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Hi Partners and Friends

We are excited to wish you a Merry Christmas and a Blessed and Joyous New Year!

Wow, this year sure has gone quickly and as we look back over the year we are grateful for how far the Lord has brought us.

We were able to provide 5 more COREcourse Series classes at no charge to the people in the Calgary area. These 6 hour classes were on Faith, the Person of the Holy Spirit, Sanctification and Holiness, Healing and Prosperity and our last one for this year was in November on Dealing with Discouragement. Each one of them had a number of first time guests joining us and everyone enjoyed themselves and was strengthened by the Word taught.

In February we hosted the Christians United for Israel event in Calgary and met some wonderful people. The beginning of July we moved into our new location in the Willow Ridge Community Center and have been blessed and really enjoy it. We were able to help and bless the 1000+ runners for "Run for a Cure" that ran right by our community center front door the first Sunday of October.

We wrote and published 2 more books this September - one on Being Born Again and the other on Being Filled with the Holy Spirit. We also were able to sow each of them into a couple dozen pastors during a minister's conference in November.

We were able to be a blessing and add value to many people and saw a salvation, healings, wonderful growth and change all for the glory of God.

We love you & God Bless

Jeff & Audrey





Let's look at a verse of scripture from Zechariah chapter 10 and verse 1

Ask the Lord for rain in the time of the latter rain. The Lord will make flashing clouds; He will give them showers of rain, Grass in the field for everyone. NKJV

Ask of the Lord rain in the time of the latter or spring rain. It is the Lord Who makes lightnings which usher in the rain and give men showers, and grass to everyone in the field. AMPC

We have been praying this verse at AFC for some time now and I want to encourage each of us as we enter into a new year to join in and ask for what the Lord has instructed us to ask for.

Rain Doesn't Fall

Many years ago I remember hearing a fellow minister say that rain does not fall - gravity pulls it out of the clouds. As the cloud becomes more saturated with water the effect of gravity begins to take place and pulls the water to the earth.

We are the ones through our prayers that work together with God to cause the rain to come in the spirit realm. God cannot just rain this spiritual rain on us because He wants to as He has given us authority in the earth - that is why He asks us to ask Him so that He can then pour it out.

Our prayers act like gravity to help bring the rain to us where it is needed.

God Gives the Rain

We pray and God gives the rain - this is how we work together with Him so His will can be done.

What is the rain? Without going into a lot of detail the Word talks about the rain and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the glory of God alike. The rain is the outpouring or manifestation of God's glory - His power, presence and goodness.

A couple of other words tied to the rain is an awakening and revival. One of the meanings of revive is to restore to life and this would apply to the unbelievers when they get born again. This also has been called an awakening as the unbeliever awakens to the truth that they are lost without Jesus and have no hope thus turning to Jesus they give their lives to Him.

The word revive also means:

- regain consciousness, or strength
- give new strength or energy to.

synonyms: reinvigorate, revitalize, refresh, energize, resuscitate, rejuvenate, enliven, stimulate

Therefore the word revival would also apply to the church, the body of Christ as to our regaining strength and energy - being refreshed, energized and enlivened. The bible also tells us as the body of Christ to awake unto righteousness and awake out of sleep.

Both words are a result of the rain and generally the awakening has been to the unbeliever and revival to the church.

We are in the time of the rain and Joel 2:23 KJV tells us

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. The former rain took place in Acts chapter 2 and the latter rain took place over a hundred years ago around the turn of the century BUT we are in the time of the former and latter rain coming together.

It is He, God who will give and cause the rain to come down.

Results of the Rain

There are many results of the rain even as we look at Joel chapter 2 after verse 23 - fullness, overflow, restoration, plenty, satisfaction, praise and God in our midst to where we are free from shame. Then He goes on to say in verses 28-32

"And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. "And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

We are here for such a time as this and refreshing comes from the presence of the Lord (Acts 3:19).

Again there are many results but I want to touch on the last phrase of Zech 10:1 which says He will give grass in the field for everyone. God's will is to rain on all so all can enjoy grass in their field.

Grass in our field is a picture of life, growth, increase and flourishing. God calls it a wealthy place in Ps 66:12

We went through fire and through water: but thou broughtest us out into a wealthy place. κ_{JV}

But You brought us out into a broad, moist place [to abundance and refreshment and the open air]. AMPC

Grass in our fields, a wealthy place, a moist abundant place of refreshment. Other translations use the words fruitful, freedom, plenty, safe, good things, well watered, wide open, rich fulfillment, spacious - referring to the place and kind of life He wants for us.

These are the results of the rain He wants for all mankind. Why? Because God so loved humanity that He send His only begotten Son so that whoever would believe in Him should not perish but have everlasting, eternal, abundant, excessive, beyond measure superior in quality life and living - as stated in John 3:16, 10:10

But it starts because we work together with Him by asking for the rain in the time of the latter rain so He can make bright shiny lightning clouds and send rain so lives can be changed and we enjoy grass in our lives.



Check out our website at www.arisefc.org

<u> Audrey's Faith Tidbit</u>

What is Your Vision?

