

28 September 2017

Issued by Jericho Walls International Prayer Network



Call to pray for an end to the drought in South Africa and for people to turn back to God

Our country is experiencing a long and devastating drought in many areas – especially the Eastern Cape, Karoo, Northern Cape, as well as the Southern and Western Cape regions. Many other parts of the country also urgently need rain.

Few people are aware of the extent of the problem. In some areas this drought has been going on for nearly 5 years. Farmers daily watch their livestock dying, fields withering and harvest going to waste. Visiting these regions and seeing the reality of the situation is traumatic.

Let us repent before God and, as the church, plead for relief.

We recommend the following:

1. For congregations and prayer groups countrywide to pray on Sunday the 15th, 22nd and 29th of October 2017, for rain to fall and for the drought to end.
2. That a 24/7 prayer watch be established in communities during the week of 8-15 October, where congregations, prayer groups, prayer watches, as well as individuals will come before God's throne to intercede for this matter day and night.

Psalm 46:1: "*God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*" NKJV

Prayer Guidelines

When emergencies and disasters occur, God looks for someone to stand in the gap. He is seeking men and women to intercede for their nation. Pray that Christians will come before God to pray for rain. Ezekiel 22:30 - *And I sought for a man among them, that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.*

1. Everybody should search their own heart and ask God to forgive any sins He shows them. *Isaiah 59:1-2 - Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear.*

2. Our country turned away from God and is not seeking God's Kingdom. We all seek our own interests and gain. Open your eyes and see – we have become a corrupted, godless nation, rebelling against God and living wicked lives. Scripture states clearly: *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. (Matthew 6:33)*. This verse is also relevant to our situation: *For my people have committed two evils; they have forsaken me the fountain of living waters, and hewed them out cisterns, broken cisterns, that can hold no water. (Jeremiah 2:13)*.
3. Pray about any past and present injustices between employers and employees. Both groups are guilty. Pray that people will not blame each other, but will repent together and ask God's help. These poor relationships are not only on farms, but in every sector of society.
4. Pray for farmers who have lost hope and have become bitter and mutinous. Pray that nobody will take matters into their own hands. We need a divine solution, not a revolution.
5. God often uses natural disasters to get our attention. Pray that God will show us through his Spirit what He wants us to see and hear.
6. Pray that God will give us thankful hearts. Despite the drought, we still have much to be thankful for, and we can and must thank God for everything. Let us thank Him for the rain that fell in many places. *1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*
7. Let us in one accord pray to God to be merciful and to give us rain. Let us approach the throne of God with prayers and supplications, to obtain help at the right time. *Hebrews 4:16 - Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.*
8. Pray that there will be no storms, hail and devastating winds when the rains come.
9. Pray that the Government of the Western Cape Peninsula will take definite steps towards meaningful solutions for the water supply and the use of available water resources.
10. Psalm 68:9-10: *Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad; you restored your inheritance as it languished; your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.* This Psalm celebrates the results of the manifest presence of God on earth; How his presence caused abundant rain and the dry ground received life. Let our words, deeds, thoughts and life-style be such, that we may carry his presence in us. Ask God to manifest Himself to South Africa in His Church.
11. 1 Kings 18. In the time of Elijah, there was a country-wide drought. It was God's punishment because of idolatry. This chapter describes the dramatic confrontation between Elijah and the Baal prophets. The result was a national confession that the LORD is God. Let us pray for people nationwide to return to the God of the Bible. Let us also all examine our hearts and get rid of the "Baals", and exclaim like Elijah: *"Answer me, O Lord, answer me, that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you have turned their hearts back."* *1Kings 18:37.*
12. Prayerfully read through Psalm 37.