness. However, a one-sided approach can make one miss on the blessings that come with that transition. Bear in mind that the end of something can be the opening for new things. The bible says that "The end of a thing is better than its beginning; the patient in spirit is better than the proud in spirit" in Ecclesiastes 7:89 (NKJV).

It's only when you have reached the end of one dimension, that's when you enter a new one. It is as if the end of something ushers in the new, so what seems like the end is an opportunity for newness. However, being obsessed with the old can become a hindrance to the next season. Seasons are important because they indicate and dictate how one should behave to benefit in that particular season.

To fully benefit from a season one needs to behave accordingly. There is a season that is often spoken about in the Bible, and that is the season of rain. Rain can represent a lot of things in scripture, but for the most of it, it represents a time of refreshing, restoration, a time of answered prayers and blessings. The rain can also represent revival, just like literal rain revives dying plants, God's rain revives lives and situations.

There is rain that is about to be poured and we do not want to miss it. This rain will set off a new and fresh move of God. But the reality is that rain can be poured on the ground, but if nothing has been planted, the rain won't show results. Every farmer knows that it is wise to plant seeds before the rainy season, and the same thinking should be applied for a spiritual outpouring. The only reason as to why someone might miss this rain is due to the lack of preparation. Missing this rain would be equivalent to missing a time of visitation. What a tragedy it would be if the rain finds you unprepared. To not miss the rain we have the responsibility corporately and as individuals to position and ready ourselves for this outpouring.



One of the best ways to ready yourself and prepare for the rain is in prayer. The lifestyle of prayer should be embraced by anyone who wants to be drenched by the rain. Prayer is a necessity! The bible tells us in James 5:16b that "The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much." So this kind of praying is not a once-off thing, but continual and fervent. Looking at 1 Kings 18:41-46, it gives an account of how Elijah prayed earnestly and fervently for rain. What we can learn from this account is that He knew that it was the time for rain, but he still prayed. Knowing that it's the time for rain should not push us to become complacent, but should raise the awareness to pray. And also from the above scripture, we can see that he did not only pray, but he watched. He prayed seven times, and after each prayer, he would send his servant to check for a sign. It's important to pray, and as a sign of expectation, watch for the cloud.

Jesus touched on three dimensions while talking about prayer, and He said: Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you (Matthew 7:7 NIV). He mentioned three actions that are: asking, seeking and knocking. There is no sin in asking from God, so when you ask, do it with boldness. God can change your situation by you asking Him to do so (see 1 Chronicle 4:9-10). Not asking could be seen as a sign of pride because we should fully depend on God. Prioritize going to God before making any decision (see Psalm 20:8-1). Something to bear in mind is that God loves it when we ask, but He is concerned about the motive behind what we are asking for.

When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures (James 4:3 NIV). A selfish motive - asking amiss from the will of God - will hinder the answer.

If we ask selfishly, then what we want can get in the way of what God wants, so it's important to have the will of God in mind. 1 John 5:14 (NKJV) says "Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us." Also, let us not ask God for things out of fear or let fear dictate our actions (see Matthew 26:38). Let us ask God to strengthen us and give us the courage we need to face our challenges instead of praying out of fear. We need to be confident in the God that hears prayers.

Seeking God is profound and has a direct effect on our nature. The more we seek God, the more we know ourselves, because we become a reflection of His nature. As Christians, we are the light of the world and salt of the earth. We need the revelation of God to make an impact. There are things that can only be done through the revelation of God (Daniel 2:16-20). Those that did exploits with God, knew Him (see Daniel 11:32).

Knocking is an action of persistence, closed doors do not open until we knock on them (see Luke 18:1-8). Do not be offended or discouraged when people around you receive easily what they have been asking God. God wants you to persevere; because perseverance and persistence build character (see Genesis 32:24-32). If you don't seek, how will you find? Do not take the three dimensions of prayer lightly.



Something amazing about God is that you don't need a title to be used. The requirement is a posture of reception as an available servant. We should serve God in everything we do, and it should be for His glory. The relationship that God has with us is multidimensional, being His servant doesn't negate our sonship nor friendship (see John 15:15). These relationships present a sort of dependency on God.

On the contrary, the world presents a set of parameters to develop independence from God. But to grow and make the most out of this rain every Christians should be dependent on the Lord. Let us shift our confidence from worldly things and understand that God is the only one in whom we should have confidence in (Psalm 77). Since God is not a waster, He wants you to use all that you have purposefully and serve Him. Remember to ask yourself these questions: what has God given me? How am I serving God with it? Put God first and become the channel of which the world will receive the rain through. Do not miss the rain. It is time to be intentional about our Christian walk. God has a lot in store for us, so we need to assume a position that is conducive to the move of God.