

# **The Book of Joel**

**Sermons Preached  
by Dave Lueloff**

## Introduction to the Book of Joel

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The subject matter of the book of Joel is *The Day of the Lord*. The authority for this:

**Joel 1:1** The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

**1 Thessalonians 4:15** For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

**Revelation 1:11** Saying, I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last: and, **What thou seest, write in a book**, and send *it* unto the seven churches which are in Asia; unto Ephesus, and unto Smyrna...

**Revelation 1:19** Write the things which thou hast seen, and the things which are, and the things which shall be hereafter;

**The Day of the Lord refers to the time of God's judgment upon Judah.**

**Joel 1:15** Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

**Joel 2:1-2** Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations.

**Joel 2:11** And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp *is* very great: for *he is* strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

**Joel 2:31** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

**Joel 3:14** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near...

There can also be a double reference to the end time Day of the Lord.  
This Law of Double Reference is noted in Joel 2:28-32

One needs to compare Acts 2:1-21 to Joel 2:28-32

Acts 2:1-4	The Holy Ghost descends on the Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:5-11	Describes what occurred – a historical account
Acts 2:12-16	Discussion of what happened – Peter declares that it was a fulfillment of Joel
Acts 2:17-21	Peter quotes Joel 2:28-32

Compare Acts 2 to Joel 2 – this is word for word from the Bible:

**Joel** And it shall come to pass afterward, *that* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

**Acts** And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

**Joel** And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

**Acts** And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

**Joel** And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

**Acts** And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

**Joel** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

**Acts** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come:

**Joel** And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered:

**Acts** And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**Joel** \*\*\*\* for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

Both Acts and Joel covers the same except for the \*\*\*\* Joel writing above.

That part is describing the second coming of Jesus Christ. Joel speaks of a minor future event of Pentecost and also a major event during the Tribulation Period. This double reference will be explained here.

What is the Law of Double Reference? It is a prophecy with a near fulfillment and an unfulfilled far, more future fulfillment. There is a minor fulfillment (near) with a major, complete fulfillment (far).

### **Human Explanations**

“The writings, by which a passage applying primarily to a person or event near at hand is used by him at a later time as applying to the person of Christ, or the affairs of His kingdom.” J. Edwin Hartell

“Certain prophecies apparently contain a fulness of meaning which is not exhausted by the event to which they most obviously and literally refer. A prophecy which had a partial fulfillment at a time not remote from its utterance, may find its chief fulfillment in an event far distant. Since the principles of God's administration find ever recurring and enlarging illustration in history, prophecies which have already had a partial fulfillment may have whole cycles of fulfillment yet before them.” A. H. Strong

“The same prophecies frequently have a double meaning, and refer to different events, the one near, the other remote; the one temporal, the other spiritual or perhaps eternal. The prophets thus having

several events in view, their expressions may be partly applicable to one and partly to another, and it is not always easy to make the transitions. What has not been fulfilled in the first, we must apply to the second; and what has already been fulfilled, may often be considered as typical of what remains to be accomplished.” Thomas Hartwell

### **Biblical Examples of the Law of Double Reference**

- **The Coming of Elijah**

**Malachi 4:5-6** Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet **before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD:** And he shall turn the heart of the fathers to the children, and the heart of the children to their fathers, lest I come and smite the earth with a curse.

**Matthew 11:14** And if ye will receive *it*, **this is Elias, which was for to come.**

**Matthew 17:11-12** And Jesus answered and said unto them, Elias truly shall first come, and restore all things. But I say unto you, That Elias is come already, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them.

Elijah did come – in a minor fulfillment with a major, complete fulfillment in the Tribulation Period as one of the two witnesses. (Rev. 11:3-14)

John the Baptist – came in spirit and power of Elijah / the voice of one crying in the wilderness / message of repentance / message – prepare ye the way of the Lord / the kingdom is at hand

The complete fulfillment of Malachi 4:5-6 will be Elijah himself - I will send you Elijah the prophet **before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.**

- **The Abomination of Desolation**

**Matthew 24:15** When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, (whoso readeth, let him understand:)

When Antiochus Epiphanes offered a sow in the Temple, the minor fulfillment of the Abomination of Desolation was fulfilled with a major, complete fulfillment when Antichrist sits in the Temple as God. We know there is still an unfulfilled major fulfillment to come because Jesus told us.

**2 Thessalonians 2:4** Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

The Antichrist is fore-pictured by a sow being offered in the Temple! Jesus stated that the Abomination of Desolation was to be a future event – thus a prophecy with double reference.

- **Speaking in Tongues**

**Acts 2:12** And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?

What happened on the day of Pentecost? Acts 2:5-11 describes what actually happened.

- **Acts 2:5** ...were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout **men, out of every nation under heaven.**
  - Acts 2:6 ...because that **every man heard them speak in his own language.**
  - Acts 2:8 And how **hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?**
  - **Acts 2:11** Cretes and Arabians, **we do hear them speak in our tongues** the...works of God.
- **Acts 2:7** ...Behold, are not **all these which speak Galilaeans?**

#### **The nations / languages represented**

- **Acts 2:9-11** Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians...

#### **The result of the fulfillment of Joel:**

- **Acts 2:41** Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about three thousand souls.

One of the difficulties in interpreting prophecy is to determine *when* the prophecy was fulfilled or *when it will be* fulfilled.

Is the prophecy for the coming Day of the Lord upon Judah; is it for a future Day of the Lord in the Tribulation Period; or is there a double reference within the same passage – which refers to both a near and a far fulfillment.

**Peter declared: Acts 2:16** “But **this is that** which was **spoken by the prophet Joel;**”

However, this was not the complete fulfillment of Joel:

**Joel 2:32** ...for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said...

#### **When will be the complete fulfillment of Joel 2:28-32?**

During the Tribulation Period, the 144,000 Jews will preach the gospel of the kingdom. They will speak in tongues and everyone will hear the preaching in their own tongue.

Many will get saved:

**Revelation 7:9** After this I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, **of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues,** stood before the throne, and before the Lamb...

How do multitudes get saved during the wrath of God, as the saved have been raptured? Joel 2:28-32!

**Matthew 24:14** And this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations; and then shall the end come.

**Day of Pentecost / 144,000    Both preach with tongues and both have multitudes saved!**

## Introduction to the Book of Joel

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### ➤ Day of the Lord – near fulfillment

**Joel 2:2** A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; **there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even** to the years of many generations.

### ➤ Day of the Lord – far fulfillment

**Matthew 24:21** For then shall be great tribulation, **such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.**

**Daniel 12:1** And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there **shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered**, every one that shall be found written in the book. (Dan. 12 is about events after ch. 9-11 – Antichrist and end times)

**1 Thessalonians 5:2-3** For yourselves know perfectly that the **day of the Lord so cometh** as a thief in the night. For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape.

### ➤ Day of the Lord Described

**Joel 1:15** Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD *is* at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.

**Joel 2:2** A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations.

**Zephaniah 1:14-15** The great day of the LORD *is* near, *it is* near, and hasteth greatly, *even* the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly. That day *is* a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness,

**Joel 2:6** Before their face **the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness.**

**Jeremiah 30:6-7** Ask ye now, and see whether a man doth travail with child? wherefore do I see every man **with his hands on his loins, as a woman in travail, and all faces are turned into paleness?** Alas! for **that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it:** it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

**Daniel 12:1** And at that time shall Michael stand up, the great prince which standeth for the children of thy people: and there **shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation even to that same time:** and at that time thy people shall be delivered...

