



# MINOR PROPHETS

JOEL

*Yahweh is God*



# JOEL – The *Day of the Lord & Repentance*

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- Joel made Judah aware that there was coming a “*Day of the Lord.*”
  - Joel 1:15; 2:1; 2:11; 2:31; 3:14
  - He also makes frequent use of words like *desolation; devour; destruction; weep; mourn; and judge.*
- This day would include judgment for the wicked and deliverance to the righteous!

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- The difference between **judgment** and **deliverance** would be **REPENTANCE!**
  - <sup>12</sup> *Yet even now, declares the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;*
  - <sup>13</sup> *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. (Joel 2)*

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- “... the destruction from the Almighty was [intended] to bring repentance.” **(James D.G. Dunn)**
- “The very essence of Joel’s message can be summed up in one word: repentance. God is absolute sovereign over all peoples. He judges them for their wickedness. His righteous cause will always prevail. What is sad is that His own people had to hear this same message. His prophets came time and again with this warning. Joel was sent to warn Judah that unless she gave up her sinful practices, she was sure to face the wrath of God as well.” **(Jeff Smith, *The Minor Prophets*)**

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- **Repentance:**

- “A change of mind.” **(Thayer)**
- “A change of mind that leads to a change of conduct.” **(McGarvey)**
- “The word ... indicates a radical change of mind and heart leading to a complete turnabout of life.” **(William Hendriksen)**
- Jesus called on 5 of the 7 churches to whom he addressed letters in the book of Revelation to ***repent!*** **(2:5,16,21-22; 3:3; 3:19)**
- It must be **genuine** repentance – “*rend your hearts and not your garments.*” **(2:13)**

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- **Calling on the Name of the Lord!**

- *<sup>28</sup> 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. <sup>29</sup> Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. <sup>30</sup> And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke <sup>31</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. <sup>32</sup> 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. (2:28-32; Acts 2:16-21)*

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- **Calling on the Name of the Lord!**

- *“Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.” (3:14)*
- *“So I sent for you at once, and you have been kind enough to come. Now therefore we are all here in the presence of God to hear all that you have been commanded by the Lord.”*  
**(Acts 10:33)**

**God calls on us to make the same decision!**

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- In **Acts 2**, Peter quotes our text from the book of Joel (**cf. 2:16-21**).
  - **Peter's conclusion** – *“Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”* **(2:36)**
  - **The response of some** – *“Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, ‘Brothers, what shall we do?’”* **(2:37)**
  - **Peter's answer** – *“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins ...”* **(2:38)**

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