

## A Study Outline of Joel

His name means, "Jehovah is God."

We are given no details of his life other than he is the son of Pethuel (1:1).

No specific date is given to the book. Opinions range from 900 BC to 400 BC.

Key phrase in the book is "the day of the Lord" (1:16; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14).

1:1-4 - Joel announces that a plague of locusts is coming upon the land. This is not an uncommon occurrence in Palestine.

1:5-14 - The luxuries and necessities of life will be taken away. Wine, fig tree, grain, oil, pomegranate, palm tree, apple tree.

1:15-18 - These events are identified as "a destruction from the Lord."

1:19-20 - Everything is crying out to God.

2:1-2 - A continued description of the coming judgment. These events will be something to be remembered!

2:3-5 - A before and after is presented.

2:6-11 - Joel uses language that causes the reader to feel like he is there. Verse 11 again attributes these actions directly to God.

2:12-17 - A call to repentance. Verse 13 shows that an external display of repentance is not enough. There must be a change of heart.

2:18-27 - The stated results if the people would repent. This section focuses on material blessings.

2:28-32 - The spiritual blessings that will come from God. *Afterward* or *last days* here is a reference to many years down the road. Specifically, this passage is applied to the events recorded in Acts 2:16ff. Three areas are covered by this promise:

1. Revelation - 28-29. God's word was revealed in the first century by those who were inspired of the Holy Spirit.
2. Confirmation - 30-31. Miracles confirmed that the speaker was from God.
3. Salvation - 32. This is the result of obedience to God's word.

3:1-8 - Those nations who persecuted God's people will be brought into judgment.

*Jehoshaphat* means "God will judge."

3:9-17 - The nations are told to prepare for war. All nations are accountable to God.

3:18-21 - Judah will endure. Today we are God's holy nation (1 Pet. 2:9-10) and His temple (Eph. 2:19-22).