



## Wondrous

What a wondrous time it is for you, believer in Christ.

We live in an age that the prophet Joel called the time of the *first month*. Metaphorically, it is the compacting of Israel's two rainy seasons – the former & latter rains – in a single era. I believe we have entered prophetically into this time. <sup>(Joel 2:23)</sup>

According to many rabbi scholars, apart from Israel's two known rainy seasons – *yoreh* and *malkish*' – there is a third rainy season in Israel that is overlooked by many but stated by the prophet Jeremiah as the *geshem*. <sup>(Jer. 5:24)</sup>

*-What does this mean?*

The *rain* in the Old Testament always signifies the Holy Spirit's ministry, gifts and power.

The *former rain* signifies, spiritually, the first outpour of the Holy Spirit in the day of Pentecost, where all the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit within to be born again and filled with the power of the Holy Spirit upon to be empowered for daily living and ministry.

The *latter rain* signifies, spiritually, the restoration of the ministry of the Holy Spirit exactly as in the days of the early church. This was known as the Azusa street revival in the US in the early 1900's, where a group of believers in Christ experienced the outpour of the Holy Spirit exactly as the disciples in the upper room. There are hundreds of documented miracles, healings, and moves of the Holy Spirit that came as a result. Prior to this event, the teaching and the ministry of the Holy Spirit had been lost for centuries.

The time of the *first month* signifies, spiritually, the third and last great outpour of the Holy Spirit. It's a time of the wondrous showing of the works of God's grace **through** this generation of believers in Christ like never before that will last until the second coming of Christ.

### **Joel 2:26, Young's Literal Translation**

You have eaten in plenty and being satisfied,  
And have praised the name of the Lord your God,  
Who has dealt *wondrously* with you;  
And not ashamed are My people to the age.

After the former rain, comes the latter rain and its restoration, and after the latter rain has restored, comes the former and latter rain together for the start of the wondrous era.

The word *wondrously* in the Hebrew is the word *pala'*, which means, “to be marvelous, wonderful, extraordinary” – in other words, it always describes the characteristics of tangible things done by the Holy Spirit that go far beyond human ability and the universal laws of physics. The noun form is the word *pele,* which means, “miracle working one.”

The translated Greek word is *megaleios* and it is used only one time in the entire New Testament, precisely in the Book of Acts in chapter two as a result of the giving of the Holy Spirit.

Notice in the context, that those who have eaten will have a perpetual satisfaction. These believers in Christ will have plenty like no other generation and be satisfied until the second coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. These will experience heaven on earth and all those around them will see how the Lord has dealt wondrously with them and their families. This is why they will call His name *Wonderful*. <sup>(Isa. 9:6)</sup>

Also in the context, whatever this eaten “food” is, is linked with praising the name of the Lord your God.

King David used the word *wondrously* three times in a single Psalm tied with praising the Lord. Actually, he repeated the same exact sentence three times:

**Psalm 107:8, 15, 21**

Oh that men would praise the Lord for his goodness, and for his wondrous works to the children of men!

Letting the Bible interpret itself, this feeding, resulting in perpetual satisfaction, is the feeding of the goodness of God – God’s grace. The greatest demonstration of God’s wondrous works that revealed His goodness is the finished work of Christ; it’s the Gospel of Grace.

These are a people who are not ashamed of the Gospel of Grace and continue to feed and feed on the sound doctrine of the full, unadulterated finished work of Christ. Not being ashamed of the grace of Christ, they will not be put to shame in their daily lives.

**James 5:7**

Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord. Behold, the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain.

There is mention of the early and latter rain by the apostle James in his epistle as he addresses the doubtful Jewish brothers who are stuck between following Christ and returning to Judaism.

Notice, the context is about waiting for the second coming of the Lord Jesus Christ as the farmer waits for the precious abounding fruit. Believer in Christ, be expectant for the precious fruit to abound in your life. This is how we’re supposed to wait for the coming Lord by – feed on His grace, abound in fruit in every area of your life and be the revival. Now go eat, have plenty, receive satisfaction and allow the Holy Spirit to flow God’s wondrous works through you.

**By Joyner Briceño**