**Joel 2:10** ...earth shall quake... the sun and the moon shall be dark...the stars...withdraw their shining:

**Joel 2:31** The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

**Revelation 6:12** And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

**Revelation 8:12** ...third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it...

**Joel 3:15** The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

**Revelation 6:12** ...great earthquake...sun became black...and the moon became as blood;

The Tribulation: Wrath (Rev. 6:16-17, 11:18, 14:19, 15:1, 16:1&19, I The. 1:9-10, 5:9), Judgment (Rev. 14:7, 15:4, 16:5-7, 19:2), Indignation (Isa. 26:20-21, 34:1-3), Punishment (Isa. 24:20-21), Time of Jacob's Trouble (Jer. 30:7), Darkness (Joel 2:2, Zeph. 1:14-18, Amos 5:18) and Destruction (Joel 1:15)

➤ **Day of the Lord is near!**

**Ezekiel 30:3** For the day *is* near, even the day of the LORD *is* near, a cloudy day; it shall be the time of the heathen.

**Joel 3:14** Multitudes... in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision.

**Obadiah 1:15** For the day of the LORD *is* near upon all the heathen...

**Zephaniah 1:14** The great day of the LORD *is* near, *it is* near, and hasteth greatly, *even* the voice of the day of the LORD: the mighty man shall cry there bitterly.

- **The prophets knew** it was soon to come upon them. How did they know?

**Amos 3:7** Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

Simeon and Anna were waiting for the 1<sup>st</sup> coming of Christ.

**Luke 2:25-26** And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name *was* Simeon; and the same man *was* just and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the Holy Ghost *was* upon him. And it *was* revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

Abraham knew God would destroy Sodom....

**Genesis 18:17-20** And the LORD said, Shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation...For I know him...And the LORD said, Because the cry of Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and because their sin is very grievous...

### ➤ **Day of the Lord & Responses**

Prophecy is history written in advance. The Book of Revelation describes the Day of the Lord. There are going to be 7 seal, 7 trumpet and 7 bowl judgments. It will be a horrific time – just as Jesus said: **“such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.”**

The final 3 trumpet judgments are described:

**Revelation 8:13** And I beheld, and heard an angel flying through the midst of heaven, saying with a loud voice, Woe, woe, woe, to the inhabitants of the earth by reason of the other voices of the trumpet of the three angels, which are yet to sound!

The 5<sup>th</sup> trumpet judgment is found in Rev. 9:1-11 followed by the 6<sup>th</sup> trumpet judgment in 9:13-19.

- **The Response of mankind**

**Revelation 9:20-21** And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

The 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds:

**Revelation 11:15** And the seventh angel sounded; and there were great voices in heaven, saying, The kingdoms of this world are become *the kingdoms* of our Lord, and of his Christ; and he shall reign for ever and ever.

This 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet is an all-inclusive of the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation and the Coming Kingdom.... Recall the *Day of the Lord* continues until the new heaven and new earth:

**2 Peter 3:10** But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up.

- **Response from heaven** as the 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet sounds:

**Revelation 11:16-17** And the four and twenty elders, which sat before God on their seats, fell upon their faces, and worshipped God, Saying, We give thee thanks, O Lord God Almighty, which art, and wast, and art to come; because thou hast taken to thee thy great power, and hast reigned.

- **Response from earth**



**Revelation 11:18** And the nations were angry, and thy wrath is come, and the time of the dead, that they should be judged, and that thou shouldst give reward unto thy servants the prophets, and to the saints, and them that fear thy name, small and great; and shouldst destroy them which destroy the earth.

- **Response from the Throne of God**

**Revelation 11:19** And the temple of God was opened in heaven, and there was seen in his temple the ark of his testament: and there were lightnings, and voices, and thunderings, and an earthquake, and great hail.

This 7<sup>th</sup> trumpet judgment sounds at the midway point of the Tribulation. This is the same time as:

**2 Thessalonians 2:4** Who opposeth and exalteth himself above all that is called God, or that is worshipped; so that he as God sitteth in the temple of God, shewing himself that he is God.

Compare Rev. 11:19 and 2 The. 2:4 – The Temple of God in heaven’s response is due to what is occurring in the Temple of God on earth.

The Antichrist has set himself up as God! The Temple of God in heaven responds

Revelation chapters 12-14 are parenthesis – ch. 12 overview of Israel / ch. 13 overview of Antichrist and the False Prophet / ch. 14 overview of the angels. All of these chapters cover the last 3 ½ years of the Tribulation Period.

Now Revelation chapter 15 picks back up from the end of chapter 11.

**Revelation 15:5-8** And after that I looked, and, behold, the temple of the tabernacle of the testimony in heaven was opened: And the seven angels came out of the temple, having the seven plagues, clothed in pure and white linen, and having their breasts girded with golden girdles. And one of the four beasts gave unto the seven angels seven golden vials full of the wrath of God, who liveth for ever and ever. And the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power; and no man was able to enter into the temple, till the seven plagues of the seven angels were fulfilled.

These last 7 vial judgments are described as:

**Revelation 15:1** And I saw another sign in heaven, great and marvellous, seven angels having the seven last plagues; for **in them is filled up the wrath of God.**

What has happened at the 3 ½ year mark of the Tribulation Period? A lot of various events:

7<sup>th</sup> Trumpet sounds / Antichrist turns from peacemaker to the Beast / Antichrist sits in Temple as God  
Israel goes into hiding / False Prophet cause people to worship the Beast / Mark of the Beast begins  
144,000 are in heaven (have been killed) / 2 witnesses are killed and arise from the dead  
Satan is cast out of heaven / Angel preaches from heaven

## Joel 1:1-7

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The plague of insects Ch. 1

Are these verses referencing a literal plague or are they figuratively describing an enemy army?

Plague of Insects Ch. 1                      Day of the Lord Ch. 2:1-3:8                      End Times 3:9-21

The Bible describes the desolation caused by an inroad of locusts--one of the instruments of divine judgment mentioned by Moses and by Solomon.

**Deuteronomy 28:38-39** Thou shalt carry much seed out into the field, and shalt gather *but* little in; for the locust shall consume it. Thou shalt plant vineyards, and dress *them*, but shalt neither drink *of* the wine, nor gather *the grapes*; for the worms shall eat them.

**1 Kings 8:37** If there be in the land famine, if there be pestilence, blasting, mildew, locust, *or* if there be caterpillar; if their enemy besiege them in the land of their cities; whatsoever plague, whatsoever sickness *there be*;

(Plagues of insects described by J. Sidlow Baxter's book)

### The plagues described:

**Joel 1:4** That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.

**Joel 1:6** For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth *are* the teeth of a lion, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.

These literal plagues affected literal grapes, figs, vines and trees (vs. 4-5, vs.7 & vs. 12).

### Timing of these plagues:

"This and the beginning of the next chapter **contain a double prophecy**, applicable in its primary sense to a plague of locusts which was to devour the land, and to be accompanied with a severe drought and famine; and in its secondary sense, the Chaldean invasion. Both senses must be admitted: for some of the expressions will apply only to the dearth by insects; others to the desolation by war." CLARKE

This seems as a future event (Joel 1:15), but it would appear that this invasion was already present.

**Joel 2:25** And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

**The Day of the Lord** – the locust plague Joel 1:15, 2:1, 2:11

**The Day of the Lord** – Double Reference fulfilled in Acts 2 and Rev. 7 (Tribulation Period) Joel 2:31

**The Day of the Lord** – Near fulfillment and a final far fulfillment Joel 3:14

## **Never a day like it**

**Joel 1:2** Hear this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. Hath this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

To the old men – have you ever seen the like? The moving of the Lord often has vast periods of time between huge events.

Similar to the end times Day of the Lord.

**Matthew 24:21** For then shall be great tribulation, such as was not since the beginning of the world to this time, no, nor ever shall be.

**Daniel 12:1** And at that time shall Michael stand up...and there shall be a time of trouble, such as never was since there was a nation *even* to that same time: and at that time thy people shall be delivered...

