



*"Put your faith in a God who regains, not in others who are just whether men."*

## Rain Rain Go Away

This has been the wettest summer on record for our county. It was double the normal amount of 24 inches. It seemed like it rained every day. This past Labor Day weekend, a section of the county had 10 inches of rain in about hour. With no warning, it caused flash flooding. Little brooks had a force to carry concrete stairs, turn over cars and even sweep a modern two-story home away. Many roads became impassable. It came so quickly, that a man who was pumping gas had no time to move his car. There was a video of a little girl, in a split-level home, saying "Mommy, there is a river in our living room." The mother cried, "We have to run to the second floor!"

The day after that rain, I had to go through a section of the flooded area. I was surprised by the amount of damage. [Here is a video](#) of where I passed through the area. Our Governor toured the affected area and he cried. A week later, when I returned to the same area, the roads and homes were still all torn up. The real sad part of this is that these people had no warning and no reason to have flood insurance.

Just about a year before, [Hurricane Maria](#) wasted Puerto Rico killing thousands. They are still trying to recover. This year [Hurricane Florence](#) ripped through North Carolina and other states. Many places received record-breaking rainfall, with more than 30 inches measured in some locations. At least 40 deaths were attributed to the storm and damage is currently estimated at more than \$17 billion. As I was preparing this devotional, [Category 4 Hurricane Michael](#) hit causing 29 deaths and leaving a large area looking like an atomic bomb exploded. My wife's grandmother lived in the Wilkes-Barre area during the 1972 [Hurricane Agnes](#). She had enough warning to get out but she lost everything.

During World War II, rain had plagued Patton's army throughout the Moselle and Saar Campaigns for over three months. On December 8, 1944, Patton called his Chief Chaplain for a prayer to stop the rain and for a Training Letter on prayer. This was the prayer that Patton approved and was sent to all his soldiers: "Almighty and most merciful Father, we humbly beseech Thee, of Their great goodness, to restrain these immoderate rains with which we have had to contend. Grant us fair weather for Battle. Graciously hearken to us as soldiers who call upon Thee that armed with Thy power, we may advance from victory to victory, and crush the oppression and wickedness of our enemies and establish Thy justice among men and nations." The prayer was successful. Read this event and Patton's comments on prayer at [The True Story of The Patton Prayer](#) by Msgr. James H. O'Neill [pattonhq.com/prayer.html](http://pattonhq.com/prayer.html).

There are over 700 verses about weather in the Bible. This includes God keeping Noah, his family and the animals safe during the flood in Genesis 6-8. Then, God brought rain at Elijah's request at Mount Carmel I Kings 18. Jesus calmed the storm and waves in Mark 4. God still controls the weather.

Weather storms, relationship storms, physical storms, and financial storms all will come. But God can prevent, protect, preserve, and provide for us from, during, and after these storms of life. "And Jesus arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. And He said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?" Mark 4:39,40

Let's look and see how we can help those being affected by the storms of life.



Charles L Stambaugh

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