
you are paying me back, I will swiftly and speedily return on your own heads what you have done. 5 For you took my silver and my gold and carried off my finest treasures to your temples. 6 You sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, that you might send them far from their homes.

Joel 3:9 Proclaim this among the nations: Prepare for war! Rouse the warriors! Let all the fighting men draw near and attack. ¹⁰ Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weakling say, "I am strong!" ¹¹ Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there.

Renewal of all creation (Joel 3:17-21)

(See also Isaiah 35; Ezek. 47; Zechariah 14)

Joel 3:17 "Then you will know that I, the LORD your God, dwell in Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be holy; never again will foreigners invade her. ¹⁸ "In that day the mountains will drip new wine, and the hills will flow with milk; all the ravines of Judah will run with water. A fountain will flow out of the LORD's house and will water the valley of acacias. ¹⁹ But Egypt will be desolate, Edom a desert waste, because of violence done to the people of Judah, in whose land they shed innocent blood. ²⁰ Judah will be inhabited forever and Jerusalem through all generations. ²¹ Shall I leave their innocent blood unavenged? No, I will not." The LORD dwells in Zion!

Conclusion:

Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. ¹⁵ The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine. ¹⁶ The LORD will roar from Zion and thunder from Jerusalem; the earth and the heavens will tremble. But the LORD will be a refuge for his people, a stronghold for the people of Israel.

Romans 2:4 Or do you show contempt for the riches of his kindness, forbearance and patience, not realizing that God's kindness is intended to lead you to repentance?

LISTEN to or VIEW video of past PCI messages at
www.pacificchurch.com

Joel

Minor Prophets—part 2

September 19, 2021

Day of the Lord

Usage #1: a wake-up call before final judgment.

Joel 3:7 "... I will return on your own heads what you have done."

Usage #2: final judgment

Usage #3: God pours out His Spirit.

Look at the Past

National disaster strikes! Joel 1

Joel 1:4 What the locust swarm has left the great locusts have eaten; what the great locust have left the young locusts have eaten; what the young locusts have left other locusts have eaten.

Joel 1:7 It has laid waste my vines and ruined my fig trees. It has stripped off their bark and thrown it away, leaving their branches white.

Joel 1:8 Mourn like a virgin in sackcloth grieving for the betrothed of her youth. ⁹ Grain offerings and drink offerings are cut off from the house of the LORD. The priests are in mourning, those who minister before the LORD. ¹⁰ The fields are ruined, the ground is dried up; the grain is destroyed, the new wine is dried up, the olive oil fails. ¹¹ Despair, you farmers, wail, you vine growers; grieve for the wheat and the barley, because the harvest of the field is destroyed.

Joel 1:14 Declare a holy fast; call a sacred assembly. Summon the elders and all who live in the land to the house of the LORD your God, and cry out to the LORD.

Joel 1:19 To you, LORD, I call, for fire has devoured the pastures in the wilderness and flames have burned up all the trees of the field.

Joel 1:15 Alas for that day! For **the day of the LORD** is near; it will come like destruction from the Almighty.

Look in the Present

The redemptive nature of the locust plague. Joel 2:1-27

Joel 2:1 Blow the trumpet in Zion; **sound the alarm** on my holy hill. Let all who live in the land **tremble**, for **the day of the LORD is coming**. It is close at hand—² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness. Like dawn spreading across the mountains a large and mighty army comes...

Because judgment for sin is rarely immediate
we assume that it won't ever come.

Joel 2:10 Before them the earth shakes, the heavens tremble, the sun and moon are darkened, and the stars no longer shine.¹¹ The LORD thunders at the head of his army; his forces are beyond number, and mighty is the army that obeys his command. **The day of the LORD** is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it?

Joel 2:12 “Even now,” declares the LORD, “**return to me with all your heart**, with fasting and weeping and mourning.”¹³ **Rend your heart and not your garments**. **Return to the LORD** your God, for he is gracious and compassionate, slow to anger and abounding in love, and he relents from sending calamity.¹⁴ Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave behind a blessing—grain offerings and drink offerings for the LORD your God.”

Why should we repent?

Joel 2:20 Surely he has done great things!²¹ Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice. Surely the LORD has done great things!²² Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green. The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.²³ Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before.

Look to the Future

The Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-32)

Joel 2:28 “And afterward, I will pour out **my Spirit** on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out **my Spirit** in those days.³⁰ I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke.³¹ The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the LORD.³² And everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the LORD has said, even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

(See also: Isa 32:15; 44:3; Jer. 31:31-34; Ezek. 36:23-28)

Fill the temple; fill the people (Acts 2)

God Confronts evil in the nations (Joel 3:1-16)

(See also Ezek. 38-39; Isa. 13; Zephaniah 3)

Joel 3:1 “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 put them on trial for what they did to my inheritance, my people Israel, because they scattered my people among the nations and divided up my land.³ They cast lots for my people and traded boys for prostitutes; they sold girls for wine to drink.

Joel 3:4 ... Are you repaying me for something I have done? If