

#9 FORUM POST ON FEAR AND TREMBLING

Dear All,

What does Philippians 2:12 mean when it says, "Work out your salvation with fear and trembling"?

Ephesians 2:8–9: "For by **grace** are ye **saved through faith**; and that **not of yourselves**: it is the gift of God: not of works, **lest any man should boast.**"

Now get Titus 2:11:

Titus 2:11: "For the **grace** of God **that bringeth salvation** hath appeared to all men,
Verse 12: Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world."

What Ephesians 2:8–9 and Titus 2 teach is that we're saved by grace—**completely apart from works**. It clearly says, "**not of works.**"

Ephesians 2:10: "For we are his workmanship, **created in Christ Jesus unto good works**, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them."

So two things are true:

1. You are saved by grace through faith, apart from works. Works play no role in your salvation.
2. Once you're saved, what did God create you to do? To walk in good works.

Ephesians 2:10 is very clear on that. Titus 2:11–12 is also very clear. It says that the grace of God teaches us something—it teaches us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world.

What some people sometimes say is that when you speak of grace, you're saying people can live any way they want—that it doesn't matter what they do because they're saved by grace. So, they say, you can live like the devil, and so your bad works won't send you to hell. You'll give account for them at the Judgment Seat of Christ. No sound grace preacher would ever say that your life, as a saved person, doesn't matter. Of course it matters.

The grace of God teaches you to live soberly, righteously, and godly. It matters how you live.

So now, with that as context, look at Philippians 2:12:

Philippians 2:12: "Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed—not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence—work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
Verse 13: For **it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.**"

Philippians 2:12 does *not* say to work *for* your salvation. It says to work *out* your salvation. In other words, when you get saved, you're saved in a moment of time. You are a lost person—dead in your sins. The moment you believe the gospel, that very instant, what does God do? He justifies you. He declares you righteous. In that moment, you're eternally saved.

But **at that instant, did all of your character flaws disappear?** They didn't, did they?

So, what Philippians 2:12 is about is this: Work out your salvation. That means to take the truth of your salvation and make it an experiential reality in your life. A saved person *should* live differently from a lost person. They should take their salvation and make it real—in how they speak to one another, in how they live, in how they act. That's the idea behind Philippians 2:12.

Now look at Philippians 3:13:

Philippians 3:13: "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
Verse 14: I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Verse 13, when it says, "forgetting those things which are behind," as a saved person, are there memories you have of things in life that, if you could redo them, you would handle differently? The answer is yes. Do people have regrets and guilt about things in life? They do.

The healthy way to deal with those things is this: You have to forget those things which are behind. It is not spiritually productive to dwell on every past fault. The way God looks at it is it's forgiven. He views it as resolved—and we need to view it as resolved.

So the way to think about past sins is, forget those things which are behind. Then, as verse 14 says, press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. That involves actively walking in the right direction—walking after the Spirit, not after the flesh.

So, that's how to understand Philippians 2:12 when it says, "*Work out your own salvation.*" It means to take the fact of your salvation and make it real in your life. It is *not* saying to work *for* your salvation.

B _____

Dear B _____,

You summed up Phi 2:12 by saying "It means to take the fact of your salvation and make it real in your life. It is *not* saying to work *for* your salvation".

What you stated is true but that is not what Paul is saying in Phi 2:12-13.

To understand what Paul is saying to the Philippian believers, you must understand that the Philippian believers were not converted when Paul wrote to them.

Phi 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

Conversion requires the Early AND Latter Rains of the Spirit, followed by the Day of the Lord (day of Jesus Christ).

The Early Rain is a small measure of the Spirit that Christ gives to an unbeliever to make them into a believer. Paul received the Early Rain on the Damascus Road and the Apostles receive it when they walk with Christ in the flesh.

After a person has the small measure of the Spirit, the Spirit will cause the person to make a confession of faith after they are presented the Gospel.

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

After the person makes a confession of faith, they will enter the church and will begin following Christ. But because the Early Rain of the Spirit is given in measure (a small amount/not the baptism), the new believer will remain spiritually blind, carnally minded and unconverted. This type of believer is a babe who can only draw milk.

