

Kev's sermon notes for eGroups

Sunday, Nov 15, 2020 at 9:30 AM

Broadcasting from Ballantyne Campus – Charlotte, NC USA – **with a live audience**

Pastor: Steven Furtick

Sermon Title: "Wasted Rain – God's word does not override your thought process – There must be a forsaking before the fulfilling – Some of us have 18 trillion gallons of truth but what are we doing with it? – The Devil wants to drain you of the deposit that God put inside of you – Every drop has a destiny – Too much access makes us less grateful – The destiny of the seed depends on the rain – Rain brings revelation – Be a student of every storm – blame it on the rain - Are you going to waste the rain or are you going to extract wisdom from it?"

Elevation Worship + guest worship leaders from Maverick City Music (also see:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cNFr4kq2k7s>)

- "Lifted"
- "Rattle" - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xrAdbH28gIg>
- "Be Brave – You Do all things well – I will let a Rock Cry Out" – led by Maverick City Music
- Doxology – Lead by Maverick City Music
- New song "Jireh – You Are Enough" – led by Maverick City Music

Scripture for this week:

- **Isaiah 55: 8 to 10:** "6 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. 8 **"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord.** 9 **"As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.** 10 **As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it. without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,** 11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. 12 You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. 13 Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briers the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord's renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever."
- **Mathew 7: 24 to 28:** True and False Prophets - 15 "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. 16 By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? 17 Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. 18 A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. 19 Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. 20 Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them. True and False Disciples - 21 "Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?' 23 Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!' - The Wise and Foolish Builders - 24 "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them

into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. 25 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. 26 But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. 27 The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash.” 28 When Jesus had finished saying these things, the crowds were amazed at his teaching, 29 because he taught as one who had authority, and not as their teachers of the law.

- **James 5:17 to 18:** 17 Elijah was a human being, even as we are. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. 18 Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.
- **Luke 4:18 to 19** – 18 “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”
- Matthew 5:18 (KJV): For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled.
- **I Kings 16, 17, 18, and 19.**

Pastor: Steven Furtick - Sermon Title: “Wasted Rain – God’s word does not override your thought process – There must be a forsaking before the fulfilling – Some of us have 18 trillion gallons of truth but what are we doing with it? – The Devil wants to drain you of the deposit that God put inside of you – Every drop has a destiny – Too much access makes us less grateful – The destiny of the seed depends on the rain – Rain brings revelation – Be a student of every storm – blame it on the rain - Are you going to waste the rain or are you going to extract wisdom from it?”

- Please consider joining an eGroup (small group) so you don’t have to walk this walk alone? – See [www.elevationchurch.cc](http://www.elevationchurch.cc).
- Interested in leading an eGroup? See: [www.elevationchurch.cc](http://www.elevationchurch.cc).
- **Here comes church:**
  - Welcome the global family that joins us every week.
  - Year-end commitment offering – Recall video of Pastor Furtick and Holly Furtick for a year end offering – to give to the expansion in the movement of God – This year end offering is called **“The Favor Offering”** - that ends on 12/13/2020. – See Luke 4:19 – The year of Lord’s Favor – where the favor of God is not dependent on your circumstances. See Luke 4: 18 to 19: *“The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”*
  - An example of the good soil at the local church: Ministry recap by Youth Pastor Tim – on the launch of a digital format and social media + Youth YouTube channel + digital Rhythm Night. Recall the testimony of Eleanor from London and Sa’id from India – both 12 graders impacted by Rhythm night – targeting over 500k students to attend on-line eGroups.
  - The Blakeney Campus celebrates their 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
  - This week Elevation Church gave \$50K to the Heart of Honduras via Convoy of Hope.

