

Hosea 10:12

TIME TO SEEK JEHOVAH

- I. Figure of a farmer's fields left uncultivated and the ground is hard so the rains run off and do not soak in. Cannot produce.
- II. Each part of a child of God is to be cultivated and nurtured by faith or it becomes hard and weedy.
 - What this is.
 - I. To "seek" is to inquire about something so often that a path is formed by our repeatedly tramping.
 - A. It describes the activity of maintaining continued fellowship with God.
 - B. The heart of this necessity is that our soul must come into His arms, as the father received the prodigal son.
 - II. Seek because of where we are and not to where God is (as if He is hidden).
 - III. Negative implications.
 - IV. Seek Jehovah through His dear Son.
 - A. We will never find Jehovah till we seek Him by way of Jesus Christ.
 - B. Seek Him by asking Him to wash me of my sin and sinfulness and to change us within and without.
 - When is it time to seek Jehovah?
 - I. We seek Him by hungering and thirsting after His righteousness.
 - A. We keep learning that we have none of our own, and that what we think is righteousness is really filthy rags.
 - B. Seek Him when the truth of His Word is read or you are being pricked by the preaching of His Word.
 - II. Special occasions in which this call to seek Him is especially appropriate.
 - A. The context: chastening hand of God on the remnant of Judah living amidst the desolations of Jerusalem.
 - B. Whenever we feel His rod or His bit and bridle.
 - III. In all of our life.
 - A. Seek him when young, for God promises that those who seek Him early shall find Him (Proverbs 8:17).
 - B. Seek Him late in life, especially when facing eternity.
 - How long? "Till He rain righteousness."
 - I. Righteousness rains down.
 - A. Assurance that God, for Jesus' sake, has forgiven me wholly and forever.
 - B. Peace which results from being justified by God (the publican went home justified).
 - II. Seek Him till you find Him. Find Jehovah Himself or else go on seeking.
 - A. If all we say is, "God, be merciful to me the sinner," keep praying.
 - B. Or if all you can cry is, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief," pray on and on.
 - C. Elijah sought Him with cries and tears, praying for rain, sending Gehazi seven times.

