

# ***Come Lord Jesus and Bring Refreshing!***

By Rev. Greg Creasy

Have you ever been really thirsty? I remember a few times in my life when I really needed a drink of water. My mouth was so dry that it felt like cotton. And how about this dry summer? I can't remember when we have had such a dry spell. The ground is dry, the rivers are down, the lakes are low...we just need rain. Such dry times are common...whether personal thirst or a thirsty land...they will come.

Let me ask you about another thirst. Have you ever been in a spiritual drought? Have you had a time when you were dry spiritually? Listen to this description in the scriptures...*O God, you are my God, earnestly I seek you; my soul thirsts for you, my body longs for you, in a dry and weary land where there is no water* (Psalms 63:1, NIV). I know that I have had times in my life when I have been spiritually thirsty. It can happen to the any of us. We go through times when we are in despair and can't see that spiritual rain will ever come. And just like weather drought when the air is dry has a hard time producing rain, our lives can get caught in a cycle of spiritual drought. What can change this cycle? How can we experience refreshing once again?

Listen to the prophet Hosea:

*“Come, let us return to the LORD. He has torn us to pieces but he will heal us; he has injured us but he will bind up our wounds. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will restore us, that we may live in his presence. Let us acknowledge the LORD; let us press on to acknowledge him. As surely as the sun rises, he will appear; he will come to us like the winter rains, like the spring rains that water the earth”*

(Hosea 6:1 – 3, NIV).

These verses give us a simple call. First, we are called to “return to the Lord.” When we have been away, we have need to come back to the place where we put God first and seek God's face with our whole life. We come to experience the restoration of God's hand in our lives. We all need to be restored in some way. Part of this restoration comes in the form of repentance and forgiveness of sin. It comes in realizing our need for God in all aspects of our lives. This takes action on our part. We must *“acknowledge the Lord and press on to acknowledge him.”* We must take an active part in moving toward our God who loves us and has the capacity to bring healing and wholeness to our lives.

Second, we must be open to the change that comes with the refreshing of God. It is sure to come, but we must be ready to receive it. *“Like the spring rains that water the earth”* we are assured of God's refreshing coming into our lives. Don't you love it when you get a drink of water when you are thirsty? Don't you love it when you feel spiritually rejuvenated and refreshed? It can be true in your life today! You just need to open your heart and life to the presence of God's Spirit in your life and allow the rain waters to come. This kind of refreshing usually begins with individuals and then spreads to groups of people. I know that if we individually open our lives to the refreshing of Jesus Christ, it will begin a cycle of refreshing and new life in our church. It is my prayer that God will begin this in you! Come to the Lord...Open your life to Him...Receive refreshing in your heart and life today!

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