Every believer begins following Christ as a babe. As long as a babe remains faithful (like the Philippian babes were doing), they will be justified by their faith and will be covered by the blood of Christ (not condemned by the law) as they wait for Christ to return and convert them (Latter Rain & judgment of the Day of the Lord).

So why does Paul say that while a babe waits for their salvation (like the Philipppians were doing), they are to do so in "fear and trembling"?

Here is why:

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Here are some of those words that apply to a babe as they wait for the Lord to return to complete their salvation:

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Christ describes in the scripture below how the babes in the church were devoured by the wolves after Paul's death:

Mat 12:43 When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none. 44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth it empty, swept, and garnished. 45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself SEVEN other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation.

The spiritual symbol of an unclean spirit represents a spirit which teaches Satan's false truth through lies and deceptions.

Since a new believer remains spiritually blind (**Mark 8:21-25**) after receiving the Early Rain of the Spirit, they cannot replace their worldly false beliefs with the truth of Christ. ONE unclean spirit leaves but comes back with SEVEN more. The number "seven" represents perfection. In this case, the number seven represents the perfection of Satan's lies/deceptions which come to a believer by the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ. Now, instead of ONE unclean spirit within the believer, they now have EIGHT. The number eight is a spiritual symbol which represents a new spiritual condition. In this case, the new spiritual condition is worse than the first.

This "worse than the first" spiritual condition causes the believer to become a False Prophet, a Man of Sin, a Minister of Satan and a Seven Headed Beast with Ten Horns & Crowns.

After Paul's death, all the babes (includes the Elect) have had to live by the words that Christ spoke in Mat 12:43-45. Because Paul knew that the apostasy was coming into the churches, he warned them to work out their own salvation with fear and trembling because it is God who will cause each of them to "will and do of His good pleasure" (this includes becoming apostate while they wait).

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Sorry, but I don't subscribe to the Charismatic system of interpretation, which makes salvation a system of works intermixed with faith. Works-based salvation is not a valid interpretation from what I have found through the Systematic Theology studies I have worked through in the years of my research. As an Israeli, I am well acquainted with the works-based dispensation, and we are not under that dispensation today.

So, in summary, I disagree with your premises and conclusion.

B

Dear B_____,

I certainly don't subscribe to the "Charismatic system of interpretation" either. That is not what I presented you. What I presented was what scripture teaches.

Apparently you did not read my post carefully or you read into my comments things that I did not say.

Consider what Christ said to Peter in the verse below:

John 13:13 Ye call me Master and Lord: and ye say well; for *so* I am.

Now consider what the verse below teaches:

1Cor 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and that no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Spirit.

Now answer this one question:

How was it possible for Peter to call Jesus his Lord and Master before Peter was baptized by the Spirit (the Latter Rain) on the day of Pentecost?

Here is the answer according to scripture:

Mat 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. 17 And Jesus answered and said unto him, Blessed art thou, Simon Barjona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed *it* unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

In order for Peter to know that Jesus was the Christ and for him to have the ability to accept Jesus as his Lord, Peter had to have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Since we know without any doubt that Peter had not yet received the baptism of the Spirit, what did Peter have that gave him the ability to call Jesus "Lord"? Peter (like all babes have) had the Early Rain of the Spirit.

Here are a few verses to consider:

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he (Christ) shall come unto us as the Rain, as the Latter and Early Rain unto the earth.

Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small Rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain**) upon the grass:**

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in Jehovah your God; for he giveth you the Early Rain in just measure (a small amount), and he causes to come down for you the Rain, the Early Rain and the Latter Rain, in the first month.

Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small Rain (Early Rain), and to the great Rain (Latter Rain/the baptism**) of his strength.**

Now that we know that Peter had the Early Rain of the Spirit and was a babe in Christ, consider what Christ said to Peter below:

Luke 22:31 And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, Satan hath desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat (a symbol for the Elect):

Luke 22:32 But I have prayed for thee (Peter**), that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.**

Because Peter was not yet converted (Latter Rain & judgment), Peter was susceptible to Satan's deceptions and to falling away from faith. The same is true for all babes in Christ. And according to Acts 20:29-31, falling away was certain to happen to all babes after Paul's death. And as I presented in my first post, Mat 12:43-45 shows how and why it will happen to the babes.

