

The Last Message and Manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy—Is it the Rod or the Branch?

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Question: What develops, fits, seals, saves, and leads the 144,000 saints into the kingdom?

Answer:

1. “. . . The term "latter" denotes the last rain before the harvest, the rain that *completes maturity* and that *ripens* the grain.”— 1 TG 17:3.2
2. “Without this latter rain the saints could not *develop* for the heavenly garner, . . . *Just as soon* as this final touch of *development* is accomplished, the sickle is to be put to the precious golden grain.”— *Id.*, p. 4.0
3. “. . . It is sent to give you the *development* which you need, and *to enable you to survive* the great and dreadful day of the Lord, the Judgment for the Living. . . . Inspiration makes it as clear as can be made that not a soul (not one blade of grass), can be *fit* for the Kingdom ("barn") *if it fails* to absorb this rain of Truth.”— *Id.*, p. 7.1
4. “Here is conveyed the thought that *this character-building* and *wisdom* and light-*imparting* "rain" that *fits* one for the society of Heaven . . .”— *Id.*, p. 7.3
5. “The latter rain of Truth, therefore, is *the very last*, the one that is to *develop* the people of God for the harvest . . .”— *Id.*, p. 3.3

These five passages irrefutably establish “the latter rain” as the sole force that *develops, fits, seals, and saves* the 144,000 for “the harvest,” “the Judgment,” “the heavenly garner” the Kingdom, and “for the society of heaven.” Hence these passage preclude *any possibility* of their being *any other force* to play the least part in the final developing, sealing, and saving of the saints. This “latter rain,” whatever it is, does the *complete* work, *entirely unaided* by any subsequent message.

Question: “. . . What is symbolized by the “latter rain”? . . .” — *Id.*, p. 4.0

Answer:

1. “Plainly, then, the "latter rain" is *miracle-working Truth* that causes the saints to *mature* for the harvest of which the 144,000 are the first fruits (Rev. 14:4).” — *Id.*, p. 4.2

Inspiration affirms in the scriptures, in the *Testimonies for the Church*, and in the *Rod*, and reason confirms, that God sends a message, a revelation of truth in His Church, only

through the agency of the Spirit of Prophecy. To all Davidian Seventh-day Adventists, this is unalterable foundation truth.

It follows therefore that the Rod, “the *very last*” message “*before* the harvest,” is necessarily also the *very last* manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy before the harvest or, equivalently, before the purification of the Church, before the great and dreadful day of the Lord, before the judgment of the living.

2. “. . . bright clouds suggest a gentle rain . . .” — *Id.*, p. 5.1
3. Obviously “bright clouds” represent agencies conveying *Truth* which they scatter *everywhere* in the Lord’s vineyard—over *every* church member—“every one grass,” wheat or tare.” — *Id.*, pp. 4, 5.
4. “. . . bright clouds stand for a source of small, easily comprehended *Truth-laden publications* [the *Rod*’s manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy] packed with ‘meat in due season’ . . .” — *Id.*, p. 5.2 [brackets added]
5. “. . . the latter rain, as Joel shows, is directly applicable to the *last* message—the message of *today* (Joel 2:23). Thus only (with the *former* rain being the writings of Sister White, and the “*latter* rain” being the *Rod*) can both former and latter fall at the same time, as required by Joel 2:23. . . .” — *Answerer* No. 1, pp. 87, 88.
6. “. . . Thus it is that never before has the world witnessed so much absolutely free literature scattered away as this literature is. Millions! So it is that these small comprehensive publications [the *Rod*’s manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy], the bright clouds, laden with present Truth [the *Rod* message], are now [1946] being scattered as leaves of autumn throughout Laodicea to every church member, “to every one grass” in the vineyard of the Lord. . . .” — 1 TG 17:5.3 [brackets added]
7. “. . . It [the latter rain—the *Rod*] is sent to give you the *development* which you need, and to *enable* you to *survive* the great and dreadful day of the Lord, the Judgment for the Living. . . . Inspiration makes it as clear as can be made that not a soul (not one blade of grass), *can be fit* for the Kingdom (“barn”) if it fails to absorb this rain of Truth.” — *Id.*, p. 7.1 [brackets added]
8. “. . . the latter rain, as Joel shows, is directly applicable to the *last* message—the message of *today* (Joel 2:23). . . . (with the *former* rain being the writings of Sister White, and the “*latter* rain” being the *Rod*) . . .” — *Answerer* No. 1, pp. 87, 88.

Plainly, therefore, the latter rain, the *Rod*, is the Spirit of Prophecy. Let none lose sight of this fact. And as the latter rain, the *Rod*, is “the last,” “the very last,” “before the harvest,” then it inexorably follows that the *Rod* is “the last,” “the very last,” manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy before the harvest. Let all squarely face this fact and settle the question once and for all.

9. “. . . ‘the latter rain’ — the additional message.” — Tract No. 14, p. 41.1.

10. “. . . the latter rain’ is . . . the last message, is . . . ‘a teacher of righteousness,’ a final outpouring of Present Truth . . .”— *Answerer* No. 1, p. 90.3.

Mark well this all important fact that the *Rod* of God, *not* the branch of Roden, is “the *additional message*,” the “*final outpouring* of Present Truth”— the *final* manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy. This makes the branch a bogus branch, an out-pouring of *present untruth*, a manifestation of the false Spirit of Prophecy, of penetrating deception, of saturating, soul-destroying delusion.

11. “. . . the latter rain,” the last message, is ‘a teacher of righteousness,’ bringing to the recipient *full* knowledge of Truth, righteousness.” — *Answerer* No. 1, p. 90.1.

12. “. . . this Teacher of Righteousness *must bring* the saints to the *full stature* of men in Christ Jesus (Eph. 4:13)—fit them for the Kingdom.” — *Answerer* No. 1, p. 90.2.

Without contest these last two passages (No. 11 and No. 12) conclusively establish the *certainty* that Christ’s Rod, not Roden’s branch, brings the saints to “*full* knowledge of truth,” “*full* knowledge of righteousness,” and “*full* stature” of ministry “in Christ,” *fitted* “for the Kingdom” — in other words, to *full, finished, saving* revival and reformation.

In the full focus of this twelvefold inspired testimony, “the latter rain” is seen to be *exclusively* the message of the *Rod* of God,—“the last,” “the *very last*,” manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy to effect (initiate, advance, and consummate) saving revival and reformation among God’s people, thus again exposing the fraudulence of the branch and its offshoots.

With Inspiration’s thus in the absolute establishing the *Rod* as the “character building” and “wisdom and light-imparting” truth, “the teacher of righteousness,” “the last,” “the *very last*,” message and manifestation of the Spirit of Prophecy which God uses to bring the saints “to *full* maturity,” to “*full* knowledge of Truth, righteousness,” to saving revival and reformation, thus giving them “the development” to “fit them” to service “for the kingdom” and “for the society of Heaven,” the branch’s bold claims to be and to do

precisely all that Inspiration declares to *Rod* to be and to do, makes the Roden branch a bogus branch — a fraud and a cheat.

For every clear-thinking and honest seeking mind, the fact that Inspiration thus over and over, repeatedly, establishes the *Rod* as “the *very last*” message and thus the one and only force which *exclusively* does *everything* for the saints, proves conclusively that it leaves *precisely nothing* redemptive, *positively nothing*, for any other message—branch or whatever—to do, except to “deceive the very elect” “if it were possible.”

≈ End of Study ≈

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact us anytime.

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