

## The Book of Joel

### I. ISRAEL AND GOD'S JUDGMENT: A REVIEW OF THE PAST (JOEL 1:1-20).

- A. The severity of the locust judgment (1:1-14).
- B. The title name for the locust judgment. The Day of the Lord. (1:15).

### II. ISRAEL AND GOD'S JUDGMENT: A PREVIEW OF THE FUTURE (JOEL 2:1--3:21).

- A. The identity of this invasion. What nation or enemy is Joel speaking of here in chapters 2 and 3? He may be referring to several in general, giving special emphasis to the last in particular.
  - 1. The Babylonian invasion in 586 B.C., led by Nebuchadnezzar (2 Ki. 24).
  - 2. The Russian invasion, during the middle of the tribulation, to be led by Gog (2:2; Zech. 14:2-3; Ezek. 38-39).
  - 3. The final invasion, at the end of the tribulation, to be led by the antichrist at the battle of Armageddon (Rev. 16:13-16; 19:11-21).
- B. The gathering place of this invasion (3:2, 9-16).
- C. The twofold purpose for this invasion gathering.
  - 1. The purpose of the antichrist--to destroy Israel and her God. (See Ps. 2.)
  - 2. The purpose of God--to destroy antichrist and his allies.
- D. The outcome of this invasion. (3:16).
- E. The blessings after this invasion has been crushed.
  - 1. God's Spirit will be poured out upon all flesh. (See 2:28-32.) It should be noted that this passage event will mark the fulfillment of Moses' desire. (See Num. 11:29.) Peter would later quote this passage in Joel on the day of Pentecost. (See Acts 2:16-21.) This he did, not to indicate that Pentecost was the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy (for it was not), but, rather as an example of it.
  - 2. All human needs will be provided for (2:21-27).
  - 3. Nature itself will be transformed (3:18).
  - 4. Christ himself will reign in Zion (3:21).