

THE MESSAGE OF THE PROPHET JOEL
THE DAY OF THE LORD IS COMING

JOEL CHAPTER 1:4-7

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

"NOW HEAR THIS"

THE COMING OF THE DAY OF THE LORD DRAWS NEAR

Part II

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Judgment, The Day of The Lord, Repentance, Hope

Introduction to the Text; **Joel 1:4-7**

Statement of Textual Summation and Theme

The **Word** of The Lord, Reveals to Us The **Day** of The Lord

In Our Last Study...

Joel 1:1-3

*The word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel. 2 Hear this, you elders, And give ear, all you inhabitants of the land! Has anything like this happened in your days, Or even in the days of your fathers? 3 Tell **your children** about it, Let your children tell **their children**, And their children, **another generation.***

- 1.) *The Lord speaks **mercy** in the coming discipline v.1*
- 2.) *The Lord speaks **justice** in the face of evil v.2*
- 3.) *The Lord speaks **hope** in the time ahead v.3*

Verse 3

*Tell **your children** about it, Let your children tell **their children**,
And their children, **another generation.***

**SOMETHING TERRIBLE
WAS ABOUT TO HAPPEN**

NOW HEAR THIS

1.) The reason why God allows suffering is v.3-4

What are They to Tell Their Children?

Joel 1:4

4 What the chewing locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; What the swarming locust left, the crawling locust has eaten; And what the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten.

By The Way - For The Record

***(the Hebrew word usage gives the development and maturity of the locusts)
it starts out little and seemingly insignificant... until it grows
into a monstrous thing)***

Many Scientific Records Mention
the Book of Joel and the Development of the Locust in its
Stages as an Exact Description of Locust Attacks in History to Modern Times
and Matches Perfectly with the Study of Entomology.

***Great Locusts Swarms in History
in 125 ad.***

***Ethiopia and the northeastern tip of Africa, a locust swarm was recorded to be
so great that when a strong wind pushed them out to sea, they died, floated to
shore and a disease arose from the dead locusts
and killed 80,000 people.***

***Great Locusts Swarms in History
July 28, 1962***

***The National Physics Laboratory in Delhi, India Detected a Radar Mass on the
Screen 60 miles south of Delhi, together Pakistan and India fought this Locust
swarm which took six months,
killing 100 billion locusts.***

***Great Locusts Swarms in History
And In 1784,***

***The largest swarm of locust ever recorded, over 300 billion locust in South
Africa. the swarm cover 2,000 sq. miles. the swarm consumed 600,000 tons of
plant life per day. The swarm was blown out to sea and died and when the dead
locust washed up on the beach, there was a wall 4 feet high and 50 miles long of
dead locusts on the beach.***

Joel will shift his Illustration / Lesson
in Entomology (study of bugs) to the Prophetic.

NOW HEAR THIS

The reason why God allows suffering is

1a.) To build us up through the *hardship*

Verse 4

Joel 1:4

4 What the chewing locust left, the swarming locust has eaten; What the swarming locust left, the crawling locust has eaten; And what the crawling locust left, the consuming locust has eaten

America was Born by the desire to be a Free Nation.
but that struggle was quickly attacked.

The Hardship, The Struggle, The Hard Work
we are unable to reproduce today because we have become full and filled

Judah to The South, and Israel to the North
had become blessed too and blesses mismanaged can turn into a curse.

There is a Strange and Insightful Passage

Luke 22:31

And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, **that he may sift you as wheat.** **32** But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to *Me*, strengthen your brethren."

Sifting Is The "Dragging"

It's Like Reading Peter's Diary

1 Peter 1:5-9

You who are **kept by the power of God** through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. **:6** In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, **7** that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, **8** whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, **9** receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

NOW HEAR THIS

The reason why God allows suffering is

1b.) To build within us a greater faith

Verse 4

1Peter 4:12

Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you; **13** but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. **14** If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

James 1:2

My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, **3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. **4** But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

The reason why God allows suffering is

1c.) To build from us a future generation

Verse 4

Tonight My Friend, Listen.

As a Christian, we know what's coming. The future is in God's hands.

"But Jack - It's The Little Stuff I Panic About"

The Meaning of This is So Much More Terrible Than What Meets the Eye.

Joel 1:4

*This **chewing, swarming, crawling, consuming** locust thing is found in other books of the bible, ie. the Book of Revelation*

Revelation 9:3

Then out of the smoke locusts came upon the earth. And to them was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power.

NOW HEAR THIS

2.) The reason why God allows difficulty is v.5

*Awake, you drunkards, and weep; And wail, all you drinkers of wine,
Because of the new wine, For it has been cut off from your mouth.*

The reason why God allows difficulty is

2a.) So we would be *alert* once again

Verse 5

Awake, you drunkards, and weep...

Dude, Why? Because The Vineyard is Consumed.

The Word Usage Here is Powerful.

Hey, Drunk, Wake Up, Your **Rum's** Gone

Imagine a Locust Swarm Today

"Awake You Pot Smokers, Weep You Dopers,
for Thy Weed is Burned.

There Will Be Nothing Left to Drink?

**The People of Judah had Departed from
Fellowship with The Lord.**

In Mercy and Terror...

