

11/2/17

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

When I graduated from the Seminary, my first church was in North Dakota. After finding out where I was going to serve the Lord, I called the congregational president. At the very beginning of the conversation, he said, “We haven’t had any rain for over a month. If it doesn’t rain soon, you don’t have to come to our church. If it rains soon, you can come to our church.” I really didn’t know how to take what he said. I thank the Lord that He did send rain, so I could serve Him in North Dakota. I learned quickly that rain was a blessing from our Lord out there on the prairie. Now that I live in Florida, I see people take rain for granted.

Rain always produces what the Lord wants it to. He sends it. He uses it for the good of all people. God’s Word always produces what the Lord wants it to just like the rain. He sends it through us Christians. God’s Word will always accomplish what He wants it to.

“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, 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.” Isaiah 55:10-11

Well, the rain makes the earth bud and flourish if God sends it at the right time, in the right amount. Farmers plant their crops, then they might get too much rain, and the seed washes out. They have to replant. Ultimately, the rain accomplishes what God desires. No, we don’t always understand why he does what he does, but we have his promise that he’ll do what’s best for his people in every situation. What we can say for sure is that the rain always accomplishes God’s purpose.

As the rain always accomplishes God's purpose, so does the Word of God. Oh, we may not always recognize all that it's accomplishing. Nor may we always understand why it accomplishes what it does. That's okay. God makes his Word powerful. He causes it to do what he wants it to do.

Thankfully, God who causes his Word to achieve its purpose is our God who describes himself as "love." He lived, died, and rose for us, winning forgiveness for us. In love, he will make sure that his Word accomplishes exactly what is best.

Prayer: *Holy Spirit, use your powerful Word to accomplish mighty things, both in me, and in the world. Amen.*

(WELS E-Devotion adapted)

...See you in church.

Keep looking up because the Lord is always looking down – Psalm 121

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