

## Into the Harvest 4380

Proclamation: Isaiah 55:10–11

### I. The Harvest = The End Of The Age (Matt. 13:39)

The climax—that to which all activities are directed

- A. Be patient—requires the early and latter rain (James 5:7–8)
  - 1. Harvest synchronizes with the coming of the Lord
  - 2. Impatience—form of pride, expecting things to go “my way”
  - 3. Rain:
    - a. Prepares the ground to receive seed
    - b. Causes seed to germinate
- B. Rain is given for the sake of the harvest (Jer. 5:23–24)
  - 1. Much of today’s Christianity is self-centered—a distortion of the gospel
  - 2. We should be asking (like Paul):
    - a. Who are you, Lord? (Acts 9:5)
    - b. What will you have me do? (Acts 22:10)
  - 3. Jesus: Tell him what great things he must suffer for My sake!
  - 4. What is prosperity?
    - a. Joshua: “you will be prosperous” (Josh. 1:8)—entered the land in warfare; engaged in forced marches; prolonged fighting; risked his life *but* he accomplished the will of God successfully
    - b. Paul: “prosperous journey to Rome” (Rom. 1:10 KJV)—prisoner in chains; violent, prolonged storm; shipwrecked; bitten by snake *but* a prosperous journey
    - c. Definition: Successfully accomplishing the will of God in the face of fierce opposition
  - 5. Fear of the Lord (Jer. 5:23–24)
    - a. The greatest blessings are to those who fear the Lord
    - b. If you’re dissatisfied, you lack the fear of the Lord (Prov. 19:23)
    - c. “Lord, help me cultivate the fear of the Lord”
  - 6. “He reserves for us the weeks of the harvest”—not months, but weeks
    - a. Baptism and gifts of the Holy Spirit are to equip for the harvest
    - b. A supernatural attestation of the gospel for the harvest
- C. Two successive harvests (Rev. 14:14–20):
  - 1. Grain—salvation
  - 2. Grapes—judgment (grapes of wrath)
  - 3. Judgment follows immediately after salvation
    - v. 20—blood to the bridles of the horses for 184 miles
- D. Fields are white for the harvest (John 4:35–36)—meaning dry, ready to perish if not reaped
- E. Jesus: We must work the works of Him who sent us while it is still day—*for night is coming . . .* (John 9:4)

### II. Application

- A. He who sleeps in harvest causes shame (Prov. 10:5)

- B. The Judgment Seat of Christ (2 Cor. 5:10; Rom. 14:10)
  - 1. Receive what is due us for the things done in the body, whether good or bad
  - 2. *Whatever* you do in word or deed, *do all*
    - a. In the name of the Lord Jesus
    - b. Giving thanks to God (Col. 3:17)
  - 3. Either positive or negative—no other option
  - 4. Knowing the terror of the Lord we persuade men:
    - a. We are eternal beings
    - b. We have an eternal destiny
- C. Matt. 25:14–30—Parable of the Talents:
  - 1. We must each account for our talents
  - 2. God expects *increase* (100%)
  - 3. Judgment of servant with one talent
  - 4. “Deposit with the bankers” = Invest in another man’s ministry
  - 5. *Honor* of being a servant