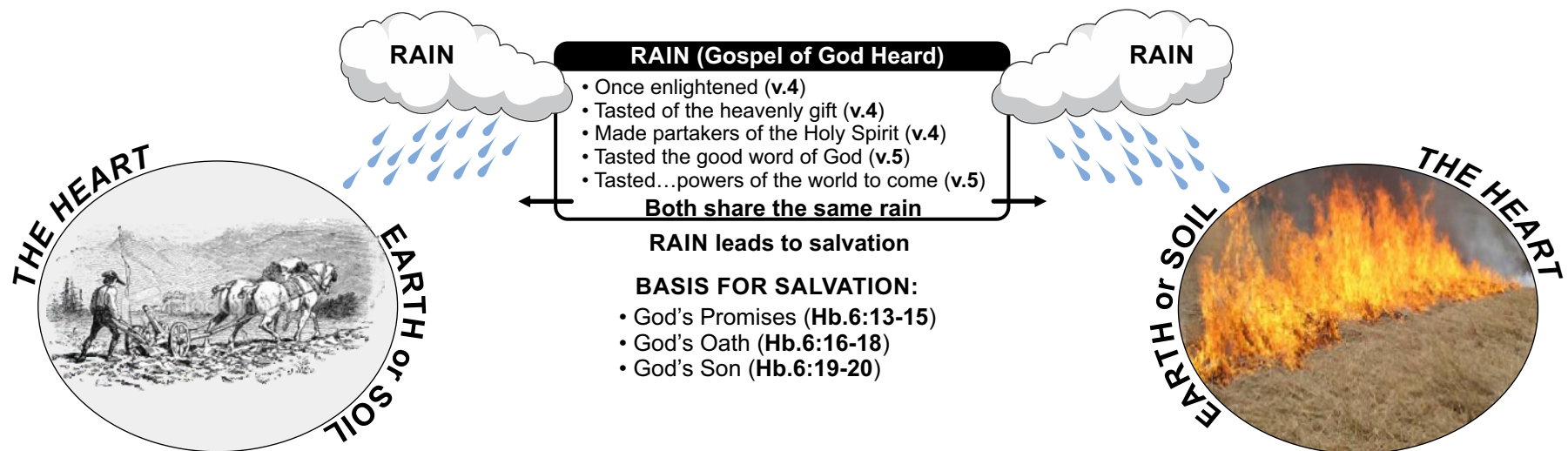


# HEBREWS 6:7-8 — EARTH AND RAIN ILLUSTRATION

The writer turns to the world of nature to help illustrate his point. He uses this similitude because he knows the recipients will understand the meaning. Growing their own food was very common in this era. Here the writer compared the spiritual privileges he mentioned in verses 4-5 to heavenly rain that falls upon all. The rain is the gospel message. The picture depicts two responses to the gospel.

“<sup>7</sup>For the earth which drinks in the rain that often comes upon it, and bears herbs useful for those by whom it is cultivated, receives blessing from God; <sup>8</sup>but if it bears thorns and briers, it is rejected and near to being cursed, whose end is to be burned.” (Hb.6:7-8)



- **Hebrews 6:9** is where the writer begins to speak to believers again. He transitions from “those” to “we”.
- All those who hear the Gospel are like the earth, and the rain falls, the Gospel message comes.
- God’s grace falls like rain and some men produce fruit and others thorns.
- In the context of the Gospels, the seed is planted, the Word is heard.
- Sometimes it brings forth herbs that are good for use, and that is blessing from God.
- But other times, under the same gospel message it brings forth thorns and briers that are ultimately burned.
- Those who receive the rain of the Gospel and truly believe will show the things that accompany salvation (v.9). These are their works which verify their salvation (He.6:10; Ep.2:10; Ja.2:18, 26).

**LEGEND**

**RAIN** = The Gospel of Christ  
**SOIL** = The heart of man  
**SEED** = Word of God  
**FARMER** (Man)