Because all the babes since the end of the 1st century have been deceived by Satan and have

fallen away, scripture says that when a fallen away babe is given the Latter Rain (the baptism), their spiritual blindness will be healed and they will see that they had become a "man of sin":

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? (day of salvation/conversion) I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder and RAIN (Latter Rain); that ye may perceive and see (spiritual blindness healed) that your wickedness is great (have become apostate/man of sin), which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

Because Paul knew that the spirit of anti-Christ would soon be devouring the babes in the church, Paul said to the Philippian babes that they should work out their own salvation with fear and trembling.

All the churches of this world are apostate and have been so since the end of the 1st century. They follow "another gospel" that teaches the false doctrines of free will and hell which mixes works with faith. When a babe mixes works with faith, they are committing the sin that leads to death. It is with this sin that Satan kills the saints while they are babes.

I would like to hear your answer to the question that I presented at the start of this post.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Again, I cannot subscribe to your methods of ripping verses from their contexts, spiritualize them, and thus apply them in the manner as you have done to try and build a larger set of support that simply isn't there. When the texts speak clearly about literal rain, and someone spiritualizes it to co form to a preconceived notion of parallelism, my upbringing as an Israeli bars me from such grandiose subjectivity. I agree somewhat with some of your statements, but not all.

B

Dear B_____,

Here is how scripture says Christ's New Covenant truth is taught:

John 6:63 ...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

Christ's New Covenant teachings use "spirit" words. Spirit words carry meanings that are different than what man's wisdom teaches:

1Cor 2:13 These things we also speak, not in words which man's wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things (words) with spiritual (words).

Scripture even says that Christ's teachings are taught in "another language":

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 (the converted Elect). 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).

The truth of Christ's New Covenant teachings is reserved for ONLY the converted Elect who have received the Spirit of Truth (**John 16:13**) and have had their spiritual blindness healed. All others, including babes who can only draw milk (Christ and Him crucified, 1Cor 2:2), will think that they understand the truth, but they will not. Because of a babe's spiritual blindness, Satan has no trouble deceiving the babes into accepting "another gospel" that mixes works with faith.

When a babe accepts Satan's false gospel, they will "fall backward, and be broken, and snared, and taken" by Satan. It is in this way that Satan kills the saints and builds his apostate church in the world - a church that masquerades as the true church. It happens because it is God's "will" for it to happen. Mankind does not direct their own steps:

Jer 10:23 I know, Jehovah, that the way of man is not his own; it is not in a man that walketh to direct his steps.

Mat 4:4 But he answered and said, it is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word (includes leavened bread, Mat 13:33) that proceedeth out of the mouth of God.

Because unconverted believers (babes) remain carnally minded and spiritually blind after receiving the Early Rain, they will understand Christ's New Covenant teachings in a carnal way rather than in a spiritual way. You are doing this when you say that the "rain" is just literal rain. But when a person understands the spirit word "rain" in this way, the truth of what Christ is teaching will pass them by.

Another example of a carnal understanding of scripture is how a babe understands end-time prophecy. The end-time prophecies are not teaching about outward one-time world events that happen at the literal of the age. The end-time prophecies apply within an Elect person and are teaching the spiritual events which led them to their conversion/salvation.

Paul said that the Elect have the end of the ages come upon them before they die. It was not a far

off event for them.

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

When the ends of the ages come upon an Elect person, Christ will pour out the Latter Rain upon them. The Latter Rain will heal the believer's spiritual blindness which will cause Christ to spiritually appear to them. This appearing is the second coming of Christ that is taught in scripture. After Christ appears, He will judge the believer for the purpose of changing them spiritually. This judgment is taught in Mat 24:37-41 and in the last half of Revelation chapter 19. After this judgment is complete, they will be converted and will have had the end of the ages come upon them.

