



JOEL

Chapter 1

1 ¶ The word of the LORD that came to ^aJoel the son of Pethuel.

Blight of the Locusts

2 Hear this you old men, and give ear all you inhabitants of the land. ^bHas this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

3 ^cTell your children of it and *let* your children *tell* their children, and their children another generation.

4 ¶ ^dThat which the gnawing locust has left the ^eswarming locust has eaten. And that which the swarming locust has left the creeping locust has eaten. And that which the creeping locust has left the stripping locust has eaten.

5 Awake you ^fdrunkards and weep. Wail all you drinkers of wine because of the new wine, ^gfor it is cut off from your mouth.

6 For a ^hnation has come up on My land, strong and without number, ⁱwhose teeth *are* the teeth of a lion. And he has the fangs of a great lion.

7 He has ^jlaid My vine waste, and splintered My fig tree. He has stripped it bare and cast *it* away. Its branches are made white.

8 ¶ ^kLament like a virgin dressed with sackcloth for the ^lhusband of her youth.

9 ^mThe grain offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house

of the LORD. The priests, the LORD'S ministers, ⁿmourn.

10 The field is wasted. The ^oland mourns, for the grain is wasted. The ^pnew wine has dried up. The oil languishes.

11 ^qBe ashamed, O you farmers. Wail, O you vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley, because the harvest of the field has perished.

12 ^rThe vine has dried up and the fig tree languishes. The pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, *even* all the trees of the field have withered. Surely ^sjoy has withered away from the sons of men.

Call to Repentance

13 ¶ ^tGird yourselves and lament you priests. Wail you ministers of the altar. Come *and* lie all night in sackcloth you ministers of my God. For the grain offering and the drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.

14 ^uConsecrate a fast. Call a ^vsolemn assembly. Gather the elders *and* ^wall the inhabitants of the land *into* the house of the LORD your God and cry out to the LORD.

15 ^xAlas for the day! For the ^yday of the LORD *is* at hand. And it will come as destruction from the Almighty.

16 Is not the grain ^zcut off before our eyes *and* ^ajoy and gladness from

Chapter 1: a At 2:16 b Jl 2:2 c Ps 78:4 d Dt 28:38 e Is 33:4 f Is 5:11; 28:1 g Is 32:10 h Jl 2:2,11,25 i Rv 9:8 j Is 5:6 k Is 22:12 l Jr 3:4 m Jl 1:13; 2:14 n Jl 2:17 o Jr 12:11 p Is 24:7 q Jr 14:3,4 r Jl 1:10 s Jr 48:33 t Jr 4:8 u Jl 2:15,16 v Lv 23:36 w 2 Ch 20:13 x Jr 30:7 y Is 13:6 z Is 3:1 a Dt 12:7

the house of our God?

17 The seed is shrivel under their clods. The storehouses are desolate. The barns are broken down, for the grain has withered.

18 How the ^bbeasts groan! The herds of cattle wander aimlessly because there is no pasture for them. Yes, the flocks of sheep are decimated.

19 O LORD, to ^cYou I will cry out. For the ^dfire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness and the flame has burned all the trees of the field.

20 The beasts of the field ^ecry out also to You, for the ^frivers of water have dried up and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

Chapter 2

Army of Locusts

1 ¶ Blow the ^atrumpet in Zion and ^bsound an alarm in My holy mountain. Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the ^dday of the LORD is coming, because *it is* close at hand.

2 ^d*It is* a day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, as the morning spreads on the mountains. ^eA great and strong people *is coming*. ^fThere has never been *anything* like it, nor will there be again, even for many successive generations.

3 A fire devours before them. And behind them a flame burns. The land *is* as the ^gGarden of Eden before them, and ^hbehind them a desolate wilderness. Yes, and nothing will escape them.

4 ⁱThe appearance of them *is* as the appearance of horses; and as horse-men, so will they run.

5 ^jLike the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains they will leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

6 Before their face the people will be greatly pained. ^kAll faces will turn pale.

7 They will run like mighty men. They will climb the wall like men of war, and everyone will march in line. And they will not break their ^lranks.