**Joel 1:3** Tell ye your children of it, and *let* your children *tell* their children, and their children another generation.

Pass this on to your children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

## **Total destruction**

**Joel 1:4** That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.

**Joel 1:7** He hath laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he hath made it clean bare, and cast *it* away; the branches thereof are made white.

The end times Day of the Lord is described in Revelation Chapter 6-16. A dreadful time.

## **Call to Repentance**

**Joel 1:5** Awake, ye drunkards, and weep; and howl, all ye drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.

The unusual events from the Lord are often separated by long periods of time. However, they will come to pass. I.E. Miracles – Moses / Elijah & Elisha / Jesus & Apostles / Tribulation Period

**2 Peter 3:3-4** ...there shall come in the last days scoffers...saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

**1 Peter 3:20** Which sometime were disobedient, when once the longsuffering of God waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was a preparing, wherein few, that is, eight souls were saved by water.

*120 years of God's patience during days of Noah!*

## Joel 1:8-15

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**Joel 1:8** Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

“Her lament, with **the bitterest of sorrows**, as one who, in her virgin years, was just knit into one with the husband of her youth, and then at once was, by God's judgment, on the very day of her espousal, ere yet she ceased to be a virgin, parted by death.” BARNES

Calamity has come and the heart, the confused mind and the whole soul lament.

**Joel 1:9** The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the LORD; the priests, the LORD'S ministers, mourn.

“The meat offering and drink offering accompanied the morning and evening sacrifice, and that sacrifice, with its accompaniments, being an expression of gratitude to God by a daily presentation to him of the first fruits of his own mercies, was a visible memorial of Jehovah's covenant with his people; while the fact of its being cut off implied the cessation or suspension of that covenant and the people's exclusion from the covenanted mercies of God.

The priests lost their occupation as there were no materials to minister. Their livelihood depended largely on those offerings in which they were allowed to have a share, but, when these ceased through failure of the means of supply, the support of the priests of necessity ceased also.” PULPIT HELPS

**Joel 1:10** The field is wasted, the land mourneth; for the **corn** is wasted: the new **wine** is dried up, the **oil** languisheth.

This is a famine – Corn, oil and wine represent daily provision (my opinion).

**Haggai 1:11** And I called for a drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon *that* which the ground bringeth forth...

Oil and wine are necessary for Temple worship. In the famine of the Tribulation Period, God protects the oil and wine so Israel can maintain their sacrifices:

**Revelation 6:6** And I heard a voice in the midst of the four beasts say, A measure of wheat for a penny, and three measures of barley for a penny; and *see* thou hurt not the oil and the wine.

The main event of this famine is how this affects the house of the Lord. When economic times become lean, the effect on the work of the Lord is paramount – rather than personal loss.

**Joel 1:9** The meat offering and the drink offering is **cut off from the house of the LORD...**

**Joel 1:13** Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl...for the meat offering and the drink offering is **withholden from the house of your God.**

The place to seek the Lord has been affected by all this.

**Joel 1:14** Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, **gather the elders *and* all the inhabitants of the land *into* the house of the LORD** your God, and cry unto the LORD,

Everything is gone including joy

**Joel 1:12** The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languisheth; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, *even* all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

**Joel 1:16** Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, *yea*, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

If you have lost everything but still have joy, you have something priceless. Joy is lost as the house of the Lord has been devastated.

There is only one place to turn – they are to turn to the house of the Lord

**Joel 1:14** Sanctify ye a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders *and* all the inhabitants of the land *into* the house of the LORD your God, and cry unto the LORD,

But the house of Lord has also suffered loss. If you have joy and a place to worship and serve the Lord in the house of the Lord, you are blessed.

When the wind is blowing and waves are rough, the sails are taken down and all are waiting for better weather. When times are good, it is time to work for the Lord.

**John 4:35** Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

Consider your economic well-being; your physical well-being; your mental well-being; your social well-being. The time may come that we have a calamity – poor economic times, bad health, persecution, dementia.... One never knows what tomorrow holds.

We will never be any younger than we are right now:

**Ecclesiastes 12:1** Remember now thy Creator in the days of thy youth, while the evil days come not, nor the years draw nigh, when thou shalt say, I have no pleasure in them;

We may never be in better shape than right now – “Cease the day.” Make it happen now. Do what you can now.

**Proverbs 27:1** Boast not thyself of to morrow; for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth.

**Events can change in an instant:**

**1 Corinthians 15:52** In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

## Joel 1:15-20

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The Beasts cry out to God

**Joel 1:18-20** How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate...The beasts of the field cry also unto thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

**Psalms 104:14** He causeth the grass to grow for the cattle, and herb for the service of man: that he may bring forth food out of the earth;

Animals get their food from God

**Psalms 104:21** The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God.

**Psalms 104:25-28** ...great and wide sea, wherein *are* things creeping innumerable, both small and great beasts...*there is* that leviathan... These wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give *them* their meat in due season. *That* thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good.

We get our sustenance from God / health to get wealth

**Psalms 145:15** The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.

**Deuteronomy 8:18** But thou shalt remember the LORD thy God: for *it is* he that giveth thee power to get wealth, that he may establish his covenant which he sware unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

**Deuteronomy 8:10-11** When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the LORD thy God for the good land which he hath given thee. Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

God has promised to provide for our needs. What are our needs?

**1 Timothy 6:8** And having food and raiment let us be therewith content.

**Matthew 6:25-33** Therefore I say unto you,

Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Behold **the fowls of the air**: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment?

**Consider the lilies** of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

Therefore take no thought, saying, **What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink?** or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed? (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

**Proverbs 23:5** Wilt thou set thine eyes upon that which is not? for *riches* certainly make themselves wings; they fly away as an eagle toward heaven.

**1 Timothy 6:17** Charge them that are rich in this world, that they be not highminded, nor trust in uncertain riches, but in the living God, who giveth us richly all things to enjoy;

**Matthew 6:19-20** Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

**James 5:1-2** Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon *you*. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten.

**Mark 4:19** And the cares of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, and the lusts of other things entering in, choke the word, and it becometh unfruitful.

**1 Timothy 6:10-12** For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows. But thou, O man of God, flee these things; and follow after righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, meekness. Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

**Psalms 62:10** Trust not in oppression, and become not vain in robbery: if riches increase, set not your heart *upon them*.

**Matthew 27:3-5** Then Judas, which had betrayed him, when he saw that he was condemned, repented himself, and brought again the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests...And he cast down the pieces of silver in the temple, and departed, and went and hanged himself.

In a wilderness, God provided water from a rock and flesh to eat.

**Psalms 78:19-29** Yea, they spake against God; they said, Can God furnish a table in the wilderness? Behold, he smote the rock, that the waters gushed out,..And had rained down manna upon them to eat, and had given them of the corn of heaven. Man did eat angels' food: he sent them meat to the full...He rained flesh also upon them as dust, and feathered fowls like as the sand of the sea: And he let *it* fall in the midst of their camp, round about their habitations. So they did eat, and were well filled...

## Flee From the Wrath to Come

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### The Wrath of God has Come (Joel 1:15, 2:1-2)

Do something – Lament vs. 8 & 13 / Ashamed vs. 11 / Howl vs. 11 & 13 / Lie in Sackcloth vs. 13 / Cry to the Lord vs. 14 / Fast vs. 14 / Call an assembly vs. 14 / Blow trumpet 2:1 / Sound an alarm 2:1

**Joel 2:12-13** ...turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

**Matthew 3:7-8** But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance... (See also Luke 3:7-8)

### Real repentance produces a change

**Ezra 10:1** Now when Ezra had prayed, and when he had confessed, weeping and casting himself down before the house of God...very great congregation...for the people wept very sore.

