



# NEW HEART BEAT DEVOTIONS

## Oh, The Weather Outside is ...

*We all have checked the weather. It may be because we are farmers, we are planning an outside activity, we want to know what to wear, or we need to know whether school or work will be cancelled. Every TV and radio station has a weather department. There is even a weather channel or app that can be accessed 24/7.*

*Since 1818, The Farmers' Almanac was used to predict the weather. "While the Almanac claims an 80% accuracy rate, studies show it is only 52% accurate. The creation process of these almanacs involves a blend of meteorological science, astronomical calculations, and traditional folk wisdom. The exact methodologies are often closely guarded secrets".<sup>1</sup> Forecasting the weather was even being done in Biblical times. "He answered and said unto them, when it is evening, ye say, "It will be fair weather: for the sky is red." And in the morning, "It will be foul weather today: for the sky is red and lowering." Matt 16:2-3 "And he said also to the people, when ye see a cloud rise out of the west, straightway ye say, "There cometh a shower; and so it is." And when ye see the south wind blow, ye say, "There will be heat; and it cometh to pass." Luke 12:54-55*

*Modern advancements in weather forecasting use advanced forecasting tools like Climavision's Horizon AI Forecasting suite use cutting-edge Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) models and High-Performance Computing (HPC) to deliver more precise and timely weather predictions.<sup>2</sup> But with all this technology, humans still cannot control the weather.*

*An act of God is a natural event or disaster that is beyond human control and cannot be prevented. Most examples of acts of God include the weather: hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, hail, and lightning. Between 1851-2022, there have been 1082 hurricanes of which 349 were major and 146 US landfalling hurricanes.<sup>3</sup> "About 1,200 tornadoes hit the U.S. yearly. How do tornadoes form? The truth is that we don't fully understand."<sup>4</sup>*

*There are 1,400 references to weather terminology in the Bible.<sup>5</sup> Job 37 talks about God commanding the rain, clouds, thunder, snow, whirlwind, wind, sun and cold. Verse 13 states, "He causeth it to come, whether for correction, or for his land, or for mercy." "Fire, and hail; snow, and vapours; stormy wind fulfilling his word." PS 148:8*

*If God controls the weather, then why does it not prevent the destructive and deadly storms? God allows bad things. to change, correct, and care for us. If we had a perfect world, we would not have a need for God. We would not realize how weak, powerless and sinful we are. We would not be able to show the love of Christ to those in need because of a storm. We would not be able to see and appreciate God's mercy and miracles after the storm passes.*



*Charles L Stambaugh*

The storms in our life are not always weather related. How we react to them and the storms that others are going through determines whether or not we trust the One who calms the stormy sea with His hand.



<sup>1 2</sup> [climavision.com/blog/weather-forecasting-and-the-farmers-almanac/](https://climavision.com/blog/weather-forecasting-and-the-farmers-almanac/)

<sup>3</sup> [aoml.noaa.gov/hrd-faq/#record-setters](https://aoml.noaa.gov/hrd-faq/#record-setters) <sup>4</sup> [nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/tornadoes/](https://nssl.noaa.gov/education/svrwx101/tornadoes/)

<sup>5</sup> [baptistmessenger.com/dhd-six-bible-passages-of-god-controlling-the-weather/](https://baptistmessenger.com/dhd-six-bible-passages-of-god-controlling-the-weather/)

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