Awake, you drunkards, and weep; And wail
Wake Up and Depart from Your Ways

And because of their backsliding, they had to be disciplined !

Hebrews 12:5-8

And you have forgotten the **exhortation** which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the **chastening** of the LORD, Nor be **discouraged** when you are **rebuked** by Him; **6** For whom the LORD loves He chastens, And **scourges** every son whom He **receives**." :7 If you endure chastening, God deals with you **as with sons**; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? **8** But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are **illegitimate** and not sons.

The Lord Corrects His Kids

The reason why God allows difficulty is

2b.) So we would *return* once again

Verse 5

...And **wail**, all you drinkers of wine,

Joel is Exposing Those Who Had Left Off Seeking the Lord.
It's easier to not seek him, easier to not pray, easier to not fellowship,
easier to not be faithful, easier to let down my guard...

The Indictment is Against Those Seeking "Peace" in something else.

The reason why God allows difficulty is

2c.) So we would be **thankful** once again

Verse 5

Because of the new **wine**, For it has been cut off from your mouth.

NOW HEAR THIS

3.) **The reason why God allows an enemy to come v.6-7**

6 For a nation has come up against My land, Strong, and without number; His teeth are the teeth of a lion, And he has the fangs of a fierce lion. 7 He has laid waste My vine, And ruined My fig tree; He has stripped it bare and thrown it away; Its branches are made white.

If It Was Only About Locusts, It Would Be Terrible Enough
But There's More To It - It's About Nations and Wars.

The reason why God allows an enemy to come

3a.) **Is because of His desire for His land**

Verse 6

For a nation has come up against My land, Strong, and without number; His teeth are the teeth of a lion, And he has the fangs of a fierce lion.

"Up against My land"

The Land of Israel - Who's Land is It in Real Life?
(Including The West Bank, Gaza and Jerusalem)

Leviticus 25:23

The land shall not be sold forever: for the land is **My land**;

Ezekiel 36:5

Therefore thus saith the Lord GOD, ...It's *My land*

Ezekiel 38:16

The enemies of Israel will come up against *My land*,

**An Amazing Prophecy is Given Here,
For "*a nation*" has come up**

This Would be Babylon of Nebuchanezzer's Fame

Judah is Unaware That an Evil, Powerful, Enemy is Stirring to the Northeast
The Locust Invasion was an Actual Prototype of What Was Coming to Judah and
Would Eventually Come Upon Israel in The Last Days!

Interesting Isn't It?

Is the fact that Nebuchanezzer selected the Lion to be his empires symbol
Babylonian "Ishtar" Gate Photo's

Verse 6b

Revelation 9:8

And they had hair as the hair of women,
and their teeth were *as the teeth of lions*.

The reason why God allows an enemy to come

3b.) Is because of His desire for His people

Verse 7

He has *laid waste* My vine, And *ruined* My fig tree;
He has *stripped* it bare and *thrown* it away; Its branches are *made white*.

The Vineyard and the Vine is Utterly Wasted,
but not Destroyed.

The National Geographic 1915
records a locust swarm covering the land from the northern regions Egypt north thru
Israel up to the Taurus mountains to the north. the development of the swarm was as
is recorded in Joel. vineyards were consumed by the first pass, leaf and fruit, the
second swarm devoured stem and branches, the last swarm ate bark, sap and pitch.
when the hot sun arose, the heat bleached the root of the vines snow white. *by john d.
witting, national geographic*

The Italian, The Romans Called Locust
"The Burners"
it would want to die, it would want to be..

Ezekiel 38:16

And thou shalt come up against my people of Israel,

Isaiah 63:7

I will mention the loving kindnesses of the LORD *And* the praises of the LORD,
According to all that the LORD has bestowed on us, And the great goodness toward
the house of Israel, Which He has bestowed on them according to His mercies,
According to the multitude of His loving kindnesses.

Joel 3:1-2

"In those days and at that time, when I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, :2
I will gather all nations and bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will
enter into judgment against them concerning my inheritance, my people Israel, for they
scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.

The reason why God allows an enemy to come

3c.) *Is because of His desire for His nation*

Verse 7

Turn to Psalms 91

Let Me Call Upon You Tonight To Be Witnesses of God's Power.
Power to Judge Us and Power to Restore Us.

Have You Ever Been Judged by God in Discipline?
(His hand is heavy and relentless, against your conscience day and night)

As a Child of God, by Faith in Jesus Christ, Having Been Born Again,
I am Now in His Family, His House, His Child Too.

Like Judah, God Says...
You are Now Mine, Grafted In, Adopted in Christ, Made to be a People

1Peter 2:9-10

But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special
people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into
His marvelous light; **10** who once *were* not a people but *are* now the people of God,
who had not obtained mercy but now have obtained mercy.

Romans 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable *are* His judgments and His ways past finding out!

Psalms 32:3-5

When I kept silent, my bones grew old Through my groaning all the day long. **4** For day and night Your hand was heavy upon me; My vitality was turned into the drought of summer. **5** I acknowledged my sin to You, And my iniquity I have not hidden. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

1 John 1:6-10

If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. **7** But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin. **8** If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. **9** If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. **10** If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.

If You Need Ministry of Any Kind

as soon as this song is over, you come forward today, and experience God's mercy and grace in your own life.

End of Study