

The Not-So-Minor Prophets: Joel

February 2



I. Historical Context

II. Structure of Joel

Four sections:

A. 1:1-1:20

Announcement of the locusts

Call to repentance

Day of the Lord

Drought & fire

B. 2:1-17

Day of the Lord

Locusts & fire

Call to repentance

C. 2:18-32

The Lord's mercy & encouragement

Promise of the Spirit

Day of the Lord

D. 3:1-21

Judgment on the nations

Day of the Lord

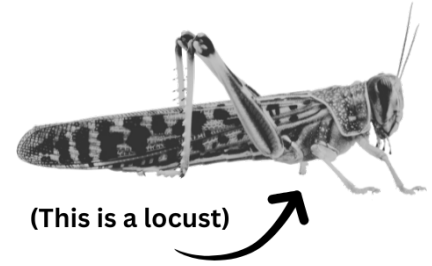
Hope for Judah

III. Themes

A. The Invasion

Joel 1:4

What the cutting locust left,
the swarming locust has eaten.
What the swarming locust left,
the hopping locust has eaten,
and what the hopping locust left,
the destroying locust has eaten.



Joel 1:6

For a nation has come up against my land,
powerful and beyond number;
its teeth are lions' teeth,
and it has the fangs of a lioness.

Joel 2:6-7

Before them peoples are in anguish;
all faces grow pale.
Like warriors they charge;
like soldiers they scale the wall.
They march each on his way;
they do not swerve from their paths.



Joel 2:11

The LORD utters his voice
before his army,
for his camp is exceedingly great;
he who executes his word is powerful.

B. The Day of the Lord

- Joel 1:15
- 2:1-2

Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,
a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains
a great and powerful people;
their like has never been before,
nor will be again after them
through the years of all generations.

• 2:11

• 2:30-31

“And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

• 3:14-15

For the day of the LORD is near
in the valley of decision.
The sun and the moon are darkened,
and the stars withdraw their shining.

C. Repentance

Joel 1:13–14

Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests;
wail, O ministers of the altar.
Go in, pass the night in sackcloth,
O ministers of my God!
Because grain offering and drink offering
are withheld from the house of your God.
Consecrate a fast;
call a solemn assembly.
Gather the elders
and all the inhabitants of the land
to the house of the LORD your God,
and cry out to the LORD.

Joel 2:12-13

“Yet even now,” declares the LORD,
“return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
and rend your hearts and not your garments.”
Return to the LORD your God,
for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and he relents over disaster.

D. Hope

Joel 2:24-27

Joel 3:18-21

[18] “And in that day
the mountains shall drip sweet wine,
and the hills shall flow with milk,
and all the streambeds of Judah
shall flow with water;
and a fountain shall come forth from the house of the LORD
and water the Valley of Shittim.
[19] “Egypt shall become a desolation
and Edom a desolate wilderness,
for the violence done to the people of Judah,
because they have shed innocent blood in their land.
[20] But Judah shall be inhabited forever,
and Jerusalem to all generations.
[21] I will avenge their blood,
blood I have not avenged,
for the LORD dwells in Zion.”

Joel 2:28-32

[28] “And it shall come to pass afterward,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.
[29] Even on the male and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit.
[30] “And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and
columns of smoke. [31] The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood,
before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. [32] And it shall come to pass
that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For
in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape,
as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those
whom the LORD calls.