- Prayer #1: Pastor Furtick's opening prayer: "Our father gives us many good gifts – and we receive these gifts in this moment – gifts of peace, joy, clarity, and hope – lift your hands wherever you are and receive this – and turn your palms to heaven – come into the presence of our God – who is filled with mercy, compassion, wisdom, and grace – Lord help us to receive this – we can worry but we do not necessarily have to - Jesus Christ is Lord – we can choose to worry but we do not have to – we have that option to worry but we also have this birthright – to worship you. Lord we look to you to give you all those things we are not supposed to carry – and the receive from you all those things that you are holding for us – all the things that you long to release in our heart – God would you speak it today – speak the truth over your children – more than you ask, speak, or imagine – according to Your mighty power – that was revealed when He raised Christ from the dead – and that power continues to live in us – Amen.
- Prayer #2 by Pastor Furtick: Thank you Lord for your presence. How many of you receive this? We are already loved and we are already chosen – How many are thankful for the new song "Jireh" by Maverick City Music Whoever? Thank you Chandler and Naomi from Brooklyn, NY. How much does He love me? To quote Robert Plant and Jimmy Page from Led Zeppelin – that is a 'whole lot of love." He is a great God – and He is both powerful and personal – and he will never love you more than He does in this moment - we don't even have to make a list of things that we need to get right before we win the favor of God – this only works with fake friends who grade you only on your performance – This is not how our Father is – We thank God for His presence – and His anointing – Today, we begin a season of generosity and sowing – and this' years word to rally around is the word "favor" – this is the year of the Lord's favor – See Luke 4:18 to 19 – 18 *"The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, 19 to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."* – we have to choose how we frame our lives – no one can make that decision for us – we can frame the last seven days with either frustration or favor – and God's grace and favor are there for you – regardless where you are watching from – and for those of you that are not at a physical campus today, we ordain you into the gospel ministry of Jesus Christ. Amen.
- **Recap from Reflect 2020 with Holly Furtick:**
  - *20 second recap from Holly Furtick's masterful unpacking of Jr 17 and Luke 1 in her sermon "Check Your Roots - You Can Do This – How to have roots that never fail to bear fruit – We need to have the root of acceptance in our lives otherwise we will abandon our calling at the first sign of trouble – You are enough to do what God called you to - But it will not be easy – Repetition and tension over time creates strength - act on things in the simplest and smallest ways – understand that power of attachment to confirm what is already is already known - Elephants are a matriarchal society and they protect each other by circling up to protect their own – affirmation comes from your own mouth"*
  - *"See Jer 17: 7-8: "But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in him. 8 They will be like a tree planted by the water that sends out its roots by the stream. It does not fear when heat comes; its leaves are always green. It has no worries in a year of drought and never fails to bear fruit."*
  - *This passage of scripture presents a picture of a person that is like a tree – we want to be a tree that has roots that go deep – no matter what the world throws at us– no matter what happens to us – we can still operate from a place of strength.*

- *Strong women do not happen by accident – anybody with killer abs doesn't eat French fries every day – it's all about the work they put in. Strength does not happen overnight - it happens over time – staying present – staying faithful – day in and day out – working on becoming the best version of yourself – and this is hard work – a tree does not grow overnight it takes time to put down roots – if you want to be strong and fight for the things that are important to you – you are going to have to have some roots – time under tension creates strength – the most important part about the tree happens below the surface – in places where people can't see – can we say at the end of 2020 that a lot of things got thrown at me - but I got through it - and I'm stronger for it?*
- *We have got to check our roots.*
- *Regardless of what Mary was doing when the angel spoke to her (that bible does not say), she was ready, willing, and able to do what God called her to do. Is your day so crowded and so noisy that God would need to strike lightning to get your attention? Self-care is important – however what if self-care also means that your calendar is not so full that you are overwhelmed all of the time? Like saying no to some things and taking a break from social media.*
- *Do you have any pockets of time where you can reflect, pray, and think about God – during a commute perhaps? What is the last thing you do before you go to bed? We have some vast treasure of on-line worship and bible resources – we can fill the spaces in our lives with some amazing things – however if you don't have a plan, we end up scrolling every second of the day. Make space in your life - Mary had space in her day for God. And let me say one thing when it comes to making space in our lives – some of us are letting church slip thru our fingers – nine months into the pandemic – church on Sunday morning with the family might have started to slip – and if we let these important things slip through your fingers – we might find ourselves in a very difficult storm - and without the root system to make it through – because we have not made God present in our lives.*
- *We need to have the root of acceptance in our lives otherwise we will abandon our calling at the first sign of trouble – and our calling is unique – we can either reject it or accept it.*
- *Sometimes we hide behind the idea of “I'm not good enough” or “I don't have what it takes” rather than just putting in the work – to live out what God called you to do. You are enough to do what God called you to – but it will not be easy – repetition over time creates strength.*
- *You're called to do whatever God has placed in your life right now – not “one day” when you have more money - not one day when you have your own house.*
- *You are called to the place you are right now – others need to see you walking confidently in the calling that God has given you – in your high school – at your home – at your work – others will see your strength and resilience.*
- *There will always be challenges – think about all of the challenges that Mary had to deal with – giving birth in a barn and watching her son experience pain, rejection, and a painful death.*
- *We can do hard things.*
- *Phil 4: 13: 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*
- *No calling is easy.*

