

Deuteronomy 11:14

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

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.

Analysis

The promise 'I will give you the rain of your land in his due season' establishes the rain-obedience connection. God specifies 'the first rain and the latter rain'—the Hebrew yoreh (יֹרֵחַ, autumn rain) softens ground for plowing and planting, while malkosh (מַלְכוֹשׁ, spring rain) swells grain before harvest. Both are essential for successful crops. The result: 'thou mayest gather in thy corn, and thy wine, and thine oil'—the agricultural triad representing complete provision. This isn't prosperity theology but covenant theology: God blesses covenant faithfulness with what His people need.

Historical Context

Palestinian agriculture absolutely depended on seasonal rains. The agricultural year began with first rains (October-November) enabling fall plowing and grain sowing. Spring rains (March-April) brought final growth before dry summer harvest. Without either, crops failed and famine resulted. Prophets later used drought as metaphor for divine judgment (1 Kings 17; Jeremiah 14; Joel 1). James 5:7 uses this imagery for patient waiting for Christ's return.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does recognizing that all provision ultimately comes from God affect stewardship of resources?
2. What is the New Testament equivalent of 'covenant blessing for obedience'—how does grace relate to consequences?
3. How should Christians understand material prosperity in light of passages like this?

Interlinear Text

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|---------------------|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------|
| וְנָתַתִּי י' | מָטָר | אֲרֻצְכָּם | בְּעֵתוֹ | יֹרֶה |
| That I will give | you the rain | of your land | in his due season | the first rain |
| H5414 | H4306 | H776 | H6256 | H3138 |
| וּמִלֵּק וְשׁ | וְאַסְפֹּתֶיךָ | דָּגְנְךָ | וְתִירְשֶׁךָ | וְיִצְהָרְךָ: |
| and the latter rain | that thou mayest gather | in thy corn | and thy wine | and thine oil |
| H4456 | H622 | H1715 | H8492 | H3323 |

Additional Cross-References

James 5:7 (Parallel theme): 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.

Leviticus 26:4 (Parallel theme): Then I will give you rain in due season, and the land shall yield her increase, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.

Deuteronomy 28:12 (Parallel theme): The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow.

Ezekiel 34:26 (Parallel theme): And I will make them and the places round about my hill a blessing; and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing.

Jeremiah 14:22 (Parallel theme): Are there any among the vanities of the Gentiles that can cause rain? or can the heavens give showers? art not thou he, O LORD our God? therefore we will wait upon thee: for thou hast made all these things.

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