**2 Corinthians 7:10-11** For **godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation** not to be repented of: but the **sorrow of the world worketh death**. For behold this selfsame thing, that ye sorrowed after a godly sort, what carefulness it wrought in you, yea, *what* clearing of yourselves, yea, *what* indignation...

### Why did God send His wrath on Judah?

God has forewarned them and they refused to repent:

**2 Chronicles 36:11-14** Zedekiah...did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD his God, *and* humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet *speaking* from the mouth of the LORD...but **he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel**. Moreover **all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much** after all the **abominations** of the heathen; and **polluted the house of the LORD** which he had hallowed in Jerusalem.

**2 Chronicles 36:15-16** And the **LORD God** of their fathers **sent to them by his messengers**, rising up betimes, and sending; **because he had compassion** on his people, and on his dwelling place: But **they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words**, and misused his prophets, **until the wrath of the LORD** arose against his people, **till *there was* no remedy**.

**2 Peter 3:9** The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is **longsuffering** to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, but that **all should come to repentance**.

### Some just ignore the warnings – they think God will not do anything

**Zephaniah 1:12** ...I will search Jerusalem with candles, and punish the men that are settled on their lees: that say in their heart, The LORD will not do good, neither will he do evil.



**2 Peter 3:3-4** Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as *they were* from the beginning of the creation.

**Joel 2:14** Who knoweth *if* he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; *even* a meat offering and a drink offering unto the LORD your God?

There may come a time that repentance is sought, but not able to be received

**Zechariah 7:11-13** But they refused to hearken, and pulled away the shoulder, and stopped their ears, that they should not hear. Yea, they made their hearts *as* an adamant stone, lest they should hear the law, and the words which the LORD of hosts hath sent in his spirit by the former prophets: therefore came a great wrath from the LORD of hosts. Therefore it is come to pass, *that* as he cried, and they would not hear; so they cried, and I would not hear, saith the LORD of hosts:

**Proverbs 1:25-29** But ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof: I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when your fear cometh; When your fear cometh as desolation, and your destruction cometh as a whirlwind; when distress and anguish cometh upon you. Then shall they call upon me, but I will not answer; they shall seek me early, but they shall not find me: For that they hated knowledge, and did not choose the fear of the LORD:

**Psalms 2:1-5** Why do the heathen rage, and the people imagine a vain thing? The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD, and against his anointed, *saying*, Let us break their bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us. He that sitteth in the heavens shall laugh: the Lord shall have them in derision. Then shall he speak unto them in his wrath...

**Hebrews 12:16-17** ...Esau, who...For ye know how that afterward, when he would have inherited the blessing, he was rejected: for he found no place of repentance, though he sought it carefully with tears.

There is may still be hope for those that oppose themselves – we never know

**2 Timothy 2:24-25** And the servant of the Lord must not strive; but be gentle unto all *men*, apt to teach, patient, In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; **if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;**

### **What About Us, the Saved**

**1 Thessalonians 1:10** And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which **delivered us from the wrath to come.**

**John 10:28** And **I give unto them eternal life;** and **they shall never perish,** neither shall any *man* pluck them out of my hand.

**John 5:24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, **hath everlasting life,** and **shall not come into condemnation;** but is passed from death unto life.

## Joel 2:18-27

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This is a difficult passage of Scripture to place. It would seem that this was a near fulfillment.

### **The day of the Lord arrived. The Lord calls for repentance**

**Joel 2:12** Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye *even* to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

### **They repent**

**Joel 2:17** Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O LORD, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where *is* their God?

### **God restores Israel**

**Joel 2:18** Then will the LORD be jealous for his land, and pity his people.

Daily provision	Joel 2:19	Defeat northern army	Joel 2:20
Fear not	Joel 2:21	Latter rain	Joel 2:23
Restore	Joel 2:25	Know I am the Lord	Joel 2:27

The Bible is filled with the love Jehovah has for Israel and their waywardness toward Him. It is a series of serving the Lord; the Lord providing for them; their backsliding; God's chastening and their return.

- Chastening of the Lord is a part of life

Eliphaz knew of the chastening hand of the Lord. (in book of Job, the oldest book in the Bible)

**Job 5:17** Behold, happy *is* the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:

- Chastening is an evidence that you are a child of God

**Hebrews 12:7-8** If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

- Love is always accompanied

**Revelation 3:19** As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

**Hebrews 12:6-7** For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?

- Chastening is to be endured

**Proverbs 3:11-12** My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction...

**Hebrews 12:5** And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

- Our benefit is the end result

**Job 5:17** Behold, happy *is* the man whom God correcteth: therefore despise not thou the chastening of the Almighty:

**Psalms 94:12** Blessed *is* the man whom thou chastenest, O LORD, and teachest him out of thy law;

**Hebrews 12:10-11** For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but he for *our* profit, that *we* might be partakers of his holiness. Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby.

- God will restore after chastisement

**Hosea 6:1** Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

**Jeremiah 3:22** Return, ye backsliding children, *and* I will heal your backslidings...

**Isaiah 55:7** Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the LORD, and he will have mercy upon him; and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

**Romans 5:20** ...But where sin abounded, grace did much more abound:

#### **Peter walking on water – far from Jesus**

**Matthew 14:29** And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

**Matthew 14:30** But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

Was Peter right next to Jesus? (No)

**Matthew 14:31** And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

Jesus is able to reach you no matter how far away you are.

***Chastening is between the Lord and His child***

## The Wrath of God

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**Joel 1:15** Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD *is* at hand, and **as a destruction from the Almighty** shall it come.

God is now pouring out His wrath upon Judah. As a follow-up to last sermon on the chastening of God, here are some thoughts on the wrath of God.

- The Character of God – Who He is

**Joel 2:13** And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the LORD your God: for he *is* gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repenteth him of the evil.

**Exodus 34:6** And the LORD passed by before him, and proclaimed, The LORD, The LORD God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abundant in goodness and truth,

- The Heart of God

**Ezekiel 33:11** Say unto them, As I live, saith the Lord GOD, **I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked**; but that the wicked turn from his way and live: turn ye, turn ye from your evil ways; for why will ye die, O house of Israel?

**2 Peter 3:9** The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, **not willing that any should perish**, but that all should come to repentance.

**1 Timothy 2:4** Who **will have all men to be saved**, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

He loves in spite of man's rebellion

**Nehemiah 9:17** And refused to obey, neither were mindful of thy wonders that thou didst among them; but hardened their necks, and in their rebellion appointed a captain to return to their bondage: but thou *art* a God ready to pardon, gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and forsookest them not.

- The Goodness of God

**Romans 2:4** Or despisest thou the riches of his goodness and forbearance and longsuffering; not knowing that the goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance?

**2 Timothy 2:25** In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth;

- The Wisdom of God

**1 Timothy 1:17** Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, *be* honour and glory...

**Romans 11:33** O the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! how unsearchable *are* his judgments, and his ways past finding out!

- God had warned them to repent

Hosea, the broken-hearted prophet, was sent to Israel and Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, was sent to Judah. Did they change their hearts? No...

During the time of the prophecy of Joel, God had warned them to repent, but they refused

**2 Chronicles 36:11-14** Zedekiah...did *that which was* evil in the sight of the LORD his God, *and* humbled not himself before Jeremiah the prophet *speaking* from the mouth of the LORD...but **he stiffened his neck, and hardened his heart from turning unto the LORD God of Israel**. Moreover **all the chief of the priests, and the people, transgressed very much** after all the **abominations** of the heathen; and **polluted the house of the LORD** which he had hallowed in Jerusalem.

**2 Chronicles 36:15-16** And the **LORD God** of their fathers **sent to them by his messengers**, rising up betimes, and sending; **because he had compassion** on his people, and on his dwelling place: But **they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words**, and misused his prophets, **until the wrath of the LORD** arose against his people, **till there was no remedy**.