- *Understand that power of attachment to confirm what is already is already known – just like Mary reached out to Elizabeth. Elephants are also a matriarchal society and kick the boys out – and even protect each other by circling up to protect their most vulnerable.*
- *It is a beautiful thing when others come around and surround someone with love and grace during a time of need – yes having roots does require to do somethings on our own – and you are going to need others to support you when things don't go your way.*
- *Surround yourself with a few people that are further along in their journey and can help you – and when Mary was in a barn giving birth to Jesus, she probably recalled the encouraging words of Elizabeth. Check your roots this evening. Who is cheering you on? Who has fought for you? Who has grieved for you? Take some time to dig into the roots of friendship tonight. Build this now and before the storm or the drought comes.*
- *Affirmation comes from your own mouth – this is good root building – Mary is a great example of this in Luke 1. Tap the roots that you cultivate – so the root system is available to you when then you need them.” See Mark 3: 20 to 31*
- The Favor Offering ends on 12/13/2020.
- See Isaiah 55: 8 to 10.
- Let's walk this “word” out together.
- Today's sermon title is “Wasted Rain.”
- Side note: During the recording of this sermon there were emergency notices all over North Carolina calling for flash flood warnings – and record rain fall.
- Isaiah said these words during the reign of a King that worshiped false profits.
- Before every sermon I used to pray this prayer of Isaiah 55 – to sort of put “heat” on God instead of myself – where I would say this is big and I am little - and I need you to make up the difference – clap those rainy wet hands if you believe this – for many years I have been praying this prayer out of context – In Isaiah 55, the profit is speaking to a people that are about to be taken into captivity – to prepare them for something that they are not even going through yet – and when we read Isaiah 55, it sounds refreshing and peaceful – and therefore it is easy to assume the context of the scripture is that God brings revival – Yes He is the God of revival, renewal, and resurrection – He is the God that sends rain into the parched areas of our lives – He is the God that brings about things that we are not able to conceive – However see vs. 6 – ““6 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord (*repentance means to turn around*), and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.”
- **In reflecting on Isaiah 55: 8 to 10 - Here is what I have learned over the years, the context of revival is repentance – before the rain comes there is repentance – If you love the word of God and you want the word of God to work inside of you today, know this - God's word does not override your thought process – before the rains come for the purposes by which they were sent, there must be a forsaking before there is a fulfilling – and I find this helpful because many times when God wanted to speak to me – I did not have room to receive it – we need to receive God's word to address our dysfunction – we need God's word to give us direction – because I don't want to spend more time cleaning up messes from my bad decisions – Seek God's direction for your life before you waste any more days – in order to receive God's word some of our thoughts**

need to be forsaken – Yes God’s word is free – but it will cost you your thoughts – it will cost you your opinions – it will cost you your preferences.