Changing subjects now: You say that you don't mix works with faith but from what you have stated on this thread, I can see that you do.

I will present below how scripture says Christ saves a person. The person has no say in the matter nor do they contribute anything towards their own salvation. Christ is the Savior and He saves them because that is the mission that His Father gave Him to accomplish.

1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

When Christ is ready to begin the salvation process within a person, He will come to them as the Early Rain.

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he (Christ) shall come unto us as the Rain, as the Latter and Early Rain unto the earth.

Paul received the Early Rain on the Damascus Road. Paul did not ask for the Early Rain nor did Christ ask Paul if he wanted to receive it. In fact, at that time, Paul hatred Christ and it was not Paul's intention of ever becoming a Christian himself. But all that changed for Paul when Christ "suddenly" came to His temple (Paul) and gave Paul the small measure of the Spirit. After Christ gave Paul the Spirit, Paul fell to his knees and called Jesus "Lord". Paul then submitted to Christ's authority over him and asked "what do you want me to do?".

After Paul was given the Early Rain on the Damascus Road, Paul became a babe in Christ. Paul became blind to represent his spiritual blindness. Paul was then "led by the hand" (the blind leading the blind) into Damascus (a symbol for the carnal and religious spiritual nature of the

marred spirit/Great Harlot) where Paul remained spiritually blind for three days. As a result of Paul's blindness, Paul was unable to eat or drink the true bread from heaven or Christ's New Wine. The "three days" represented the spiritual process that Paul went through in Damascus which caused Paul to fall away and become apostate. Christ describes this process in Mat 12:43-45.

Because Paul become apostate while he waited for the Lord to return with the Latter Rain, Paul stayed at a house of a man named Judas. When Christ was ready to return to Paul after his three days were complete, Christ (typed by Ananias) travelled on a street named straight. This street represented that Christ's pathway was made straight to return to Paul. When Christ came, Christ poured out the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Latter Rain/Spirit of Truth) upon Paul and the scales fell from Paul's eyes. With the healing of Paul's spiritual blindness, Paul was told to "eat meat" so that he could be strengthened by the truth.

It is from the truth of what Paul consumed that judgment fell on Paul and sanctified (purified) him. After Paul was spiritually changed and purified, Paul was converted and saved.

It is in this same way that Christ will save all the Elect of this age. It happens by the will and work of Christ. The person contributes nothing, not even their confession of faith is their own.

Prov 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.

If Christ wanted to save all mankind today, He could do it. But in this age, Christ is saving only the Elect - those chosen by the Father for the blessing of being saved first. In the next and final age though, Christ will save the balance of mankind just as the prophets foretold.

Isa 45:22 Look unto me, and be ye saved, all the ends of the earth: for I am God, and there is none else. 23 I have sworn by myself, the word is gone out of my mouth in righteousness, and shall not return, that unto me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear.

Restated by Paul:

Phi 2:10 That at the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 and that every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

And here, too:

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all

men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

All mankind will be saved before the last age comes to an end. It happens because it is God's "will" for it to happen and not because of man's "will".

Joe

Another member posted to me on the thread:

Dear FaithWillDo,

You are part of the Latter rain movement in Pentecostal churches. You are mistaking the rain for agriculture for a spiritual definition.

R

Dear R_____,

You are wrong. I do not associate with any apostate church, nor do I teach what they teach.

The Pentecostal churches are no different than any other apostate church. They are spiritually blind and are being deceived by Satan. The gospel they preach mixes works with faith. Just because they use the spirit word "latter rain" in some of their teachings does not mean that they understand it correctly.

The spirit word "water" used in Christ's New Covenant teachings represents the Holy Spirit. Water can come as snow, dew, rain or a flood. When it comes as a flood, it represents the judgment of the Holy Spirit that happens within a person during their time of conversion. The story of Noah and the ark is a good example. That story types the conversion process and because it does, Christ mentioned it in the judgment portion of an Elect person's conversion in the verses below:

Mat 24:37 But as the days of Noah were, so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 38 For as in the days that were before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day that Noe entered into the ark, 39 And knew not until the flood came, and took them all away; so shall also the coming of the Son of man be. 40 Then shall two be in the field (one believer with the Holy Spirit and the spirit of anti-Christ); the one shall be taken (spirit of anti-Christ/man of sin), and the other left (Holy Spirit/child of God). 41 Two women shall be grinding at the mill (one believer with two spiritual natures); the one shall be taken (the Great Harlot), and the other left (the divine nature of the Holy Spirit/virtuous woman).