Israel's rejection of their Messiah

**Matthew 23:37-38** O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, *thou* that killest the prophets, and stonest them which are sent unto thee, how often would I have gathered thy children together, even as a hen gathereth her chickens under *her* wings, and **ye would not!** Behold, your house is left unto you desolate.

- Sodom & Gomorrah

In the mercy of God, the future children and grandchildren that would have been raised in such wickedness are spared a vile life and eternal damnation. This also applies to the flood in Noah's day.

**Genesis 6:5-6** And GOD saw that the wickedness of man *was* great in the earth, and *that* every imagination of the thoughts of his heart *was* only evil continually. And it repented the LORD that he had made man on the earth, and it grieved him at his heart.

They are also a picture lesson for those who mock at the wrath of God.

**Jude 1:7** Even as Sodom and Gomorrha, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after strange flesh, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire.

- What about the heathen

**Romans 1:20-21** For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; **so that they are without**

**excuse:** Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

If they reject God as Creator, they will also reject God as their Redeemer. They are spared a harsher punishment.

**2 Peter 2:21** For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known *it*, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them.

“Everyone does not have enough light to save them; but they have enough light to damn them” A. Rodgers

- The Tribulation Period

Again this world is becoming so vile and sinful in the eyes of the Lord. The Lord in His mercy will give humans (at the very most) 7 years to decide to get saved or stay lost. Again a generation of children, raised with porn on cell phones, LGBT teaching in schools and drugs and immorality as an integral part of daily life, will not be born.

- The Blood of Jesus Christ spares us from the wrath of God

**1 Thessalonians 1:10** And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, *even* Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come.

**Romans 5:9-10** Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him. For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

**Galatians 3:13** Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:

A legal transaction occurs

**Colossians 1:13** Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated *us* into the kingdom of his dear Son:

**John 5:24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

**1 Thessalonians 5:9** For God hath not appointed us to wrath, but to obtain salvation by our Lord Jesus Christ,

...to obtain salvation... is the salvation of the body

**Ephesians 4:30** And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

## Joel Chapter 3:1-12

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**Joel 3:1** For, behold, **in those days, and in that time**, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

This would seem to be a reference to a future day – the Day of the Lord in the Tribulation Period

Chronology is irrelevant in prophecy. It would be easier for us if it was chronological.

**Revelation 12:5** And she brought forth a man child (Virgin Birth), who was to rule all nations with a rod of iron (Millennial Reign of Christ): and her child was caught up unto God, and *to* his throne (Resurrection of Jesus Christ).

### **All Nations Gathered – at Armageddon**

**Joel 3:9-11** Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; **Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near**; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I *am* strong. Assemble yourselves, and **come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about**: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.

**Joel 3:2** I will also **gather all nations**, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and *for* my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

**Revelation 16:14** For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

**Zephaniah 3:8** Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination *is* to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, *even* all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

**Zechariah 14:2-4** For I will gather all nations against Jerusalem to battle; and the city shall be taken, and the houses rifled, and the women ravished; and half of the city shall go forth into captivity, and the residue of the people shall not be cut off from the city. Then shall the LORD go forth, and fight against those nations, as when he fought in the day of battle. And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which *is* before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, *and there shall be* a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south.

**Revelation 19:19-21** And I saw the beast, and the kings of the earth, and their armies, gathered together to make war against him that sat on the horse, and against his army. And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone. And the remnant were slain with the sword of him that sat upon the horse, which *sword* proceeded out of his mouth: and all the fowls were filled with their flesh.

## Judge the Nations in the Valley of Jehoshaphat

**Joel 3:2** I will also gather all nations, and will **bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat...**

**Joel 3:12** Let the heathen be wakened, and come up **to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.**

**Matthew 25:31-33** When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth *his* sheep from the goats: And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

Gentile Nations Judged by their treatment of Israel

**Matthew 25:46** And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Read Matt. 25:34-46. The judgment of nations is at the end of the Tribulation Period and has to do with their treatment of Israel.

Note their treatment of Israel. Jehovah calls them, *my people...*

**Joel 3:2-6** ...for my heritage Israel, whom they have **scattered among the nations**, and **parted my land**. And they have **cast lots for my people**; and have **given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine**, that they might drink...Because ye have **taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my** goodly pleasant things: The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye **sold unto the Grecians**, that ye might remove them far from their border.

God judges individuals, cities and nations.

**Psalms 9:17** The wicked shall be turned into hell, *and* all the nations that forget God.

**Matthew 11:21-24** Woe unto thee, Chorazin! woe unto thee, Bethsaida! for if the mighty works, which were done in you, had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago in sackcloth and ashes. But I say unto you, It shall be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon at the day of judgment, than for you. And thou, Capernaum, which art exalted unto heaven, shalt be brought down to hell: for if the mighty works, which have been done in thee, had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I say unto you, That it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment, than for thee.

**Romans 14:12** So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.

Demons and angels are assigned to nations, cities and individuals.

**Daniel 10:20** ...to fight with the prince of Persia: and when I am gone forth, lo, the prince of Grecia...

Demons have a stronghold on some nations, some cities and some individuals. There is a spiritual war within each of these three.



## Joel Chapter 3:2

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**Joel 3:2** I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for **my people** and for **my heritage Israel**, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted **my land**.

231 times the Bible refers to “my people.” 8 times it refers to the “holy city” which is Jerusalem.

**Daniel 9:24** Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city, to finish the transgression, and to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, and to bring in everlasting righteousness, and to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the most Holy.

One week of 7 years is unfulfilled upon ‘thy people and thy holy city.’

There is a trinity of the land, the city and the Temple. Temple Mount is 35 acres of contested land. Jerusalem is a contested city and the land was given from Jehovah to Israel. Temple Mount is the location where the Shekinah Glory rested.

**Zechariah 12:2-3** Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of trembling unto all the people round about, when they shall be in the siege both against Judah *and* against Jerusalem. And in that day will I make Jerusalem a burdensome stone for all people: all that burden themselves with it shall be cut in pieces, though all the people of the earth be gathered together against it.

**Ezekiel 48:35** *It was* round about eighteen thousand *measures*: and the name of the city from *that day shall be*, The LORD *is* there.

**Psalms 24:1** The earth *is* the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.

**God gave the land to Abraham, Isaac and then to Jacob. Jacob is Israel.**

(One may study the words, “I will” and “will I” – showing that God promises....)

- **The Land**

### **An Unconditional Covenant**

The only condition was **Genesis 12:1** “Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee.”

After Abraham left his country, everything thereafter was unconditional.

**Genesis 13:14-17** And the LORD said unto Abram, after that Lot was separated from him, Lift up now thine eyes, and look from the place where thou art northward, and southward, and eastward, and westward: For all the land which thou seest, to thee will I give it, and to thy seed for ever. And I will make thy seed as the dust of the earth: so that if a man can number the dust of the earth, *then* shall thy seed also be numbered. Arise, walk through the land in the length of it and in the breadth of it; for I will give it unto thee.

## It was an Everlasting Covenant

**Genesis 17:7-8** And I will establish my covenant between me and thee and thy seed after thee in their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be a God unto thee, and to thy seed after thee. And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all **the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession**; and I will be their God.

**Genesis 17:19** And God said, Sarah thy wife shall bear thee a son indeed; and thou shalt call his name Isaac: and I will establish my covenant with him for an everlasting covenant, *and* with his seed after him.

**Genesis 48:3-4** And Jacob said unto Joseph, God Almighty appeared unto me at Luz in the land of Canaan, and blessed me, And said unto me, Behold, I will make thee fruitful, and multiply thee, and I will make of thee a multitude of people; and **will give this land to thy seed after thee for an everlasting possession.**

**Genesis 35:10** And God said unto him, Thy name *is* Jacob: thy name shall not be called any more Jacob, but Israel shall be thy name: and he called his name Israel.