- **Best way to understand the Bible is to read what the Bible says about the Bible:**
  - God’s word reigns over our lives
  - God’s word is like honey and will brighten your eyes
  - God’s words is like pure milk – to nourish you during the infant stages of your faith – and then grow up and mature – and got off of the bottle.
  - The bible is also solid food for those that are mature in their faith.
  - Man does not lead by bread alone – but also from the mouth of God.
  - God’s Word is not just a post-it note on a mirror
  - God’s Word is meditation.
  - The Bible calls itself a sword. The Bible is at its best when it divides the bone marrow, soul and spirit – cutting through all of the clutter – cutting through all of the crap – fighting through all of the cynicism – it reminds us who we are apart from all of the layers of what life has tried to label us with.
  - The Bible is a surgical weapon and instrument.
  - The Bible is a lamp to our feet – not a flood light – just enough lite to show us the next step.
  - Jeremiah said that the word of God is like a fire and a hammer.
  - The Bible also says that the word of God is like rain.
  - The word of God is like a mirror.
- Recall Pastor Steven’s quote from Feb. 2019 in the LA Times: For a state that is so prone to droughts, California’s wet winter has dumped an estimated 18 trillion gallons of rain in Feb. 2019 – much of it was sent down the drain and into the ocean – a waste of water supply – for a region that is so concerned about drought – and until the supply can be directed to the place where it needs to be – there can even be a drought – even after a 18 trillion gallon rain storm.
- **Some of us have 18,000,000,000,000 gallons of notes and sermon notes of truth, but what are we doing with it? It is not about a shortage of God’s word – are you merely pasting spiritual quotes (and platitudes) over your struggles? Yes we always want a revelation and God does indeed speaks to us - and He does – Are you still discouraged even as God has been trying to encourage you all week? Why? Because it went down the drain – and I wonder what God has spoken over your life – in this season or in a previous season – that you have been letting go down the drain – into the pessimistic ocean – or in the case of CA – the pacific ocean - What a waste.**
- When God speaks, he supplies all of your needs – it’s OK to ignore people because we all say too much – and so much of God’s word goes down the drain – in fact after you receive this message today the devil will conceive of three different distractions and prevent you from digesting what He gave you - that will help to re-direct this sermon down the drain – so that the deposit is drained from you and you stay dehydrated – and remain in a state of drought.
- **The bible says Man does not live by bread alone – but also from the mouth of God – and we can’t digest Gods word if we have a “jacked up” thought process. If you are a pessimist you will always hear God’s word as if it applies to someone else – or you will only hear the parts of God’s word that reinforce your emotional biases. If your heart is rooted in suspicion, then you will transfer that same suspicion to the scriptures - and you will come to scriptures convincing yourself that you know scriptures – but you do not know Him. Until God’s word gets into your**

thought process, a post-it note on a mirror will not be effective. God's word is meditation – now what have you been doing with all of the water that God has been sending you?

- The bible calls itself a sword – did you know that? – it is not only a sword that you can fight your enemy with - it is also the sword that pierces you – scripture tells us that it is a double edged sword – so we don't go around attacking people by quoting scripture that we think that only applies to other people and another situations – where we only know those bible verses that apply to the struggles of other people - The Bible is at its best when it divides the bone marrow, soul, and spirit – cutting through all of the clutter – cutting through all of the crap – fighting through all of the cynicism – it reminds us who we are apart from all of the layers of what life has tried to label us with.
- The Bible is a lamp to our feet – not a flood light – just enough lite to show us the next step – God cannot be calculated or predicted – God will certainly not comply with our GPS coordinates as to where we think God is.
- Jeremiah said that the word of God is like a fire and a hammer.
- The Bible also says that the word of God is like rain – but if I'm honest, I have to confess something to you: I like the Honey. I like the sword of God (when I am holding it). But we don't like the rain and we don't like the snow – the snow and the rain are inconvenient – perhaps the most effective things that God speaks over our lives will also be the most inconvenient? – and I wonder if we only associate God's word with comfort? – and realize that most of the things that God brings forth in our lives – the things that we forsake – the really good sermons and words from God – that are inconvenient to us – where we say things like: we can no longer hold on to this offense or we can no longer hold onto this grudge or we can no longer assign blame to someone.
- Just like the 18,000,000,000,000 gallons that fell on a land that needed it, God is always speaking to your life – not just right now – God is speaking to you through the challenges that causes you to rely on His grace – much like the thorns that afflicted Paul (Kev note: See 2<sup>nd</sup> Corr 12). God is speaking to you through the people that stayed in your life – He always has you and He has always got you – He is speaking to you – are you wasting the rain?
- If your thought processes are framed by the world, you can't receive the word – and just like Isaiah 55, ask God for your heart to hear His word – so that we do not waste the rain.
- Every time God speaks it comes with a purpose – this is what Isaiah said – it is the purpose of God that is wrapped in the word – we think of it as being a sedative however it is meant to be surgical.
- See again Is 55: “6 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. 7 Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon. 8 “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. 9 “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it. without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater.
- In Isaiah 55, we are told to water our thoughts – when we water the wrong thoughts – and the wrong suggestions – they take over our lives. We waste the rain when our emotions are overrun with fear, doubt, and anxiety.
- See vs 11.

