

12/30/15

Joel 3

We come to the final chapter of the prophet Joel, where he gives to us a few details about the Great-tribulation period regarding Israel and the Kingdom Age.

* Both the Major and Minor Prophet prophesy about these two periods.

3:1-17 The judgment of the nations.

3:1-3 The judgment of nations for the mistreatment of the Jews.

3:1 The particular time is after the gathering of the Jewish remnant.

- 1) The proclamation is emphatic by the word “For behold.”
 - * The expression means to pay close attention, this is important.
- 2) The period is at the end of the Great-Tribulation indicated by the phrase “in those days and at that time”. vs. 1b
 - a) This implies after the Second Coming and the Battle of Armageddon.
 - b) These words point us back to the deliverance of the remnant of the Jews, as He gathers them in Zion and

Jerusalem, being the ones who called on the name of the Lord. Joel 2:32b-d

- c) The remnant has been protected and provided for by God in the city of Petra or Sela for the last 3 ½ years, 1, 260 days. Is. 16:1, 4; Rev. 12:6
- 3) The confirmation of the time is also stated, “When I bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem.” vs. 1c
 - * The “captives of Judah and Jerusalem” is synonymous with the “remnant” in Zion and Jerusalem. Joel 2:32a-b

3:2a-b The gathering involves all the nation of the world.

- 1) God once again is the One who gathers all the nations of the world, just as He gathered all the remnant of the Jews. vs. 3a
 - * God will summon the nations to war against Jerusalem. Zech. 14:2
- 2) The location is stipulated to be the Valley of Jehoshaphat. vs. 3b
 - a) The name Jehoshaphat “Yahowshaphat” means “Yahweh has judged”, affirms again. Joel 3:12
 - b) There is nothing in the Scripture to identify the location of this valley, but the only thing we can surmise is that it is near Zion and Jerusalem.

- 1)) Some have suggested “The Kidron Valley”.
- 2)) Pastor Chuck believed it will be the valley created when the Mount of Olives splits, as the foot of Jesus touches the Mount of Olives at the Second Coming. Zech. 14:4

3:2c-3 The crimes the nations are charged with are those against the Jews.

- 1) The prosecuting attorney and judge is Jesus in defense for His people, “And I will enter into judgment with them there On account of My people, My heritage Israel.” vs. 2c-d
 - a) This judgment of the nations is recorded in the gospel of Matthew. Matt. 25:31-46
 - b) The context of Matthew is during the Great-Tribulation regarding the kindness rendered to the Jews by a cup of cold water or visiting them in prison.
 - c) The separation is the sheep from the goats, those of the nations that will be allowed to enter the Kingdom Age or not, based on their treatment of the Jews and not having taken the mark of the beast, escaping the wrath of God and His indignation. Rev. 14:9-10

- d) The basis of this is found in the promise of God to Abraham, therefore God has judged nations throughout history who have mistreated or persecuted the Jew and nation of Israel. Gen 12:1-3
- e) Germany by Hitler, Spain by Franco, England after the British Mandate, the Muslim nation such as Iran and now the United States under the Oligarchical leadership of Barack Obama.
- 2) The charges are three. vs. 2e-3
 - a) Persecution, the nations “have scattered among the nations” the Jews. vs. 2e
 - b) Partition, “They have also divided up My land.” vs. 2f
 - c) Exploitation, “They have cast lots for My people, Have given a boy *as payment* for a harlot, And sold a girl for wine, that they may drink.” vs. 3

3:4-8 The particular Gentile nations that mistreated the Jews.

- 1) Tyre, Sidon and the Philistines were three enemies of Israel named on the seacoast in rebellion and ruthlessness that was in reality rebellion and retaliation against God. vs. 4

- 2) They had taken the silver and gold and dedicated them to their pagan temples. vs. 5
- 3) They had made great profit by enslaving the Jews to the Ionian Greeks, shipping them off to foreign lands. vs. 6
 * This could be the event of the Philistines recounted by Obadiah. 2Chron. 21
- 7) God proclaimed He would bring back the Jews and also return the evil in kind to these enemies and sell their sons and daughters to the Sabeans. vs. 7-8
- a) The Sabeans were on the southwest corner of the Arabian Peninsula, who traded spices, gold and precious stones.
- b) This is modern day Yemen.
 * Rome in 70 A.D. was vicious towards the Jews.
- 1)) They killed 1,600,000 Jews.
 - 2)) Six-hundred-thousand became captives
 - 3)) Those under seventeen years of age were sold as slaves and others for Roman sports.
 - 4)) Only the strongest and tallest were paraded through Rome behind their chariots to celebrate their conquest.