The Covenant was a blood covenant as God passed between the pieces

**Genesis 15:7-8** And he said unto him, I *am* the LORD that brought thee out of Ur of the Chaldees, to give thee this land to inherit it. And he said, Lord GOD, whereby shall I know that I shall inherit it?

**Genesis 15:9-10** And he said unto him, Take me an heifer of three years old, and a she goat of three years old, and a ram of three years old, and a turtledove, and a young pigeon. And he took unto him all these, and divided them in the midst, and laid each piece one against another...

**Genesis 15:17-18** And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:

### Is that unconditional everlasting covenant still in effect?

**Psalms 105:8-11** He hath remembered his covenant for ever, the word *which* he commanded to a thousand generations. Which *covenant* he made with Abraham, and his oath unto Isaac; And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, *and* to Israel *for* an everlasting covenant: Saying, Unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance:

**Psalms 111:5** He hath given meat unto them that fear him: he will ever be mindful of his covenant.

**Psalms 111:9** He sent redemption unto his people: he hath commanded his covenant for ever: holy and reverend *is* his name.

There are some today that insist God is finished with Israel and that they are 'antichrist.' What does the Bible teach? Did God break His promise? Did God lie to Abraham? Think about it.

## **A Similar Covenant with You and the Blood Covenant of the Lord Jesus Christ**

**Matthew 26:28** For this is my blood of the new testament, which is shed for many for the remission of sins.

### **It is an Unconditional Covenant**

The one condition you must meet: **John 5:24** Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.

### **It is an Everlasting Covenant**

**John 3:16** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

A Testament is a Covenant that goes into effect after the death of the Testator

**Heb. 9:16-17** For where a testament *is*, there must also of necessity be the death of the testator. For a testament *is* of force after men are dead: otherwise it is of no strength at all while the testator liveth.

God always keeps His promises and God is a covenant keeping God.

**Genesis 9:12-17** And God said, This *is* the token of the covenant which I make between me and you and every living creature that *is* with you, for perpetual generations: I do set my bow in the cloud, and it shall be for a token of a covenant between me and the earth. And it shall come to pass, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow shall be seen in the cloud: And I will remember my covenant, which *is* between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall no more become a flood to destroy all flesh. And the bow shall be in the cloud; and I will look upon it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that *is* upon the earth. And God said unto Noah, This *is* the token of the covenant, which I have established between me and all flesh that *is* upon the earth.

Antichrist will be a covenant breaking god. He will allow Israel to rebuild their Temple, and then:

**Daniel 9:27** And he shall confirm the covenant with many for one week: and **in the midst of the week he shall cause the sacrifice and the oblation to cease**, and for the overspreading of abominations...

The reason Israel is alive and 'well' today is because God will deal with them again in the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel which is specifically for Israel.

**Daniel 9:24** Seventy weeks are determined upon thy people and upon thy holy city...

**Jeremiah 30:7** Alas! for that day *is* great, so that none *is* like it: it *is* even the time of Jacob's trouble; but he shall be saved out of it.

**Titus 1:2** In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began;

## The Harvest Joel 3:13

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### Reaping of the Harvest

**Joel 3:13** Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness *is* great.

### Present Day Harvest

There is a harvest for today – to reap the souls of humanity that will turn to Christ. The eternal destiny of souls hinge based upon their acceptance or rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ.

**John 4:35** Say not ye, There are yet four months, and *then* cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

**Matthew 9:37-38** Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly *is* plenteous, but the labourers *are* few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.

**Luke 8:5-15** A sower went out to sow his seed...Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God...that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word...

We must sow the Word of God...the heart is the soil.

**Galatians 6:9** And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.

**1 Corinthians 15:58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

In the Old Testament, there was:

First-fruits (Small offering gathered and brought to the house of God)

Harvest (Largest part)

Gleanings (Remnant)

**Revelation 14:1-4** ...a Lamb stood on the mount Sion, and with him an hundred forty *and* four thousand, having his Father's name written in their foreheads...These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth. These were redeemed from among men, ***being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.***

“It is possible to view the 144,000 as first-fruits in the sense that they represent the first of many others who will be saved. Paul used the term in that sense when he noted that ‘the household of Stephanus...were the first fruits of Achaia’ (I Cor. 16:15). The 144,000 may legitimately be viewed as the first fruits of redeemed Israel, foreshadowing the nation’s salvation when Christ returns.”<sup>1</sup>

The First-Fruits (Rev. 14:4)

Warning of Coming Harvest (Rev. 14:6-11)

The Harvest (Rev. 14:16-20)

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<sup>1</sup> MacArthur, John Revelation 12-22, p.79

## The Angels Warn for the Coming Harvest

- Angel Preaching the Everlasting Gospel (vs.6-7)

John says “I saw another angel...” Another angel (like Rev. 1:1, 7:2, 8:3&13, and 10:1) preaches:

- A) The everlasting gospel
- B) Fear God (hour of judgment is come)
- C) Give glory of Him – Creator (in contrast to worshipping the Beast)
- D) Humanity is ‘without excuse’

Another Angel Announcing Fall of Babylon (vs.8)

- A) Babylon – that great city is fallen (See ch 18)

- Third Angel Warns of Damnation to Worshipers of the Beast (vs. 9-11)

Worship the Beast, his image, receive his mark = wrath of God poured out without mixture - full strength  
Tormented with fire and brimstone:

Revelation 19:20 And the beast was taken, and with him the false prophet that wrought miracles before him, with which he deceived them that had received the mark of the beast, and them that worshipped his image. These both were cast alive into a lake of fire burning with brimstone.

Revelation 20:10 And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet *are*, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.

Revelation 21:8 But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death.

Revelation 14:11 And the smoke of their torment ascendeth up for ever and ever: and they have no rest day nor night...

“After the resurrection, sleep belongs neither to the lost nor to the saved. The saved will not need it; for the body of weakness is shaken off. The lost may not enjoy it. How strange the sinner’s infatuation, that after all this solemn warning of the eternity of hell-torments, he will still go on coolly provoking God to cut him down and cast him into the fire.”<sup>2</sup>

### Harvest 14:14-20

There are two different harvests:                   The Son of Man reaps the **first harvest (a grain harvest)**, while the angel reaps the **second harvest (a vintage)**.

John Phillips writes:                                   **“The Harvest** has to do with Christendom – or what is left of it, for the sphere of the harvest is religious.  
The final separation of the false from the true

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<sup>2</sup> Strauss, Lehman The Book of Revelation, p.269

**The Vintage** has to do with the world  
The time of God's vengeance has come  
Describes the final subjugation of the foes of the truth  
Pictures the Lord stepping down into the arena of Armageddon  
to trample down the Beast and all those gathered to his  
standards in this final conflict of the age."<sup>3</sup>

Clarence Larkin states: "The difference between the 'Harvest and the Vintage' is, that the 'harvest' in the natural world precedes the 'vintage,' but often, as in this case, continues until they become one."<sup>4</sup>

### **Christ Sitting on Cloud – to Reap with Sharp Sickle (vs. 14-16)**

Jesus is the Son of Man. "There is no note here of the marvelous display of glory which our Lord always emphasized as attending His return as Son of man (Matt. 24:30, Mk. 8:38)."<sup>5</sup>

In the church age, Jesus has the seven stars in His right hand (Rev. 1:16&20); at the end of the tribulation period, He has a sharp sickle.

Another Angel Cries to Christ to Reap (vs.15).

Deuteronomy 23:25 When thou comest into the standing corn of thy neighbour, then thou mayest pluck the ears with thine hand; but thou shalt not move a sickle unto thy neighbour's standing corn.

According to the law, one could only reap that which he owned / had authority over. The Lord Jesus Christ is reaping that which is rightfully His.