- Like the rain and the snow – When talking about rain and snow that serves two purposes – one to germinate and one to reap – both are necessary – what Isaiah is saying here is the rain comes down to do what it supposed to do and so does God’s word.
- When God speaks to you, it does not return void – it accomplishes what He desires and achieves the purpose He sent it – and we do not realize this until later – when God sends us a word He sends it for a purpose – and this is good for us to know. God is too intentional to not take this issue seriously – do not waste his word.
- See Is 55: “11 so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it. 12 You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands. 13 Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper, and instead of briars the myrtle will grow. This will be for the Lord’s renown, for an everlasting sign, that will endure forever.”
- **See Matthew 5:18 (KJV version): For verily I say unto you, Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one tittle shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled. All 18 trillion jot and tittles from God has a reason. Everyone of the jot and tittles has an assignment – even when God rambles it is still a revelation. God uses all things and every drop – every drop has a destiny – God has not given you all of this so that you could waste it the rain – have you taken for granted what God has put in your life?**
- **Because the word of God is so accessible, I think it makes us all less grateful – do you think we have faith fatigue because we have so many viewing options?**
- Every word of God has a purpose in the destiny of the seed is dependent on the rain – and in that is everything that we need to know about life – that there was a part of it that we can’t control and there’s a part of it that we can control.
- The word of God is like a mirror.
- **So that review: the work of God is honey, milk, meat, bread water, a sword, and a mirror. And everything that I just listed does no good without a response – honey, milk, meat, and bread don’t work unless we eat or drink it – a mirror does not help unless we do something about what we see in it. The word of God is relational and dependent on your response – as to how powerful it becomes in your life.**
- This explains why some people sit through a sermon and look at their watch because it doesn’t mean that much to them – and other people will cry through the whole sermon.
- What does the world God mean to you?
- It is powerful but its personal when God speaks into your life.
- God does not waste words and does not waste rain.
- **Here is the main point: The reign of God and the rain of God bring revelation – to show what was already there. And some of can’t receive it because we are so full of insecurity. Are we so full of what we know about ourselves that we can’t receive the revelation? – where we start limiting our opportunities to the level of our insecurities – said another way, we wasted the rain – because there was nothing in the ground that allows the rain to come forth.**
- Have you been wasting the rain – God has been trying to water His thoughts in your life.
- This year has been rainy.

