

Joel prophesied at an unknown time to the people of Judah and Jerusalem. His dominant theme of judgment in the Day of the Lord is meant to be a backdrop on which God's mercy and forgiveness are extended to those who repent and believe.

The Locusts & the Day of the Lord

Chapters 1:1 - 2:17

Ch 1:1-12	The locust invasion
Ch 1:13-20	A call for repentance & the coming Day of the Lord
Ch 2:1-17	An army advances & the people repent

The Mercy of God & Judgment of Nations

Chapters 2:18 - 3:21

Ch 2:18-32	The Lord restores
Ch 3:1-31	The nations are judged & God is present with His people

A ROAD TRIP ACROSS THE BIBLE



Joel | March 15, 2015

The second minor prophet, Joel, is full of poetic and timeless images of both judgment and mercy poured out upon nations and people. Where the day of the Lord means judgment for the enemies of God, it means God's provision and presence for His people. Jesus Christ makes this possible!

The Day of the Lord is mentioned more times in Joel than any other book of the Bible. It deserves a look.

1. The Day of the Lord is a day for the _____. (Joel 3)
2. The Day of the Lord is a day for _____. (Joel 1, 2)
3. The Day of the Lord requires a _____. (Joel 1, 2)

While the Day of the Lord is a day of judgment, it is a day of salvation and deliverance for God's people. How should we respond?

1. _____ & _____ in heart. (Joel 2:11-17)
2. Find _____ with God our refuge. (Joel 2:18-20; 3:16)
3. Trust in His certain _____. (Joel 2:21-27; Rev. 22:1-2)
4. Worship Him for His _____. (Joel 2:28-32; 3:17)

A ROAD TRIP ACROSS THE BIBLE

Questions for Growth Groups



CONNECTING TOGETHER

In this 10th week together, spend time discussing the upcoming spring quarter, which begins on April 12th. Recommit together on time, place, and who is returning.

You've been given access to a time machine. Where and when would you travel?

STUDYING GOD'S WORD TOGETHER

1. What did you find most interesting or challenging in the book of Joel? What was your biggest takeaway from the message?
2. "The Day of the Lord" is mentioned more times in Joel than in any other book of the Bible (1:15; 2:2; 2:11; 2:31; 3:14). What do you know about the Day of the Lord? What was new to you? What are some popular perceptions that our culture has of God's judgment?
3. Do you believe that judgment is coming? Who will be judged? Who will be able to "endure" it (2:11)? Is it unloving to talk to somebody about topics like judgment and hell? Why or why not?

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Questions for Growth Groups



4. Read Joel 2:12-14 together as a group. What do these verses say about God and us? In what other places do you see glimmers of God's grace and mercy in the book of Joel? How does this encourage you?
5. Read Joel 2:28-32 and Acts 2:1-21. What parallels and differences do you see between the Day of the Lord in Joel, and the day of Pentecost in Acts?
6. Read Romans 8:1-11. What encouragement is there for you in your life, death, and the Day of Judgment, if the Spirit of Jesus Christ dwells in you?
7. Summarize each of the four responses from the outline that we are to have to the Day of the Lord. Which is hardest for you and why?

PRAYING TOGETHER

Before sharing prayer requests, in light of what you have just discussed and learned from God's word, respond to God in a time of adoration and praise in prayer.