

## #18 FORUM POST ON FIRST COMES THE NATURAL THEN COMES THE SPIRITUAL

Dear G \_\_\_\_\_,

I wanted to add to my earlier response to you since you are having difficulty understanding the Early Rain.

The concept stated below applies to the Early and Latter Rains:

**1Cor 15:46 Howbeit that was not first which is spiritual, but that which is natural; and afterward that which is spiritual.**

This concept that Paul stated above has many applications.

Here are several of them:

- 1). The natural (physical) body comes first, then comes the spiritual body. Paul was applying the concept in this way in 1Cor 15:42-45.
- 2). The Law that was written on tablets of stone is the natural and comes first, then comes the spiritual when Christ writes the Law in a person's heart.
- 3). The Old Covenant of Law is the natural and comes first, then comes the New Covenant of Grace through Faith which is the spiritual.
- 4). Christ's first coming is the natural and occurred when He entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, then comes the spiritual when Christ appears to those (Elect babes) who are waiting for Him.
- 5). The physical temple built with hands is the natural and comes first, then comes the spiritual temple that is built without hands. This temple is an individual believer who has the Holy Spirit indwelling them.
- 6). The carnal mind is the natural and comes first, then comes the spiritual; the mind of Christ.
- 7). The physical Lord Supper when a babe physically consumes of bread and wine is the natural that comes first, then comes the spiritual Lord's Supper (also called the Marriage Supper of the Lamb) that occurs after a babe is converted and has entered the Kingdom of Heaven. This is possible then because the Latter Rain healed the person's spiritual blindness.
- 8). The physical keeping of the Sabbath Day is the natural that comes first, then comes the spiritual keeping of the Sabbath Day that occurs when a babe is converted and has entered into the rest of Christ.
- 9). The first half of Daniel's last week of years in his Seventy Weeks prophecy is the natural that comes first. This 3 ½ years happened under the Old Covenant and it began when Christ was baptized by John and ended when Christ was cutoff at the cross. The spiritual that comes next is the last 3 ½ years of Daniel's prophecy. It happens under the New Covenant and begins when an

Elect person receives the Early Rain and it ends when they receive the Latter Rain. After the last Elect person is converted, Daniel's Seventy Weeks prophecy will be fulfilled.

10). Water baptism is the natural that comes first. It is to be performed after a person receives the Early Rain (also the natural). The spiritual baptism comes next and is the Latter Rain.

Below is the point I wanted to make about the Early Rain as it relates to Paul's conversion testimony and Christ's first coming in the natural.

**Mal 3:1 Behold, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the LORD of hosts.**

This scripture was fulfilled in the natural when Christ entered Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. As the scripture says, He came "suddenly" to His temple. Christ's natural coming also applies to the Early Rain. When Christ first comes to a person (an unbeliever), He appears to them "in the flesh" (2John 2:7/the natural) because the new babe in Christ will remain carnally minded and spiritually blind. This is how all new believers will experience the first coming of Christ.

Here is the portion of Paul's testimony where Paul experienced Christ's first coming in the flesh:

**Acts 9:3 And as he journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly, there shined round about him a light from heaven: 4 And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecute thou me? 5 And he said, Who art thou, Lord?**

Christ's first coming to His temple occurs "suddenly". In this case, Christ's temple was Paul. Paul did not ask for Christ to come nor did Paul give Christ his permission to come. Christ just suddenly came to Paul and gave Paul a small measure of the Holy Spirit (the Early Rain).

At that time, Christ remained spiritually veiled from Paul. Paul could hear Christ's voice but could not identify whose voice it was. Paul had to be told because he could not understand on his own. This is why babes in Christ need teachers and cannot learn for themselves directly from God's Word.

Paul then became blind which represented Paul's spiritual blindness. This means that Paul's understanding of Christ was only in the natural. Paul could understand "Christ and Him crucified" (1Cor 2:14) because this portion of Christ's ministry was performed under the Old Covenant (the natural). Since that was the only way that Paul could see Christ, Christ's spiritual teachings would largely remain veiled from Paul's understanding.

All new babes in Christ will experience Christ's first coming in the same way that Paul did. They, too, will remain carnally minded and spiritually blind. They will be able to see "Christ" in the flesh and will be able to understand "Christ and Him crucified" but Christ's spiritual teachings of the New Covenant (the spiritual) will largely be veiled from their understanding.

Because all new babes are spiritually blind and cannot understand Christ's spiritual teachings, they have all fallen prey to Satan since Paul's departing (his death). This is the apostasy that Paul said would be soon coming into the church (**Acts 20:29-31**).

The scripture below applies the how babes become apostate:

**Isa 28:9 Whom shall he teach knowledge? and whom shall he make to understand doctrine? Them that are weaned from the milk, and drawn from the breasts (converted believers who have both the Early and Latter Rains). 10 For precept must be upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little: 11 For with stammering lips and another language (spiritual language) will he speak to this people. 12 But the word of the LORD was unto them (babes who draw milk) precept upon precept, precept upon precept; line upon line, line upon line; here a little, and there a little; that they might go, and fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken (by Satan).**

Joe

G \_\_\_\_\_ did not respond.