After I was converted in 2005, I left the apostate church I attended and have never gone back. All Christian denominations are apostate because as Paul said, none of the flock was spared.

When Paul made the statement below about the coming apostasy, he knew that it was going to affect all the sheep (the babes) in the churches that he started. He was greatly grieved by this knowledge.

Acts 20:29 For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. 30 Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them. 31 Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.

Nothing has changed in those churches since that time except that they have waxed worse and worse.

Don't think that you are too wise or too smart to avoid Satan's deceptions because no one is. Everyone will experience their own "Day of Evil" before they will experience the "Day of the Lord" and be saved.

Mat 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

One of the most perverse teachings of the apostate church is their Doctrine of Hell. With that doctrine, they make Christ out to be a monster who cannot complete the task that His Father gave Him.

1John 4:14 And we have seen and do testify that the Father sent the Son to be the Savior of the world.

And because they believe that mankind has a free will ability, they teach that a person can resist God's "will" of wanting to save them. With this belief in free will, they are sitting in God's Temple claiming that they are equal with God. But God alone is sovereign and has a free will to do as He pleases. Everyone else's "will" is subject to God's "will".

Dan 4:35 And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of the heavens, and among the inhabitants of the earth; and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?

Rom 9:15 For he saith to Moses, I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will

have compassion on whom I will have compassion. 16 So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that runneth, but of God that sheweth mercy. 17 For the scripture saith unto Pharaoh, even for this same purpose have I raised thee up, that I might shew my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout all the earth. 18 Therefore, hath he mercy on whom he will have mercy, and whom he will he hardeneth. 19 Thou wilt say then unto me, why doth he yet find fault? For who hath resisted his will?

Because all the babes in the churches have to experience a time of "great tribulation" (their day of evil), Paul said that they should work out their own salvation with fear and trembling.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Then why or where were you taught to use the term "latter rain" and "early rain" instead of saying the Holy Spirit? Google it yourself. It was from the Latter rain movement. If you are not part of this, why are you using their terminology?

R

Dear R _____,

The spirit words Early Rain and Latter Rain are used in the farming analogy that Christ uses to teach certain aspects of the pathway to salvation.

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he (Christ) shall come unto us as the Rain, as the Latter and Early Rain unto the earth.

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receives the EARLY and LATTER RAIN. 8 Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

James is not talking about literal rain and farming. James is talking about how Christ converts each of the Elect. The precious fruit of the earth is wheat and wheat represents the Elect. To be made ready for harvest into the Kingdom of Heaven, an Elect person must receive both the Early and Latter Rains. When Christ comes to a person the first time, He gives them the Early Rain and they enter the church as a babe. After a time of waiting, Christ returns and gives them the Latter Rain to make them ready for harvest. Salvation requires Christ to come to a person TWO times.

1Sam 12:17 Is it not wheat harvest to day? (day of salvation/conversion) I will call unto the LORD, and he shall send thunder (voice of Christ) and RAIN (Latter Rain); that ye

may perceive and see (spiritual blindness healed/scales removed from their eyes) that your wickedness is great (have become apostate/man of sin), which ye have done in the sight of the LORD, in asking you a king.

Jer 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there hath been no Latter Rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed (talking about an apostate believer).

The same thing is taught here:

Psa 68:9 Thou, O God, didst send a plentiful RAIN (the Latter Rain), whereby thou didst confirm thine inheritance, when it was weary (in a fallen away condition).

The time a babe will spend in between the Early and Latter Rains is described as a time of drought that was typed by Elijah's 3 1/2 years of drought. For that reason, James adds it to his teaching on the Early and Latter Rains in chapter 5:

James 5:17 Elijah was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain (Latter Rain), and the earth brought forth her fruit (conversion of the Elect).

