

Bible Reading Class - The Book of Joel
December 15, 2022 - Chapters 1-3

INTRODUCTION

1. Not much is known about the prophet Joel other than he was the son of _____; the date the book was written is _____.
2. The prophet's name Joel means " _____ is _____."
3. The message of the book is twofold: **first**, to describe the _____ of the _____ Kingdom (**Judah**) and **second**, to predict the ultimate _____ of Jehovah's cause of _____ out His _____ on all people.
4. In **Joel 2:25**, a "great _____" is mentioned as sent by Jehovah; the "great _____" is described as _____ and there are four types of locusts mentioned - _____ locust, _____ locust, _____ locust, and _____ locust (**v. 4**).
5. In **Joel 2:28-29**, the prophet delivers a message of _____ and _____; he sees in the future a great day of _____ when God is going to pour out His _____ upon men and women, young and old, slave and free.
6. The prophet in **Joel 2:32** defines who the _____ will be; the saved will be those who _____ upon the _____ of the Lord, that is, those who put their _____ in Jesus Christ will be saved. Peter, later, quotes these words in his _____ on the Day of Pentecost in **Acts 2:21**.
7. The prophet Joel foresees a day when people will be called by the _____ to _____ (**cf. 2 Thess. 2:13-14**).
8. Joel's twofold prophecy is those who answer the call of the Lord will be filled with the _____ (**Joel 3:18**), and those who reject God's message will be _____ (**Joel 3:19**).

Chapter One

1. This chapter opens with the prophet providing a detailed description of the _____ of the _____ Kingdom (**Judah**); the _____ and all the _____ of the land are called to hear the message of the Lord.

2. The people are asked, “**Has anything like this _____ in your _____**” [this refers to the great destruction Judah is experiencing]; they are told tell future _____ about this experience, that is, sin has its _____.
3. In **v. 4**, the people of Judah had been devastated by a plague of _____; there are two possible interpretations of the locust described: **first**, a _____ large plague of locusts or **secondly**, the locusts are _____, that is, the locusts represent the _____ army (**cf. Jer. 5:14-18**). In my opinion, it is most likely the _____ of these two interpretations.
4. The people are described as _____; they are called to _____ from their sinful state; a _____ (**the locust - Babylonians**) has come upon Judah because of _____. The nation is described as “_____, **and without _____; His teeth are the teeth of a _____.**”
5. The Babylonians have _____ the land; the people are instructed to weep like a _____ who is crying because the man she was going to marry has died.
6. The _____ are also called to weep because there will be no _____ and _____ offerings to bring before the Lord (**v. 9**).
7. In **v. 11**, the _____ are called upon to mourn; not only is there no olive oil, but there’s no _____ and _____.
8. The people are to be sad because the “**day of the _____ is at _____**” or has come; the prophet tells the people in **v. 15**, that the _____ of all this devastation to the land and people is the _____.
9. The widespread destruction has not only had an impact on the people, but the _____; they _____, and _____ around confused (**v. 18**).
10. The prophet Joel cries to Jehovah for _____ for the people and animals because there’s no _____ or _____.

Chapter 2

1. This chapter provides a description of Jehovah’s _____ sent to punish His people because they refused to _____; the prophet calls for the people of Jerusalem to sound the _____; the people were to _____ for the day of the **Lord** has come.

2. In **v. 2**, the devastation, the people and the land are experiencing, is described as _____ and _____; the great _____ plague (**the Babylonian army**) will destroy the land like a _____; the land once looked like the _____ of _____; now it had been _____ of all vegetation to look like a _____.
3. The prophet Joel describes the destruction of the Babylonians coming on the city as a charging army of many _____, and many _____; when the people see the great army, they squirm in _____ and their faces turn _____.
4. In **vv. 9-11**, the destructive army leaves the _____ and the _____ completely devastated; the Lord's destructive army has arrived to deliver His _____ on the sinful people of Judah.
5. In **v. 12**, the prophet Joel _____ to the people by saying, the Lord says, "_____ **to me with all your heart, with _____, with _____, and mourning,**" and God will be _____!
6. The prophet calls the people to _____, even in the middle of their afflictions; then he asked the question in **verse 14**, "**Who knows if He will _____ and _____, and leave a _____ behind Him...?**"
7. Again, the people are instructed by the prophet to "**Blow the _____ in Zion;**" this time it is a call for the people who remain to do three things:
- 1) to _____,
 - 2) for the people to _____, and
 - 3) for the _____ to cry to Jehovah to "_____ **Your people.**"
8. Jehovah is asked to spare His people because the Gentile _____ were ridiculing Judah by asking, "_____ **is their _____?**" (**v. 17**).
9. The blessings of **verse 18** are predicated upon the people _____; when Judah repents of her wickedness, the merciful and loving God will have _____ on them. **[Some of the people did repent and a remnant is saved.]**
10. God is using the Babylonians to _____ His people, but later He will punish the _____ because of their _____, He is going to remove the "_____ **army**" (**v. 20**).

11. Those who _____ themselves by repenting will have nothing to _____ for the pastures will be restored for the _____ of the fields (v. 22); in **verse 25**, the “**great army**” whom God has sent will be removed and God says, the _____ people “**will _____ that I am in the midst of _____ ...**” (v. 27).

12. In **verses 28-32**, the prophet Joel predicts a day when God will _____ out His _____ on all _____; that is, without partiality; he sees a day when God will utilize all baptized believers to _____ His message or _____ others about Him.

Chapter 3

1. This concluding chapter opens with the prophet looking into the _____; after Jehovah has _____ His people, He is going to bring them back from _____.

2. Then He is going to gather at the **Valley of _____** all nations; this is not a literal place, but rather a figurative term that indicates a time of _____ against certain nations.

3. The nations to be punished are _____, _____, _____, and _____. These nations will be punished for 5 reasons because they:

- 1) _____ God’s people (v. 2),
- 2) _____ God’s land (v. 2),
- 3) _____ God’s people (v. 3)
- 4) took God’s _____ into their temples (v. 5), and
- 5) _____ God’s people (v. 6).

4. According to **verses 6-7**, Jehovah declares that He will one day bring His _____ from the various places in which they had been sold, and He is going to _____ these nations’ children to Judah and the _____.

5. In **verse 9**, Jehovah declares _____ on these nations, and they are instructed to prepare for _____; they are called to the **Valley of _____** which is the same as the **valley of _____** (vv. 12-14).

6. In **verse 17**, Jehovah says when He is finished with these nations, “**You shall _____ that I am the Lord your God dwelling in _____ My holy _____.**”

7. When Jehovah's people return from captivity, "the _____ shall drip with new wine", that is, with plenty; "the hills shall flow with _____, and the all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with _____" (v. 17).

8. The Valley of _____ [Shittim] - some believes this valley is also a figurative place and refers to the time when _____ will flow the _____ of God into all the world; the water is a metaphor for the _____.

9. The prophet sees a time when _____ will be forgiven for her sins, but _____ and _____ will not be forgiven. Why? Because they "shed innocent _____ in the land" (v. 10); it's also believed that Egypt and Edom represent those who _____ the gospel and Judah refers to those who _____ the gospel.