

COMMENTARY

JOEL

Joel 1

The land of Judah had been hit hard by a plague of locusts which at various stages of growth, consumed all vegetation. Now the people are called to mourn for the lack of vines, trees, and crops. There is so little food that the people do not have enough to sustain life and offer sacrifices besides. Drought threatened the animals.

Joel calls upon the people to turn to God and ask for help.

Joel 2

Joel compares the coming of the locusts to the coming of Judah's enemies in God's day of judgement upon the land for their sin. The enemy will swarm and destroy.

Joel calls upon the people to repent of their sin. That would be the only chance that the people would have of survival.

Joel informs them that if they do repent, God will defend them and their enemy will be overcome. God would also cause the land to become fruitful and productive again. In so doing, the people would come to realize and appreciate the uniqueness and power of their God.

God promises a day when His Spirit would dwell within men and they would proclaim His message. All who call upon the Lord (from among all nations) would be saved. God would send signs and wonders in the Heavens before the day of final judgement.

Joel 3

God warns the surrounding nations of coming punishment for the way that they have treated His people. God will then dwell among His people and they will enjoy the place that God has prepared. All others will be cast out.

JOEL 1

1. Who were they to tell the recent events to? (vs. 3)
2. What had devoured all of the crops? (vs. 4)
3. What were they told to do to alleviate the situation? (vs. 14)
4. What had fire devoured? (vs. 19,20)

STUDY GUIDE

JOEL 2

1. Why were those living in the land to tremble? (vs. 1)
2. What would be coming? (vs. 2)
3. What were the people to do? (vs. 12)
4. How is God described? (vs. 13)
5. How would the Lord reply? (vs. 19)
6. How would they know that He is God? (vs. 26,27)
7. What would happen when God poured out His Spirit? (vs. 28,29)
8. Who would be saved? (vs. 32)

STUDY GUIDE

JOEL 3

1. What was God going to do when He gathered the nations? (vs. 2)
2. What had the nations done? (vs. 5,6)
3. What were the nations to do? (vs. 9,10)
4. What would the Lord be? (vs. 16)
5. What does God promise about the land? (vs. 18)