The Early Rain is a small amount of the Spirit. It is what gives an unbeliever their faith and makes them a "babe". It is given in "measure" and it not the baptism. The apostate churches of the world are full of apostate babes who are spiritually blind and are following Satan instead of Christ. For those of them who are Elect, they are waiting for the Lord to return with the Latter Rain (even if they do not know that they are waiting).

The Latter Rain is the baptism and it comes in power/strength. It is presented as a great or plentiful rain/showers.

Job 37:6 For he saith to the snow, Be thou on the earth; likewise to the small rain (Early Rain), and to the great rain (Latter Rain) of his strength.

Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small Rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain) upon the grass:

Can you understand what this verse below is teaching? It is written in Christ's spiritual language.

Prov 25:14 Whoso boasteth himself of a false gift is like clouds and wind without rain.

The "false gift" is a false prophet who teaches false truth. The "clouds" represents a witness of Christ. The "wind" represent doctrine. The verse is saying that a person who teaches false truths is like a witness for Christ who teaches doctrine without the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Because all babes cannot understand the spiritual language of Christ, they will easily be deceived by Satan and will accept his carnally pleasing lies. No babe can avoid it happening to them. For that reason, we are at the mercy of Christ to "come again" and save us.

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 (the converted Elect). 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).

It is a very humbling experience for an Elect babe when Christ heals their spiritual blindness and they can see clearly for the first time. When that day came for me, I realized that I had been deceived by Satan most of my Christian life. It was a day of great spiritual earthquakes with thunder and lightning - truly the best day of my life.

This verse applies:

Ecc 1:13 An experience of evil God has given to the sons of humanity to humble them by it.

One more thought: The marriage analogy used in scripture teaches the two times Christ must come to a person to save them. The first time Christ comes, He gives the person a small measure of the Spirit which makes them into a faithful virgin. The virgin then has to wait while the Bridegroom goes away and prepares a home for them. While the virgin waits, she spiritually fornicates with Satan and becomes unfaithful. To correct her unfaithfulness (if they are Elect), Christ will come to them a second time and give them the baptism of the Spirit. With the baptism, the Bridegroom will appear and gather His restored virgin to heaven for the wedding.

The gathering to heaven event is shown here, too:

Mat 24:29 Immediately after the tribulation of those days (time between the Early and Latter Rain spent under Satan's deception) shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall

be shaken: 30 And then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory. 31 And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

The sun, moon and stars are spirit words used by the celestial analogy that teaches from where a person receives their beliefs/truth. The natural sun is Satan and the natural moon is the Old Covenant of Law (man's works) and the stars are fallen angels (unclean spirits). The natural sun, moon and stars are said to be darkened because the believer will no longer receive their truth from them. They will now receive their truth from Christ, the Sun of righteousness.

Mal 4:2 But unto you that fear my name shall the Sun of righteousness (Christ) arise with healing in his wings (time of conversion); and ye shall go forth, and grow up as calves of the stall.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Sorry Joe,

Scripture speaks for itself and is not up to private interpretation. The Apostle Paul made it clear that if another gospel is preached other than his, let them be accursed. **Gal.1:8**. No place in the bible did Jesus say, "early rain". No where did the Apostle Paul say, "early rain". James 5:7 does not say "early rain" in my bible and it's not for you to interpret.

Where did you learn this, once again?

R

Dear R_____,

I learned about the Early and Latter Rain concept strictly from scripture. As for Christ not mentioning those terms, He does because all of scripture comes from Christ who is God's Word.

Here is a scripture in which Christ refers to the Early and Latter Rains in the book of Matthew:

Mat 5:45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just (Latter Rain) and on the unjust (Early Rain).

The Latter Rain is what brings judgment to the child of the Devil. It's what completes an Elect person's conversion. The Early Rain does not bring judgment and will leave the babe unconverted.

