

Major Lessons from the Minor Prophets

Joel: Final Judgment

Hebrews 1:1-2

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers **by the prophets**, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

2 Timothy 3:16-17

All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work.

JOEL: THE PROPHET

Joel was the son of a man named _____.

Joel's name means " _____."

Joel's audience was _____.

JOEL: OUTLINE

Part 1: The Judgment against Judah and the Day of the Lord (1:1-2:17)

A. Locust Invasion: forerunner of the day of the Lord (1:1-20)

B. Army Invasion: the arrival of the day of the Lord (2:1-17)

Part 2: The mercy of the Lord and the Judgment against the Nations (2:18-3:21)

A. Mercy: the Lord responds by restoring his people (2:18-32)

B. Judgment: the Lord's judgment against the nations and his dwelling with his people (3:1-21)

JOEL: OVERVIEW

Joel can be summarized in three statements:

- 1) _____ are God's warning of judgment to come.
- 2) _____ these warnings, and return to God with all your heart.
- 3) When you return to God, God's fullest _____ will be poured out on you .

JOEL: THE LOCUST PLAGUE

Locusts cause _____.

What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten. What the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten, and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten. (v4)

Joel's detailed description of the locust plague in Chapter 1 is _____.

In chapter 2, we discover that the locust plague is really just a _____ of the coming *day of the Lord*.

JOEL: THE DAY OF THE LORD

Joel emphasizes "the day of the Lord" five times in his short book:

1:15: Alas for the day! For **the day of the Lord** is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes.

2:1: Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the **day of the Lord** is coming; it is near,

2:11: The Lord utters his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful. For the **day of the Lord** is great and very awesome; who can endure it?

2:31: The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome **day of the Lord** comes.

3:14: Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the **day of the Lord** is near in the valley of decision.

At the same time, the *day of the Lord* is _____ and _____.

The *day of the Lord* is a theological idea that can manifest itself in human history in many _____ and _____.

The *day of the Lord* is not exclusively any specific period of tribulation, deliverance, or final judgment. But, each one of these events can rightly be called the *day of the Lord*.

The final day of the Lord has two aspects to it:

- 1) The last _____ on all evil and sin
- 2) The final _____ for faithful believers

JOEL: REPENTANCE

The delays in God's judgment and the previews of judgment are for our good, that we might _____!

Joel 2:12-13

"Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

God desires our repentance, NOT our _____!

When Joel speaks of repentance, his emphasis is on the _____.

What should we expect if genuine repentance were taking place in our church?

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

Incentives for genuine repentance:

CONCLUSIONS, IMPLICATIONS, AND APPLICATIONS...