

Is anything too hard for the Lord? – Weather Calamities?

Genesis 18:14

14. (With regard to Sarah having a child) “Is any thing too hard for the Lord?”

Jeremiah 32:27

27. Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh: is there any thing too hard for me?

Weather is generally defined as the condition of the atmosphere about us. As such, we are constantly in contact with weather and thereby constantly affected. Weather is one of the most discussed subjects along with religion and politics, but remains the one least influenced. Two people may be at the same place at the same time and still disagree as to whether the weather is agreeable or not. However, we can all generally agree when we have had too much or too little rainfall, wind, temperature, sunshine, or cloudy days. Usually too much of one thing, or extreme conditions are considered as “bad” weather. This may partially explain why God created the seasons. But, in most cases, weather extremes produce undesirable living conditions and may become disastrous. Let’s consider some weather “Calamities” in light of their potential to harm and God’s ability to help.

Whatever the cause of our Weather Calamity, the question is: Is any weather condition too hard for the Lord? The same Lord God who made the heaven and the earth?

TOO MUCH RAINFALL/FLOODING:

- **BIBLICAL EXAMPLE:** *The Israelites begin their entrance into Canaan via the Jordan River*
Joshua 3:6-17 And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, And pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people. 7. And the Lord said unto Joshua, 8. And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, *ye shall stand still in Jordan.* 9. And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the Lord your God. 10. And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God is among you..... 11. Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan. 12. Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man. 13. And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, that the waters of Jordan shall be cut off from the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap. 15. And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (*for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,*) 16. That the waters which came down from above stood and rose up upon an heap...failed, and were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho. 17. *And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the Lord stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan,* and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

- **Application for us:** Locally, flooding is an annual concern. Some of those listening to or reading this lesson may have experienced the disaster of a flood. Your home or business may have received damage by floodwaters. Personal items may have been lost forever. People dear to you may have suffered, even to the extent of death. However, please be reminded of the faith and courage required of the priests in stepping into a flooded river, and the people’s faith in walking through a wall of flood waters. Be aware also that God is able to *dry up the waters* for you and care for you in a dangerous situation. The key is to always do what God has commanded and use the common sense he has given you to make good decisions in dangerous situations. Do not tempt or try God to see if he is looking or able to deliver. With God all things are possible.

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DROUGHT & FAMINE:

- BIBLICAL EXAMPLE:

Deuteronomy 8:15. Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, wherein were fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where there was no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint; (See Exodus 17:1-6 & Numbers 20:5-12)

James 5:17-18 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of *three years and six months*. 18. And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit.

- **Application for us:** Remember the “dustbowl” ?...Serve God as good stewards of his earth. Preserve blessings when plentiful, and trust him always.

Proverbs 6:6-8 6. Go to the ant, thou sluggard; consider her ways, and be wise: 7. Which having no guide, overseer, or ruler, 8. Provideth her meat in the summer, and gathereth her food in the harvest.

Isaiah 58:10-11 And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noonday:

11. And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

WIND CONDITIONS:

- BIBLICAL EXAMPLE:

Mark 4:35-41 35 And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side. 36. And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships. 37. And *there arose a great storm of wind*, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full. 38. And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, *Master, carest thou not that we perish?* 39. And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40. And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith? 41. And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that *even the wind and the sea obey him?*

- Application for us: God created nature therefore he can control nature. A windstorm on the sea is rebuked by his voice. Would a tornado be less responsive to his command? Jesus *does* care whether or not we perish. We *must possess faith* in order to be pleasing to Jesus. Although we are subject to the laws of nature, we are of more value than nature. “Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.” Matthew 24:35

When confronted with weather calamities, whether flooding, drought, tornado, hurricane, or earthquake, remember that nothing is too hard for God. Sometimes God may not choose to intervene, other times God may provide relief for us. However, in all situations, we must trust that God will do what is best.

Comforting thoughts....

- We are valuable to Jesus

Matthew 10:29-31 29. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. 30. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31. Fear ye not therefore, ye are of more value than many sparrows.

- There is a time and place where calamities will be no more

Revelation 21:5 And he that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new. And he said unto me, Write: for these words are true and faithful.