Christ uses the Early and Latter Rain concept as it relates to judgment in the two verses below:

Mat 7:25 And the rain (Latter Rain) descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

Paul refers to the Early and Latter Rains here:

Acts 14:17 Nevertheless he left not himself without witness, in that he did good, and gave us rain (Early & Latter Rain) from heaven, and fruitful seasons, filling our hearts with food and gladness.

Paul refers to the Early Rain here:

Heb 6:4 For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, 5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, 6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame. 7 For the earth (mankind) which drinketh in the rain (Early Rain) that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs (a babe in Christ) meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

Christ calls "many" people to be saints. He does so by giving them the Early Rain. The Early Rain "cometh oft upon it".

This verse below applies to the Early Rain on the "herbs":

Deu 32:2 My doctrine shall drop as the rain, my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small Rain (Early Rain) upon the tender herb, and as the showers (Latter Rain) upon the grass:

Below is a teaching from Christ that teaches about spiritual blindness as it relates to the Early and Latter Rain concept:

Mark 8:22 And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him. 23 And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town; and when he had spit on his eyes (Early Rain), and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought. 24 And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking. 25 After that he put his hands again upon his eyes (Latter Rain), and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.

Below is another teaching from Christ that teaches when a believer comes out from being condemned by the Law. It also uses the Early and Latter Rain concept:

John 8:3 And the scribes and Pharisees brought unto him a woman taken in adultery; and when they had set her in the midst, 4 They say unto him, Master, this woman was taken in adultery, in the very act. 5 Now Moses in the law commanded us, that such should be stoned: but what sayest thou? 6 This they said, tempting him, that they might have to accuse him. But Jesus stooped down, and with his finger wrote on the ground (Early Rain), as though he heard them not. 7 So when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. 8 And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground (Latter Rain). 9 And they which heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst. 10 When Jesus had lifted up himself, and saw none but the woman, he said unto her, woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee?

Here is a short one:

Mat 21:44 And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken (Early Rain): but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder (Latter Rain).

The concept taught by the Early and Latter Rains analogy is at the core of the "great mystery of Christ and His church" (Eph 5:32). It is not understood by apostate babes and is purposefully hidden from their understanding. Why? So that the babes who can only draw milk will "fall backward, be broken, and snared and taken" by Satan (Isa 28:9-12).

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Those verses don't apply the way you interpret it. No commentary or study bible puts that way, neither did I learn it in Bible college. For instance, Matthew 5:45 means common grace. The God's chosen and the unsaved get the same weather. You didn't pick up those terms of "Latter rain" and "early rain" from a bible study. You got it from somewhere else, not on your own. Where did you learn it from?

R

Dear R _____,

I have shown you many, many scriptures but you just can see and receive what they teach. You are like the blind man who sees men walking as trees. I was like that the first 44 years of my life. Everyone has to pass through their own time of blindness and great tribulation. When Christ is

ready for you to see, He will return and pour out the Latter Rain upon you. Only then will the scales fall from your eyes and you will see every man clearly. You might think that you are wise enough, or smart enough or educated in the scriptures enough to understand Christ's New Covenant teachings but not so. It is only with the guidance of the Spirit of Truth that true understanding can come to a person.

Christ's New Covenant teachings are purposefully written in a "mystery" so that without the Spirit to guide a person, they cannot understand them.

1Cor 2:7 But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, even the hidden wisdom, which God ordained before the world unto our (the converted Elect) glory:

It was only after I received the Latter Rain and the scales fell from my eyes that the concept taught by the Early and Latter Rains open up to my understanding. I know other believers who have received the same truth after they were converted, too, but I did not learn it from them. I learned it from scripture with the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

This is how I learned:

Prov 2:1 My son (the converted Elect), if you receive my words and treasure up my commandments with you, 2 making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; 3 yes, if you call out for insight and raise your voice for understanding, 4 if you seek it like silver and search for it as for hidden treasures, 5 then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God.

Jer 33:3 ‘Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.’

Psa 104:27 These (Elect babes) wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat (truth) in due season (time of the Latter Rain).

There is nothing I can do to help you understand. You must wait on the Lord to act in your life just as I had to do. There is no other way. And the Lord is faithful & true and He will not fail you or anyone else.

