

## MESSAGES TO JUDAH ALONE

For about 135 years after the northern kingdom Israel was taken captive by Assyria, God continued to raise up prophets in the southern kingdom Judah in an effort to keep her from continuing on her downward course. Study now about these prophets:

### THE BOOK OF JOEL: THE DAY OF THE LORD

The date of the book of Joel, like that of Obadiah, is uncertain. It seems that he lived in Judah at about the time of King Joash, Amos, and Hosea, and prophesied to his own people. His prophecy is studied here because of its similarity to those of Zephaniah and Habakkuk. Notice what these three prophets have in common.

#### A. God's Judgment on the Land: Read Joel 1:1 - 2:11

1. How bad would this particular judgment be? Who would not have heard of one so bad as it was? Joel 1:2-3  
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2. What was God going to send upon the land? Joel 1:4 (Note: These four words describe the locusts in their four stages of development: gnawing, swarming, licking, consuming.)  
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3. How much would be left after this judgment was past? Joel 1:4, 5b, 7  
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4. To what did God compare the locusts? Joel 1:6  
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5. What else would happen besides the destruction caused by locusts? Joel 1:10, 11, 12, 17  
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6. How bad would be the famine that resulted from these two things? Joel 1:9, 13  
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7. What did Joel tell the people to do as a result of these judgments? Joel 1:14, 19a  
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8. To what did Joel compare these judgments? Joel 1:19, 20b  
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9. Who besides the people was affected? Joel 1:18, 20  
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10. To what did Joel compare the invading locusts? Joel 2:7, 11  
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11. Of what were they foreshadowing? Joel 1:15, 2:1, 11, 31, 3:14  
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12. What other army could they have pictured to Judah? Read again Joel 2:1-11 and THINK.  
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**B. God's Call to the Land:** Read Joel 2:12-27

1. What did God call on the people of the land to do after this judgment? Joel 2:12a  
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2. If the people really did this, what would be the outward signs of it? Joel 2:12b-13a  
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3. Of what qualities of His own did the Lord remind them? Joel 2:13b  
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4. What did He say He might do if they would repent? Joel 2:14a  
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5. On what groups of people did God call to repent? Joel 2:15-17  
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6. Notice the wonderful promises God made to the people if they would repent: Joel 2:18, 19b, 20, 21-24, 25-27  
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**C. God's Promises Concerning the Future of the Land:** Read Joel 2:28 - 3:21

1. What did God say He would do after this? Joel 2:28-29, 30-32  
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2. What would be one great event of the future? Joel 3:2, 9-10  
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3. What would happen after this? Joel 3:16, 17, 21b  
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**QUESTIONS FOR ME TO THINK ABOUT:**

1. Because of my sin, have the "locusts" eaten any of the years of my life?  
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2. What is God's message to me, if I will repent of this sin? Joel 2:25.  
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