### **Another Angel Comes with Sharp Sickle – to Reap (vs. 17-20)**

Another Angel Cries to Angel to Reap (vs. 18)

This reaping consists of casting the 'vine of the earth' into the great winepress of the wrath of God. This 'vine of the earth' is the Antichrist and all who belong to him – the group from Rev. 14:9-11.

The winepress is trodden without the city – Jerusalem (vs. 19-20). The blood flows to the horses' bridle – 4' high and it flows for 1600 furlongs – about 200 miles. "From Dan to Beersheba was sixteen hundred furlongs. Flowing from Armageddon, a deep crimson tide of human blood is seen. Outside the city where He was crucified, down there in the valley of Jehoshaphat, the valley of judgment, the Lord will complete the trampling down of His foes. What is signified is a vast destruction of human life, a slaughter beyond anything the world has known, a slaughter that begins at Armageddon and that continues on the end of the judgment of the living nations spoken of in Matthew 25:31-46."<sup>6</sup>

This scene is described in other passages:

Joel 3:13 Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness *is* great.

Isaiah 63:1-6 Who *is* this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this *that is* glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. Wherefore *art thou* red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? I have

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<sup>3</sup> Phillips, John [Exploring Revelation](#), p.186

<sup>4</sup> Larkin, Clarence [The Book of Revelation](#), p.137

<sup>5</sup> Newell, William R. [The Book of the Revelation](#), p.228

<sup>6</sup> Phillips, John [Exploring Revelation](#), p.186

trodden the winepress alone; and of the people *there was* none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. For the day of vengeance *is* in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. And I looked, and *there was* none to help; and I wondered that *there was* none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me. And I will tread down the people in mine anger, and make them drunk in my fury, and I will bring down their strength to the earth.

Zechariah 14:12 And this shall be the plague wherewith the LORD will smite all the people that have fought against Jerusalem; Their flesh shall consume away while they stand upon their feet, and their eyes shall consume away in their holes, and their tongue shall consume away in their mouth.

Revelation 19:15-18 And out of his mouth goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations... and he treadeth the winepress of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God... And I saw an angel standing in the sun; and he cried with a loud voice, saying to all the fowls that fly in the midst of heaven, Come and gather yourselves together unto the supper of the great God; That ye may eat the flesh of kings, and the flesh of captains, and the flesh of mighty men, and the flesh of horses, and of them that sit on them, and the flesh of all *men, both* free and bond, both small and great.

### **Timing of This Harvest / Vintage**

“In the Old Testament, harvest and vintage preceded the Feast of Tabernacles, that great annual feast of jubilation and joy. It is the same here. The golden age is soon to come, the long-awaited millennial reign of Christ; but first the ripened harvest must be reaped, and the reddened vintage must be trod.”<sup>7</sup>

The reaping of the Lord Jesus Christ (Grain Harvest) would be for those who have not taken the mark of the Beast. This would include Israel – who will get saved – and those who have endured to the end who are judged by their treatment of Israel (Matt. 24:13, 25:31-46).

The angel reaps the harvest (Vintage) of the Antichrist and all those who have taken the mark.

Unfulfilled Feast Days – Trumpets / Day of Atonement (10<sup>th</sup> Day) / Tabernacles (15<sup>th</sup> Day)

“In concluding this chapter, we must stress that the prediction that Christ will bring judgment on the earth comes only after three angelic warnings: (1) in the preaching of the everlasting Gospel; (2) in the warning that the Babylon... will be destroyed; and (3) in the assurance that worshippers of Antichrist will be judged in this life and the life to come. We can only conclude that those who are thus harvested and pressed into the winepress of the wrath of God are the incorrigibles who stumble over all kinds of divine warning against following Antichrist.

This tragic picture of the culmination of all things is another indication of the depravity of the human heart. With such supernatural warnings one would think that ungodly men would fall down and worship Jesus Christ, but nothing could be further from the truth. This is another reminder to us that when men reject the Lord, their problem is one of the will.”<sup>8</sup>

***Joel foretold of this event! John wrote in detail of this same unfulfilled event!***

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<sup>7</sup> Phillips, John [Exploring Revelation](#), p.184

<sup>8</sup> LaHaye, Tim [Revelation](#), p.202-203

## End Times Joel 3:9-16

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Phrases that describe the end times – that timeframe near the end of the Tribulation Period.

### Armageddon

**Joel 3:9-10** ...**Prepare war**, wake up the mighty men, let all the **men of war** draw near; let them come up: Beat your plowshares into **swords**, and your pruninghooks into **spears**: let the weak say, *I am* strong.

**Revelation 16:14** For they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, *which* go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.

**Zephaniah 3:8** Therefore wait ye upon me, saith the LORD, until the day that I rise up to the prey: for my determination *is* to gather the nations, that I may assemble the kingdoms, to pour upon them mine indignation, *even* all my fierce anger: for all the earth shall be devoured with the fire of my jealousy.

### Saints return with Jesus

**Joel 3:11** Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither **cause thy mighty ones to come down**, O LORD.

**Jude 1:14** And Enoch also, the seventh from Adam, prophesied of these, saying, Behold, the Lord cometh with ten thousands of his saints,

**Daniel 7:18** But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

### Judgment of the Lost

**Joel 3:12** Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there **will I sit to judge all the heathen round about**.

**Daniel 7:9-10** I beheld till the thrones were cast down, and the Ancient of days did sit, whose garment *was* white as snow, and the hair of his head like the pure wool: his throne *was like* the fiery flame, *and* his wheels *as* burning fire. A fiery stream issued and came forth from before him: thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him: the judgment was set, and the books were opened.

**Revelation 20:11-15** And I saw a great white throne, and him that sat on it, from whose face the earth and the heaven fled away; and there was found no place for them. And I saw the dead, small and great, stand before God; and the books were opened: and another book was opened, which is *the book* of life: and the dead were judged out of those things which were written in the books, according to their works. And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works. And death and hell were cast into the



lake of fire. This is the second death. And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire.

### **Harvest Time**

**Joel 3:13** Put ye in the sickle, for **the harvest is ripe**: come, get you down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness *is* great.

This was covered last week as the *Day of the Lord* was covered previously.

### **Day of the Lord**

**Joel 3:14** Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for **the day of the LORD is near...**

### **Sun & Moon Darkened**

**Joel 3:15** The **sun and the moon shall be darkened**, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

**Isaiah 13:10** For the stars of heaven and the constellations thereof shall not give their light: the sun shall be darkened in his going forth, and the moon shall not cause her light to shine.

**Mark 13:24** But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light,

**Luke 23:45** And the sun was darkened, and the veil of the temple was rent in the midst.

**Revelation 8:12** And the fourth angel sounded, and the third part of the sun was smitten, and the third part of the moon, and the third part of the stars; so as the third part of them was darkened, and the day shone not for a third part of it, and the night likewise.

**Revelation 9:2** And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit.

**Matthew 16:27** For the Son of man shall come in the **glory** of his Father with his angels...

**Matthew 24:30** ...the Son of man in heaven: and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and **great glory**.

**Matthew 25:31** When the Son of man shall come in his **glory**, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his **glory**:

Clarence Larkin:

“The wicked will be plotting dark deeds; and the unbelieving will be proving to their own satisfaction that there is no God, no heaven, no hell, no coming judgment, when suddenly there will be a change. In the distant heaven there will be a POINT OF LIGHT outshining the sun. It will be seen descending toward the earth. As it descends it will assume the form of a bright cloud, out of which shall stream dazzling beams of light, and flashes of lighting. It will descend apace as if on the wings of the whirlwind, and

when it reaches its destination over the brow of the Mt. Of Olives, it will stop and unfold itself to the terrified and awestricken beholders, and there will be revealed to them Jesus seated on a white horse and accompanied with His saints and the armies of heaven. Then shall appear the sign of the Son of Man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of Man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory.”