1Tim 2:3 For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior; 4 who will have all men to be saved, and to COME UNTO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE TRUTH. 5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus; 6 who gave himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

Stop using term "latter rain". I'm exposing the lie. You did not come up with the term; you learned it. Period. It is not stated in any bible. No need to post reams of scripture as we all can read the bible for ourselves. You aren't convincing anyone but your lack of knowledge. I say this out of love for all the readers here. You had to learn it from someplace else.

R_____

Dear R_____,

Scripture contradicts your comments:

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receives the EARLY and LATTER RAIN. 8 Be ye also patient; establish your hearts: for the coming of the Lord draweth nigh.

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in Jehovah your God; for he giveth you the EARLY RAIN Rain in just measure, and he causes to come down for you the Rain, the EARLY RAIN and the LATTER RAIN in the first month.

Hos 6:3 Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the LORD: his going forth is prepared as the morning; and he shall come unto us as the Rain, as the LATTER AND EARLY RAIN unto the earth.

Jer 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withheld, and there hath been no LATTER RAIN; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.

Joe

Dear FaithWillDo,

You still won't say where you learned this. It is the Latter rain movement. I rest my case. A farmer waits for the rain for his crops in James 5:7.

James 5:7- NLT - Dear brothers and sisters,] be patient as you wait for the Lord's return. Consider the farmers who patiently wait for the rains in the fall and in the spring. They eagerly look for the valuable harvest to ripen.

R_____

Dear R_____,

Why is it inconceivable for you to believe that I learned the Early and Latter Rain concept from scripture?

What I teach is nothing like what the Pentecostal denomination teaches. The Latter Rain movement comes from what this scripture below teaches about apostate believers who have the indwelling spirit of anti-Christ.

2Thes 2:9 Even him, whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders, 10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received not the love of the truth, that they might be saved.

Don't think that I am picking only on the Pentecostal denomination because I'm not. All the other denominations in the world who claim to be Christian are just as apostate as the Pentecostal denomination. Satan's deceptions are so powerful that none of the sheep have been spared.

I can see that this discussion is not going to be beneficial to you so it's a good time to end it. This will be my last post to you (as the Lord wills).

Joe

B_____ made a final post to R_____ concerning our discussion:

Dear R_____,

"Latter rain" is in the scriptures in a number of places. The problem is that the hyper-pseudo-charismatic-spiritualists love to harangue and beat over the head all those who are ignorant enough to allow that metaphor to actually hurt them. It's like a badge of honor to the pseudo-spiritualists that they can parade around trying to impress the less informed who don't know their Bibles. The pseudo-spiritualists even look down their noses at others, claiming to have once been as the alleged ignorant masses, having "arrived" at a place of far greater stature, but in reality trumpeting all their nonsense from a deep ditch from which they are unable to climb out from. My but what pride they exude, as if they were adorned as Satan with all those glimmering and shiny jewels. Their pride is their downfall. We're all simple followers of Christ by faith in Him, not our own megaphone blasts filled with cliché rhetoric.

Deuteronomy 11:14 That I will give you the rain of your land in his due season, the first rain and the latter rain, that thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil. **(Some use this as allegory, others see it as literal rain.)**

Job 29:23 And they waited for me as for the rain; and they opened their mouth wide as for the

latter rain. **(Comparative speech pattern, an allegory.)**

Proverbs 16:15 In the light of the king's countenance is life; and his favour is as a cloud of the latter rain. **(Spoken to Israel.)**

Jeremiah 3:3 Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed. **(Spoken to Israel.)**

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God: for he hath given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month. **(Spoken to Israel.)**

Zechariah 10:1 Ask ye of the LORD rain in the time of the latter rain; so the LORD shall make bright clouds, and give them showers of rain, to every one grass in the field. **(Spoken to Israel.)**

James 5:7 Be patient therefore, brethren, unto the coming of the Lord. Behold, the husbandman waiteth for the precious fruit of the earth, and hath long patience for it, until he receive the early and latter rain. **(This was written to Israel, not to Gentiles.)**

B