8 Neither will one thrust another. Everyone will walk in his path. And *when* they fall on the sword, they will not be wounded.

9 They will run to and fro in the city. They will run on the wall. They will climb up on the houses. They will ^menter in at the windows ⁿlike a thief.

10 ^oThe earth will quake before them. The heavens will tremble. ^pThe sun and the moon will be dark and the stars will withdraw their brightness.

11 ^qThen the LORD will utter His voice before His army, for His camp *is* very great. ^rFor *He is* strong who executes His word. For the ^sday of the LORD *is* great and very terrible, and ^twho can endure it?

Rend Your Heart

12 ¶ “Now, therefore,” says the LORD, ^u“Turn to Me with all your heart, and with fasting and with

b Hs 4:3 **c** Ps 50:15 **d** Jr 9:10 **e** Ps 104:21; 147:9 **f** 1 Kg 17:7; 18:5 **Chapter 2:** **a** Jr 4:5 **b** Nm 10:5 **c** Ob 15 **d** Am 5:18 **e** Jl 1:6; 2:11,25 **f** Dn 9:12; 12:1 **g** Is 51:3 **h** Zc 7:14 **i** Rv 9:7 **j** Rv 9:9 **k** Nh 2:10 **l** Pv 30:27 **m** Jr 9:21 **n** Jn 10:1 **o** Ps 18:7 **p** Is 13:10; 34:4 **q** Jr 25:30 **r** Rv 18:8 **s** Am 5:18 **t** Mt 3:2 **u** Jr 4:1

weeping and with mourning.

13 “And ^vrend your heart and not ^wyour garments.” Now turn to the LORD your God. For He *is* ^xgracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in kindness and relenting of evil.

14 ^yWho knows *if* He will return and relent, and leave a ^zblessing behind Him, *even* a ^agrain offering and a drink offering to the LORD your God?

15 ¶ ^bBlow the trumpet in Zion. ^cSanctify a fast. Call a solemn assembly.

16 Gather the people. ^dSanctify the assembly. Assemble the elders. Gather the children and those who suck the breasts. ^eLet the bridegroom come out of his room and the bride out of her closet.

17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep ^fbetween the porch and the altar. And let them say, ^g“Spare your people, O LORD, and do not give Your heritage to reproach, so that the nations should rule over them. Therefore, ^hwhy should they say among the people, ‘Where *is* their God?’”

Answer of the Lord

18 ¶ Then the LORD will be ⁱjealous for His land and pity His people.

19 Yes, the LORD will answer and say to His people, “Behold, I will send you ^jgrain and wine and oil. And you will be satisfied with it. And I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.

20 “But ^kI will remove far off from you the ^lnorthern *army* and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea and his rear guard ^mtoward the western sea. And his stench and his foul smell will come up because he has done great things.”

21 ¶ Do not fear, O land. Be glad and rejoice, for the LORD will do great things.

22 Do not be afraid you beasts of the field, for ⁿthe pastures of the wilderness have turned green, for the tree bears her fruit, the fig tree and the vine yield in full.

23 Be glad then, you children of Zion, and ^orejoice in the LORD your God. For He has given you the former rain faithfully, and ^pHe will cause the rain to come down for you, the former rain and the latter rain as before.

24 And the threshing floors will be full of wheat and the vats will overflow with wine and oil.

25 “Then I will restore to you the years ^qthat the swarming locust has eaten, the creeping locust, the stripping locust and the gnawing locust, My great army that I sent among you.

26 “And you will ^reat in plenty and be satisfied. And you will praise the name of the LORD your God who has dealt wondrously with you. And My people will never be put to ^sshame.

27 “And you will know that I *am* in the ^tmidst of Israel, and *that* ^uI *am*

v Ps 34:18; 51:17 w Gn 37:34 x Ex 34:6 y Jr 26:3 z Hg 2:19 a Jl 1:9,13 b Nm 10:3 c Jl 1:14 d Ex 19:10 e Ps 19:5 f Mt 23:35 g Ex 32:11,12 h Ps 42:10 i Is 60:10; 63:9,15 j Mt 3:10 k Ex 10:19 l Jr 1:14,15 m Dt 11:24 n Jl 1:19 o Is 41:16 p Lv 26:4 q Jl 1:4-7; 2:2-11 r Lv 26:5 s Is 45:17 t Lv 26:11,12 u Is 45:6

the LORD your God and no one else. And My people will never be put to shame.”

The Day of the Lord

28 ¶ “Now it will come to pass afterward *that* ^vI will pour out My Spirit on all flesh. And ^wyour sons and your ^xdaughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams. Your young men will see visions.

29 “And also on the ^yservants and on the handmaids in those days I will pour out My Spirit.

30 “And ^zI will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

31 ^a“The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, ^bbefore the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

32 “And it will come to pass *that* ^cwhoever calls on the name of the LORD will be delivered. For ^din Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance as the LORD has said, even among the ^eremnant whom the LORD will call.

Chapter 3

Judgment of the Nations

1 ¶ “For behold, ^fin those days and at that time, when I will bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

2 ^gI will also gather all nations and will bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And ^hI will enter into judgment with them there for My people and *for* My heritage Israel

whom they have scattered among the nations and divided up My land.

3 “And they have ⁱcast lots for My people, and have given a boy for a harlot and sold a girl for wine so that they might drink.

4 ¶ “Yes, and what have you to do with Me, ^jO Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Palestine? Will you render Me a recompense? And if you recompense Me, swiftly *and* speedily I will return your recompense on your own head.

5 Because you have taken My silver and My gold, and have carried into your temples My precious treasures,

6 “and the children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem you have sold to the Greeks so that you might remove them far from their border,

7 “behold, ^kI will raise them out of the place to which you have sold them. And I will return your recompense on your own head.

8 “And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they will sell them to the ^lSabeans, to a people ^mfar off,” for the LORD has spoken *it*.

9 ¶ Proclaim this among the Gentiles. Prepare war. Wake up the mighty men. Let all the men of war draw near. Let them come up.

10 ⁿBeat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. ^oLet the weak say, “I *am* strong.”

11 Assemble yourselves and come

v Ez 39:29 w Zc 12:10 x Is 54:13 y At 21:9 z Gl 3:28 a Mt 24:29 b Is 13:9,10; 34:4 c MI 4:1,5,6 d Rm 10:13 e Is 46:13 f Mc 4:7 **Chapter 3:** a Jr 30:3 b Zc 14:2 c Is 66:16 d Nh 3:10 e Am 1:6-8 f Jr 23:8 g Ez 23:42 h Jr 6:20 i Ez 38:7 j Is 2:4 k Zc 12:8

all you nations, and gather yourselves together all around. ¹Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones.

12 Let the nations be wakened and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to ^mjudge all the nations all around.

13 ⁿPut in the sickle, for the ^oharvest is ripe. Come! Go down, for the ^pwinepress is full. The vats overflow, for their wickedness *is* great.

14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision. For the ^qday of the LORD *is* near in the valley of decision.

15 The sun and the moon will be darkened and the stars will withdraw their brightness.

16 The LORD also will roar out of Zion and utter His voice from Jerusalem. And the heavens and the earth will shake. ^rBut the LORD *will be* the hope of His people and the strength of the children of Israel.

17 Then you will know that I *am* the

LORD your God dwelling in Zion, My ^sholy mountain. Then Jerusalem will be holy, and there no foreigners will pass through her anymore.

Blessing on God's People

18 ¶ And it will come to pass in that day *that* the mountains will drop down new wine and the hills will flow with milk. And all the rivers of Judah will flow with water and a ^tfountain will come out of the house of the LORD. And it will water the Valley of Shittim.

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

20 But Judah will dwell forever and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

21 For I will ^uacquit them of the guilt of bloodshed, whom I had not acquitted; for the LORD dwells in Zion.

I Is 13:3 m Is 2:4 n Rv 14:15 o Jr 51:33 p Is 63:3 q Jl 2:1 r Is 51:5,6 s Zc 8:3 t Ez 47:1 u Is 4:4