

James 5:18

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

Analysis

And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. Elijah prayed again, heaven gave rain, and the earth bore fruit. Persistent prayer reverses drought. James emphasizes that God responds to persevering intercession with tangible change.

Reformed believers see prayer as ordained means for God's providence. Elijah's example fuels hope for spiritual and physical renewal.

Historical Context

After Mount Carmel, Elijah prayed until clouds formed (1 Kings 18). James reminds diaspora believers that prayer can bring refreshing even after severe judgment.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. Where have you stopped praying before rain arrived?
2. How can you practically prepare for answered prayer?
3. What testimonies encourage you to pray again?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	πάλιν	προσηύξατο	καὶ	ὁ	οὐρανὸς	ὕετον	ἔδωκεν
And	again	he prayed	And	G3588	the heaven	rain	gave
G2532	G3825	G4336	G2532		G3772	G5205	G1325
καὶ	ἡ	γῆ	ἐβλάστησεν	τὸν	καρπὸν	αὐτῆς	
And	G3588	the earth	brought forth	G3588	fruit	G846	
G2532		G1093	G985		G2590		

Additional Cross-References

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.