



## October 2018 ~ Season of Harvest!

Another season of harvest is upon us and I'm sure there are mixed emotions about this year's harvest. With this past summer's heat and the recent rainfalls not much has really gone as hoped for many of our area farmers.

Often times when things don't happen according to normal or as we see, our attitudes toward God sometimes take a 90 degree turn and we question God's love and care for us. Even those people in the Bible struggled with these questions and often sought God out in order to answer their prayers.

Elijah, the great prophet of God, in 1Kings 18 – 19, finds himself all alone and feeling as if God had abandoned him. He cried out to the Lord asking Him why he was the only one left who believed in God. God reassured him that there were still 7,000 who still believed in Him apart from Elijah.

Likewise, King David in the Psalms pleaded with God why so many people wanted to kill him and why was God always so distant in his times of need. God reassures and reminds David that He is always present and willing to help in His times of need.

Many of the apostles experienced the same feelings of helplessness as Elijah and David did. So many people have found themselves in an experience like that of one from the Bible. Asking God why things happen the way they do and why He doesn't stop the suffering and pain of dealing with such circumstances.

God assures us in His word that He is always with us. He will never leave us or forsake us. He will always supply everything we need for daily living. Luther gives us an explanation in the first article of the Apostle's Creed what God does and gives us. He loves us with everything He has. He gave Jesus to us. He died and rose from the dead to give us forgiveness and the hope of eternal life. Like many of those people in the Bible we have to be reminded daily of the love of Christ.

Even when the harvest is not what we had hoped for we can be reassured from God's Word of promise that He is always with us. Even if we have questions surrounding God, He is always willing to listen and show us in His Word that struggles are a part of our faith journey. Through them we can either see God as someone who does not care for us or continue to look to God in order for our faith in His promise to become greater than our circumstances.

God loves us and He will always be there to provide what He thinks is best for us. Even when we think it is not in our best interest. Let God show His love to you through the promise of eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

In Christ's Service & Love, *Pastor Rich*