John Walvoord:

“Christ is seen here as bodily leaving heaven and coming to earth. The white horse is symbolic of victory. It was customary for Roman generals after a conquest to parade on white horses with their captive prisoners in the procession that followed. The fact that Jesus comes on a white horse indicates that it is a time for His victory and for judgment on the wicked world. He comes as a conquering King and Lord of lords. His purpose in coming is to execute justice on the world, and to accomplish this He will make war. The fact that He wears many crowns, signifying rulership, shows that He is indeed the proper King over all nations.”

Lehman Strauss:

“He is the Rider on the white horse coming to execute righteous judgment on the earth, as He said. When He appears on earth again, it will be to judge and make war. His judgment and His war will be those of the perfect man, the Faithful and True One. He is the mighty captain leading His armies from heaven to earth. Out of His mouth proceeds a sharp two-edged sword. It is He who smites the nations. The armies merely view the battle. Most battles are fought by armies while the general directs from a vantage point. But this General is unique, and He has never lost a battle. As KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS, He now returns to establish His kingdom.”

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Coming – Lord shall roar**

**Joel 3:16** The **LORD also shall roar out of Zion**, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and **the heavens and the earth shall shake**: but the LORD *will be* the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

**Isaiah 42:13** The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies.

**Jeremiah 25:30** Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread *the grapes*, against all the inhabitants of the earth.

**Amos 1:2** And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither.

A roar is to be feared, a shout is to be rejoiced in - the Rapture will be a shout – a shout of victory.

**1 Thessalonians 4:16** For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

**...the heavens and the earth shall shake:**

**Hebrews 12:26** Whose voice then shook the earth: but now he hath promised, saying, Yet once more I shake not the earth only, but also heaven.

During the Tribulation Period...

**Revelation 6:12** And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood;

**Revelation 8:5** And the angel took the censer, and filled it with fire of the altar, and cast *it* into the earth: and there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings, and an earthquake.

**Revelation 11:13** And the same hour was there a great earthquake, and the tenth part of the city fell, and in the earthquake were slain of men seven thousand: and the remnant were affrighted, and gave glory to the God of heaven.

**Revelation 16:18** And there were voices, and thunders, and lightnings; and there was a great earthquake, such as was not since men were upon the earth, so mighty an earthquake, *and* so great.

Yet... **Revelation 9:20-21** And the rest of the men which were not killed by these plagues yet repented not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship devils, and idols of gold, and silver, and brass, and stone, and of wood: which neither can see, nor hear, nor walk: Neither repented they of their murders, nor of their sorceries, nor of their fornication, nor of their thefts.

Sometimes the Lord sends an earthquake to get people to wake up to that which God is doing...

**Matthew 27:51** And, behold, the veil of the temple was rent in twain from the top to the bottom; and the earth did quake, and the rocks rent;

**Matthew 27:54** Now when the centurion, and they that were with him, watching Jesus, saw the earthquake, and those things that were done, they feared greatly, saying, Truly this was the Son of God.

**Acts 28:24** And some believed the things which were spoken, and some believed not.

**Matthew 28:2** And, behold, there was a great earthquake: for the angel of the Lord descended from heaven, and came and rolled back the stone from the door, and sat upon it.

### **King Jesus Reigns from Jerusalem**

**Joel 3:17** So shall ye know that I *am* the LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.

**Ezekiel 48:35** ...and the name of the city from *that day shall be*, The LORD *is* there.

## Joel 3:17-20

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**Joel 3:17** So shall ye know that I *am* the **LORD your God** dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.

In the Tribulation Period, the 70<sup>th</sup> week of Daniel, God will do mighty things for Israel. Supernatural events will once again pick up. The above passage speaks of the LORD (Jehovah - singular) your God (Elohim – plural) dwelling in Zion – King Jesus reigning on earth.

Side Note: Much of the O.T. is unfulfilled prophecy with supernatural help from Jehovah for Israel. “Ye shall know that I am the LORD” is mentioned 22 times in Ezekiel.

### King Jesus Reigning

**Joel 3:17** So shall ye know that I *am* the **LORD your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy**, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.

Joel 3:17-20 is a prophecy concerning the time the King Jesus reigns from Jerusalem.

**Zechariah 14:9-11** And the LORD shall be king over all the earth: in that day shall there be one LORD, and his name one...And *men* shall dwell in it, and there shall be no more utter destruction; but Jerusalem shall be safely inhabited.

**Zechariah 14:17-20** And it shall be, *that* whoso will not come up of *all* the families of the earth unto Jerusalem to worship the King, the LORD of hosts, even upon them shall be no rain... In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, HOLINESS UNTO THE LORD; and the pots in the LORD'S house shall be like the bowls before the altar.

**Ezekiel 48:35** ...and the name of the city from *that day shall be*, The LORD *is* there.

Millennium Description:

**Micah 4:1-4** But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the **mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted** above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the **word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge** among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and **they shall beat their swords into plowshares**, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, **neither shall they learn war any more.** But they **shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree...**

### Abundant Blessings on Judah & Jerusalem

**Joel 3:18** And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

“The mountains shall drop down new wine - Literally, "trodden" out. What is ordinarily obtained by toil, shall be poured forth spontaneously. "And the hills shall flow with milk," literally, "flow milk," as though they themselves, of their own accord, gushed forth into the good gifts which they yield. "Wine" ever new, and ever renewing, sweet and gladdening the heart...And these shall never cease.” BARNES

The curse of ‘work by the sweat of the brow’ is lifted. Economic activity:

**Micah 4:4** But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree...

### **Enemies of Israel**

**Joel 3:19** Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence *against* the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.

**Obadiah 1:18** And the house of Jacob shall be a fire, and the house of Joseph a flame, and the house of Esau for stubble, and they shall kindle in them, and devour them; and **there shall not be *any* remaining of the house of Esau**; for the LORD hath spoken *it*.

**Ezekiel 29:10-11** Behold, therefore I *am* against thee...and I will make **the land of Egypt utterly waste and desolate**...No foot of man shall pass through it...**neither shall it be inhabited forty years**.

### **Eternal Blessings upon Judah & Jerusalem**

**Joel 3:20** But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

**Joel 3:21** For I will cleanse their blood *that* I have not cleansed: for the LORD dwelleth in Zion.

**Daniel 7:18** But the saints of the most High shall take the kingdom, and possess the kingdom for ever, even for ever and ever.

Eternal blessings on God’s people! We are the church due to the unbelief of Israel. May we walk by faith.

**Hebrews 11:6** But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**Hebrews 3:12** Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God.

**2 Corinthians 5:7** (For we walk by faith, not by sight:)

### **How do we know this all will come to pass?**

- It is based upon the Word of God.

**1 Thessalonians 4:15** For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are alive *and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

**Matthew 24:35** Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.

**John 14:2** In my Father's house are many mansions: **if *it were not so*, I would have told you**. I go to prepare a place for you.

**Romans 8:11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.

- Previous prophecy was fulfilled literally; therefore future prophecy **MUST** be fulfilled literally.

**Isaiah 53:5-7** But he *was* wounded for our transgressions, *he was* bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all. He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.

If this was a literal fulfilment, then this also must be literal (both in Isaiah):

**Isaiah 2:2-4** And it shall come to pass in the last days, *that* the mountain of the LORD'S house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

### **Application**

We (the saved - God's N.T. heavenly people) shall rule and reign with Him; abundant blessings are in store for us; enemies will be defeated and eternal blessings are awaiting us.

**Matthew 6:19-20** Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

**Colossians 3:1-2** If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

**Matthew 10:42** And whosoever shall give to drink unto one of these little ones a cup of cold *water* only in the name of a disciple, verily I say unto you, he shall in no wise lose his reward.

**1 Corinthians 3:9-10** For we are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry, *ye are* God's building. According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.