- **Do you know the difference between Is 55 rain and Mathew 7 rain? Mathew 7 rain has to do with the trials of life (a difficult divorce, a wayward daughter that is not returning your calls, this pandemic, emotional state that you can't untangle, etc.)**
- See Mathew 7: 24 to 28 where Jesus is closing his Sermon on the Mount – and he is talking about how God's kingdom works and how the empires of men work – and contrasts a picture.
- I know that you know that God is powerful – but is God personal to you?
- We can't be filled with the words of Jesus if we are so full of the words from the world – this a fancy of way saying to turn off your phone every once in a while and listen from the voice from within – so you do not waste the rain.
- Did the Mathew 7 rain come to your life this year?
- Is 55 rain is similar to truth and life.
- Because the house had its foundation on the rock, it survived the winds and the rain.
- **God says the same rain that comes from His mouth reveals what is in the dirt to begin with – the rain that comes during the trials of your life reveal what is beneath the surface. Rain brings revelation – therefore – don't waist it. The same rain that we shout about is the same rain that tests you to see if the word is in your heart – so that we are good stewards and students of every storm – so that we do not waste the rain.**
- **Everyone that hears what God spoke and will not let it go – and won't let it drain into the pacific ocean or the pessimistic ocean – the drain of discouragement – that drain of depression – that drain of the despair – some of us can't hold onto it got word of God for five minutes before it drains into the ocean – 18 trillion gallons of truth God sent us – Jesus Chris – the word made flesh – going down the drain – and rain reveals what your house was really built on – When you hit a storm, become a student of the storm – because the rain will always bring you revelation.**
- **We tend to always want to run from the rain – by drinking and taking pills – so that we do not have to deal with what caused it – we should not run from what God is telling us what our life is really built on – as the rain comes, it shows us what our houses are built on – and it has been a rainy year during this pandemic – are you going to waste the rain? See Mathews 7:26 - From the foundation of your life, God tells us that I (God) am the one that your life is built on – because the same rain that showed how strong the foundation was – is the same rain that washed way cliques and sermon notes that we never took to heart – the same rain that will wash away those that have been going to church for 20 years – yet they still harbor racism in their heart – everyone that hears these words and does not put them into practice – this is a foolish man that has all of this abundant information and no revelation.**
- See vs. 27 – The rain can show us that we built on the wrong foundation. Are we going to continue to build on the same faulty foundation that caused us to crash the first time?
- Are you going to waste the rain or are you going to extract wisdom from it?
- Recall the reign if the powerful King Ahab – and took a wife that worshiped a different God – and when Elijah spoke the word of God, the water stopped coming – to rebuild the word of God on the correction foundation – the rain revealed the rock – to remind us that our life needs to be built on something solid – to that we do not live on an unstable ground – where Elijah went back to Ahab after 3.5 year to tell him to stop wasting his reign – and then Elijah called down fire to kill off all of the false profits
- See I Kings 16, 17, 18, and 19.

- Stop having these negative words take root in your heart.
- See James 5:17 – and then the earth produced its crops.

Charles Spurgeon Moment: NOVEMBER 19 MORNING AVOID FOOLISH CONTROVERSIES. TITUS 3:9 Our days are few and are far better spent in doing good than in disputing over matters that are, at best, of minor importance. The old scholars did a world of mischief by their incessant discussion of subjects of no practical importance; and our churches suffer too often from petty wars over obscure points and unimportant questions. After everything has been said that can be said, neither party is any the wiser, and therefore the discussion promotes neither knowledge nor love, and it is foolish to sow in so barren a field. Questions about issues on which Scripture is silent, on mysteries that belong to God alone, on prophecies of doubtful interpretation, and on mere modes of observing human ceremonials are all foolish, and wise men avoid them. Our business is neither to ask nor answer foolish questions, but to avoid them altogether; and if we observe the apostle's precept (Titus 3:8) to be careful to maintain good works, we will find ourselves occupied with so much profitable business that we will have no time to take much interest in unworthy, contentious, and needless strivings. Do I believe in the Lord Jesus Christ? Am I renewed in the spirit of my mind? Am I walking not after the flesh but after the Spirit? Am I growing in grace? Does my behavior adorn the doctrine of God my Savior? Am I looking for the coming of the Lord and watching as a servant should who expects his master? What more can I do for Jesus? Such inquiries as these demand our urgent attention; and if we have been given at all to frivolous arguments, let us now turn our critical abilities to a much more profitable service. Let us be peacemakers and endeavor to lead others both by our precept and example to "avoid foolish controversies."