

# Hebrews 6:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God:

## Analysis

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An agricultural metaphor: land receiving rain and producing useful crops 'receives blessing from God.' The rain represents God's gracious provision (gospel preaching, Spirit's work), and the expected response is fruitfulness. Reformed theology sees good works as evidence of true conversion, not its cause. The passive 'receives blessing' indicates God's sovereign distribution of favor, yet the land's productivity is essential.

## Historical Context

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Agricultural metaphors were common in Jewish wisdom literature. Jesus used similar imagery (Matthew 13, John 15), which would be familiar to the readers. Rain blessing good soil was a sign of covenant faithfulness in Deuteronomy.

## Related Passages

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**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

**John 3:16** — God's love and salvation

## Study Questions

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1. What 'fruit' should result from receiving the 'rain' of gospel truth and the Spirit's work?
2. How does this metaphor challenge the idea that professing faith without transformation is genuine?

## Interlinear Text

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γῆ γὰρ τοῦ πιοῦσα τοῦ ἐπ' αὐτῆς πολλάκις  
the earth For which drinketh which upon it oft  
G1093 G1063 G3588 G4095 G3588 G1909 G846 G4178

ἐρχόμενον ὑετόν καὶ τίκτουσα βοτάνην εὗθετον  
that cometh in the rain and bringeth forth herbs meet  
G2064 G5205 G2532 G5088 G1008 G2111

ἐκείνοις δι' οὓς καὶ γεωργεῖται μεταλαμβάνει εὐλογίας  
for them by whom and it is dressed receiveth blessing  
G1565 G1223 G3739 G2532 G1090 G3335 G2129

ἀπὸ τοῦ θεοῦ·  
from which God  
G575 G3588 G2316

## Additional Cross-References

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**Hosea 10:12** (Parallel theme): Sow to yourselves in righteousness, reap in mercy; break up your fallow ground: for it is time to seek the LORD, till he come and rain righteousness upon you.

**Isaiah 44:3** (Sin): For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty, and floods upon the dry ground: I will pour my spirit upon thy seed, and my blessing upon thine offspring:

**Psalms 126:6** (Parallel theme): He that goeth forth and weepeth, bearing precious seed, shall doubtless come again with rejoicing, bringing his sheaves with him.

**Psalms 24:5** (Sin): He shall receive the blessing from the LORD, and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

**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.

**Ezekiel 34:26** (Sin): 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.

**Leviticus 25:21** (Sin): Then I will command my blessing upon you in the sixth year, and it shall bring forth fruit for three years.

**Malachi 3:10** (Sin): Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it.

**Genesis 27:27** (Blessing): And he came near, and kissed him: and he smelled the smell of his raiment, and blessed him, and said, See, the smell of my son is as the smell of a field which the LORD hath blessed: