

*Jehovah: a people has ascended upon my land,*

*like locusts with lion's teeth; sanctify a fast*

### CHAPTER 1

1 The word of Jehovah that was to Joel,<sup>1a</sup> the son of Pethuel.<sup>1b</sup>

2 Attentively hear this, you old men, and broaden out *your* ear, all you inhabitants of the land. Has this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

3 Tally it up to your children, and let your children *tally it up to* their children, and their children to another generation.

4 That which the devouring locusts have left, the multiplying locusts have eaten; and that which the multiplying locusts have left, the young licking locusts have eaten, and that which the young licking locusts have left, the ravaging locusts have eaten.

5 Wake up, you drunkards, and weep and howl over the fresh grape juice, all you drinkers of wine, because it is cut off from your mouth,

6 Because a people has ascended upon my land, strong and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and his cheek teeth *are* of a great lion.

7 He has put my vine a stunned devastation, and fragmented my fig tree; stripping it, he has stripped it, and thrown *it* away; its branches are made white.

<sup>1a</sup> 1:1 Joel, Jehovah is *his* God.

<sup>1b</sup> 1:1 Pethuel, Enlarged by God.

8 Wail like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the lord<sup>8</sup> of her youth.

9 The food offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house of Jehovah; the priests mourn, the ministers of Jehovah.

10 The field is ravaged; the soil mourns because the grain is ravaged; the fresh grape juice has dried up; the oil is sick.

11 Pale in shame, Oh you farmers; howl, Oh you vinedressers, over the wheat and over the barley, because the harvest of the field has been lost.

12 The vine is dried up, and the fig tree is sick; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, all the trees of the field, are dried up, because joy has dried up from the children of men.

13 Gird yourselves, and lament, you priests; howl, you ministers of the altar; come, lie all night in sackcloth, you ministers of my God, because the food offering and the drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.

14 Sanctify a fast; call a *solemn* assembly; gather the elders, all the inhabitants of the land, to the house of Jehovah your God, and cry to Jehovah,

15 Alas for the day, because the day of Jehovah is near, and as a destruction from the Almighty it shall come.

<sup>8</sup> 1:8 baal, lord, husband.

**JOEL 2** *The fire has devoured the pastures; the day of Jehovah is coming; a powerful people invading*

16 Is the food not cut off before our eyes, joy and spinning around in emotion from the house of our God?

17 The kernel is dried up under their clods; the depositories are a stunned devastation; the barns are broken down because the grain is dried up.

18 How the animals groan! The herds of cattle are perplexed because there does not exist pasture to them; the flocks of flock animals also perish.

19 Oh Jehovah, I will call out to you because the fire has devoured the pastures of the desert, and the flame has burned all the trees of the field.

20 Also the animals of the field long for you because the channels of waters are dried up, and the fire has devoured the pastures of the desert.

## CHAPTER 2

1 Blow the trumpet in Zion, and shout in my holy mountain; let all the inhabitants of the land be agitated because the day of Jehovah is coming, because it is near;

2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness; *they are* a great and powerful people as the dawn spreads out upon the mountains; there has not ever been the like, and *shall not be* any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

3 A fire devours before their face, and behind them a flame blazes; the land *is* as the

garden of Eden before their face, and behind them *it is* a stunned desert; and also nothing shall be escaping to them.

4 The appearance of them *is* as the appearance of horses, and so they run as horsemen.

5 Like the noise of chariots upon the heads of mountains they shall jump, like the noise of flashing fire that devours straw, as a powerful people arranged in battle.

6 The people shall twist *in pain* before their face; all faces shall gather the flush of anxiety.

7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall ascend the wall like men of war; and they shall walk, every man on his ways, and they shall not be entangled in their well trod paths;

8 And man shall not press upon *his* brother; they shall walk every mighty man in his path; and when they fall against the missile of attack, they shall not be stopped.

9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall; they shall ascend upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.

10 The earth shall be agitated before their face; the heavens shall tremble; the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining;

11 And Jehovah shall give his voice before the face of his army, because his camp *is* very great, because *he is* powerful who does his word, because the day of Jehovah is great and very

*Turn back to me with all your heart, I will widely distance the northern army from you* **JOEL 2**  
fearful, and who can maintain himself in it?

12 And also now - An oracle of Jehovah - turn back to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with lamentation;

13 And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn back to Jehovah your God, because he is gracious and compassionate, waiting long before his nostrils *burn*, and of great mercy, and does not comfort himself over the evil.

14 Who knows if he will turn back, and give comfort, and leave a blessing behind him, a food offering and a drink offering to Jehovah your God?

15 Blow the trumpet in Zion; sanctify a fast; call a *solemn* assembly;

16 Gather the people; sanctify the congregation; gather the elders; gather the children, and those who suck the breasts; let the bridegroom go out of his apartment, and the bride out of her canopy.

17 Let the priests, the ministers of Jehovah, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Cover your people, Oh Jehovah, and do not give your heritage to disgrace, *that* the peoples should rule over them; why should they say among the people, Where *is* their God?

18 And Jehovah will be jealous for his land, and spare his people in pity.

19 And Jehovah will answer and say to his people, Behold, I will send you grain, and fresh grape juice, and oil, and you shall be filled to satisfaction with them; and I will not give you any more *to be* a disgrace among the peoples;

20 And I will widely distance the northern *army* from you, and will drive him into a land parched and devastated, with his face toward the east sea, and his rear toward the west sea, and his stench shall ascend, and his putrefying odor shall ascend, because he has made himself great in his doings.

21 Do not fear, Oh soil; spin around in emotion and rejoice, because Jehovah will make himself great in his doings.

22 Do not fear, animals of the field, because the pastures of the desert shall sprout, because the tree bears her fruit, the fig tree and the grapevine give their resources.

23 And you children of Zion, spin around in emotion, and rejoice in Jehovah your God, because he has given you the rain for planting just right, and he will cause the rain to descend for you, the rain for planting, and the rain for harvest in the first *new moon*.

24 And the threshingfloors shall be full of grain, and the vats shall overflow with fresh grape juice and oil.

25 And I will make the years complete to you that the multiplying locust has eaten, the young licking locust, and the ravaging

**JOEL 3** *I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; I will gather all peoples, and pronounce judgment*

locust, and the devouring locust, my great army which I sent among you.

26 And eating, you shall eat, and be filled to satisfaction, and boast in the name of Jehovah your God who has done wondrously with you, and my people shall never pale in shame.

27 And you shall know by seeing that I *am* in the midst of Israel, and that I *am* Jehovah, your God, and there exists none else; and my people shall not pale in shame forever.

28 And it shall be afterward that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your aged<sup>28</sup> shall dream dreams, your youth shall see visions;

29 And also upon the manservants and upon the maid-servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

30 And I will give miracles in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and columns of smoke.

31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the face of the coming of the great and the fearful day of Jehovah.

32 And it shall be, whoever shall call on the name of Jehovah shall be delivered, because in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, what Jehovah has said, and to the remnant whom Jehovah shall call.

**CHAPTER 3**

1 Because, behold, in those days and in that time when I shall turn back the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

2 Then I will gather all peoples, and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will pronounce judgment with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the peoples, and allotted my land.

3 And they have cast lots for my people, and have given a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

4 And also, what *are* you to me, Oh Tyre, and Zidon, and all the regions of Palestine? Will you make to me a complete pay-back? And if you pay me back, swiftly, speedily I will turn back your payback upon your own head,

5 Because you have taken my silver and my gold, and you have brought my good pleasant things into your temples;

6 And you have sold the children of Judah and the children of Jerusalem to the Greeks, that you might widely distance them from their territory.

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<sup>28</sup> **2:28** aged and youth, *zagen*, refer to both aged men and women, and *bachuwv* to youth both male and female, as is already spelled out in **sons and daughters**.

*I will gather all peoples, and pronounce judgment; Jehovah shall roar out of Zion* **JOEL 3**

7 Behold, I will wake them up out of the place there where you have sold them, and will turn back your payback upon your own head;

8 And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off, because Jehovah has spoken.

9 Call out this among the peoples; make them clean for war; wake up the mighty men; let all the mortal men of war draw near; let them ascend;

10 Beat your digging instruments into swords, and your pruning knives into lances; let the weak say, I am a mighty man.

11 Hasten, and come, all you peoples all around, and gather yourselves there; cause your mighty ones to come down, Oh Jehovah.

12 Let the peoples be awakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat, because there I will sit down to pronounce judgment upon all the peoples all around.

13 Send out the sickle, because the harvest is ripe; come, descend, because the wine-press is full; the vats overflow because their evil *is* great.

14 Tumultuous multitudes, tumultuous multitudes in the valley of decision, because the day of Jehovah is near in the valley of decision.

15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

16 And Jehovah shall roar out of Zion, and give his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth shall shake, and Jehovah will be the shelter of his people, and the defense of the children of Israel.

17 And you shall know by seeing that I *am* Jehovah, your God, residing in Zion, my holy mountain; and Jerusalem shall be holy, and no strangers shall cross through her any more.

18 And it shall be in that day, that the mountains shall distill fresh squeezed grape juice, and the hills shall cause milk to walk down, and all the channels of Judah shall cause waters to walk down, and a fountain shall come out of the house of Jehovah, and shall water the stream of Acacia Trees.

19 Egypt shall be a stunned devastation, and Edom shall be a devastated desert, for the violence *against* the children of Judah, because they have spilled innocent blood in their land.

20 And Judah shall dwell forever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

21 And I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed, and Jehovah resides in Zion.

**JOEL**

1400