

THE TWO HARVESTS

SALVATION OR JUDGEMENT

DEREK PRINCE

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Chapter 1

Water for Harvest

Harvest is a major theme of Scripture that runs right through the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. The principle of the harvest is first introduced in the time of Noah, with God's promise to Noah that as long as the earth remains, seed-time and harvest will remain (Genesis 8:22). Harvest is also a major part of the teaching of the Bible regarding the last days – in both Jesus' teaching and in the book of Revelation.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF HARVEST

To understand the significance of the harvest in the last days, we will begin in the book of Deuteronomy. In that book of the Bible, Moses

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is giving instructions to Israel just before they enter the land of Canaan. His instructions are very thorough concerning how they are to conduct themselves if they are to enjoy the benefits and blessings of the inheritance into which God is taking them. In Deuteronomy 11:13–14, Moses is quoting the Lord as he addresses Israel:

“And it shall be that if you earnestly obey My commandments which I command you today, to love the Lord your God and serve Him with all your heart and with all your soul, then I will give you the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil.”

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Israel had just come out of Egypt, which is essentially a flat country where there is relatively little rain. Therefore, the main source of water in Egypt is not rain, but the River Nile. In Egypt the farmers have a device called a *shadoof*, or well pole, which consists of an upright frame with a bucket on a rope. The farmers dip the bucket into the water of the Nile and then pour it into little channels that direct the water to the crops.

WATER FOR HARVEST

In a certain sense, the water was under their control while they lived in Egypt. However, Moses told Israel that when they got into the land God was giving them, the water would not be easily available like it was in Egypt.

Canaan is a land of hills and valleys, and it receives rain from heaven. Therefore, the rain would *not* be under their control – they would not be able to get the water any time they wanted it. In this situation, *if* they were obedient and faithful to God, He would give them the rain they needed. In Canaan, the water would now be under God's control and not theirs.

There would also be an additional factor.

RAIN IN SEASON

Almost invariably in the Bible, the promise of the rain is joined with the promise of the harvest, because the harvest depended on the rain. This is ultimately true, of course, in every nation. But it is much more true in the land of Israel. In Israel there are really only two seasons: a hot, dry season and a cold, wetter season. There is very little spring, and virtually no autumn that can be noticed.