Habakkuk 2:2 ESV And the Lord answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so he may run who reads it.

When you have a vision you can have faith for that vision. You can have what you see on the inside. You will naturally gravitate towards that picture. Sometimes you may not be aware of that inside picture. If you do not check up on that inside picture, you may find yourself going in a direction you don't want to go nor did you plan on going.

When the Babylonians in Genesis 11 started to build a tower to reach heaven with, they were together in agreement with each other and their vision to see it come to pass. They would have finished it too if God hadn't stopped them. He said that nothing they proposed to do would be withheld from them. However this plan of theirs was not God's plan so it forced God to intervene. God changed their languages so that they could no longer be in agreement with each other for the purpose of reaching heaven in that manner. If you are going in a direction that does not seem desirable, stop and examine yourself. What are you truly seeing on the inside? Does it line up with what you believe God wants you to be doing or the direction you are to go? Does it truly fulfill a desire or dream you have? If so then you need to make sure you clarify what exactly you are working to accomplish.

If you have a question about whether or not your faith is working for those dreams and desires to come to pass, maybe back up a bit and check up on your vision. Maybe your issue isn't with faith but with your vision. Are you clear on the inside about what you desire to happen? Do you have it written down clearly or do you have pictures to look at that shows what the finished picture looks like?

The apostle Paul talks to us in 2 Corinthians 4:18 about looking at things that are seen and not seen. We are told that the things that we see with our physical eyes are temporary, whereas the things that we cannot see (i.e. on the inside or spiritual things) are

eternal. If the things that we can see physically are temporary, then that means they do not have to stay the same. They can be changed. That is good news! If we do not like the way things look in the natural then we can believe God for these things to change.

In Genesis 30 we read about Jacob wanting to go out on his own and provide for his family himself by not working under his uncle. God gave him a creative idea about taking the speckled and spotted sheep and goats as his wages and therefore owning something for himself that can increase. But the story doesn't just end there Jacob was given an idea for the sheep and goats. He placed striped rods that were peeled to expose some white in them so they were a mix of brown and white and put them in the water troughs for the animals to look at as they drank. He changed the vision of what the animals saw as they looked into the water. This changed the color of the babies from solid colors to speckled and spotted animals. As more of these speckled babies were born, Jacob began to increase greatly. If changing the vision can work with animals, what can changing our vision do in our own lives?

How do we change the vision then? With faith that overcomes the world. Change the picture you see on the inside and then the outside will change also! You do not have to be stuck with your current circumstances. They can be changed for the better. It will take effort and some work on your part to believe for those changes but you can do it. If you haven't actually written down your dream, start a journal or book or find a piece of paper (that you won't lose) and start writing. Find your scripture(s) that you are standing on for the promise, write it out. Maybe you would like to add pictures to your statement(s). You can find pictures on the internet and in magazines that will support your vision. You can also go bigger by creating a vision board in your home or work place. Let the vision book or board pin point your direction for you and have fun developing your faith in your dream.

God has given us an amazing ability to create our world around ourselves by using our imagination. We have the free will and ability to change direction, to find a new dream, to dare to dream the impossible. What has God put on your heart? When you see that picture on the inside, then you can have faith for it. Believe in God. Jesus emphasized faith and believing. When you believe,

then all things are possible because you believe. Once you have a clear vision, you have the ability to believe that it can come to pass.

2017 UPDATE

We want to take a moment to share a few updates for 2017.

Having just completed 2 books in September I have a couple more (many more actually but 2 for 2017 for sure) I want to write and publish in 2017. One is on the subject of HEALING. We all know people - friends or relatives - who are sick whether at work, school, our neighbours and others we just met at the mall or standing in line for something who need to know about healing and God's loving plan for them. I want this to be a simple book that enlightens, encourages and serves healing to those who need it. The other is on our God given benefits from Ps 103.

Also we would like to step out and start live streaming part of our services at *Arise Family Church* to get the Word of God out and add more value to others.

A 3rd thing is our JLM website has been looking quite dated and we have been in the process of updating it and hopefully it will be ready to go live by the beginning of the year. It looks awesome and even has a store on it for our books and coming will be our CORE*course* Series classes as downloads and then audios. Then the next step would be to enhance our AFC site to match the newness and excitement of the JLM site. With the sites looking newer and more attractive and more interactive and connective we expect to impact more people's lives around the world with the Word of God and have material available to help and feed them spiritually. *Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God* so that is what we are making available to others to help them make 2017 their best year yet.

If you want to help us reach more people with the Word of God please consider a one year commitment to JLM. You may want to give \$100 or \$500 or \$1000 but a lump sum just isn't available. Break it down into 12 easy one month pieces of \$10, \$20, \$50 or \$100 each.

To join with us please go to page 10



Whether your financial gift is sown as a onetime seed or a monthly seed into JLM you are helping send the Word to the nations.

Thank you for your obedience to the Holy Spirit in 2017

I want to be a Word Sender and the Lord has directed us to partner with

you, Jeff and Audrey, to proclaim the Word of Faith unto Soteria.	
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Proclaiming the Word of Faith unto Soteria - Rom. 10:8-13



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