3:9-17 The battle of Armageddon.

- 1) This is a taunt to the nations in their futile effects to defeat God in the proclamation to prepare for the battle of the nations against the Second Coming of Jesus to set up the Kingdom, “Beat your plowshares into swords And your pruning hooks into spears; Let the weak say, ‘I am strong.’” vs. 9-10
- a) Just the opposite will be done at the establishment of the Millennial reign, “He shall judge between many peoples, And rebuke strong nations afar off; They shall beat their swords into plowshares, And their spears into pruning hooks; Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, Neither shall they learn war any more.” Mic. 4:3; Is. 2:3-4
- b) The U.N. has this verse as their mission statement from Is. 2:4, not realizing it speaks of the Kingdom Age, not for now, it will never happen until Jesus returns and sets up the Kingdom.
- c) There is also a statue in the U.N. garden named, “Let Us Beat Out Swords into Plowshares” portraying a naked man with a short sledgehammer ready to strike his sword into a plow.

- 2) The two armies engaged in the battle,
 “Assemble and come, all you nations,
 And gather together all around. Cause
 Your mighty ones to go down there, O
 LORD.” vs. 11
 * Your mighty ones are the angels of
 God. Deut. 22:2b-3; Ps. 68:17; Zech.
14:5
- 3) The announcement of the defeat of the
 nation prior to the fact. vs. 12
 * “And this shall be the plague with
 which the LORD will strike all the
 people who fought against Jerusalem:
 Their flesh shall dissolve while they
 stand on their feet, Their eyes shall
 dissolve in their sockets, And their
 tongues shall dissolve in their
 mouths.” Zech. 14:12
- 4) The disruptive vengeance executed on the
 nations for their wickedness that is great,
 in the Valley of Jehoshaphat. vs. 13
 a) The sickle is the instrument to bring in
 the harvest.
 b) Isaiah describes the battle, “Why *is*
 Your apparel **red**, And Your
garments like one who treads in the
 winepress? “I have trodden the
 winepress alone, And from the
 peoples no one *was* with Me. For I
 have trodden them in My anger, And
 trampled them in My fury; Their

- blood is sprinkled upon My garments,
 And I have stained all My robes. For
 the day of vengeance *is* in My heart,
 And the year of My redeemed has
 come.” Is. 63:2-3
- 5) The multitudes will be in the Valley of
 decision against Jesus, which is the same
 one as the Valley of Jehoshaphat. vs. 14
 a) The second Psalm gives a preview of
 the battle and outcome. Ps. 2:1-12
 b) Ready to make His enemies His
 footstool. Ps. 110:1-3, 5-6
- 6) The sun, moon will grow dark and the
 stars will diminish their light. vs. 15
 * As already stated earlier. Joel. 2:30-31
- 7) The victorious proclamation of Jesus is
 sounded out. vs. 16
 a) Lord will roar from Zion and utters
 His voice from Jerusalem”, The Lion
 of the tribe of Judah has prevailed
 destroying his enemies. vs. 16a-b
 * A lion roars after it has it’s prey!
Hos. 11:10-11; Amos 1:2; 3:8,
Rev. 10:3
 b) The creation of heaven and earth will
 shake in response to Him. vs. 16c
 c) Jesus will be a shelter and strength to
 His people, the remnant of Israel. vs.
16d-e
- 8) The Jews will know that He is their Lord
 and God, dwelling in Zion, the holy

mountain and Jerusalem will be holy, no aliens passing through her. vs. 17

* After the battle of Armageddon and the Judgment of the nations. Joel 2:27

3:18-21 The Millennial blessing.

3:18 The earth will go through a drastic change.

1) The time period is identified by the phrase “And it will come to pass in that day”. vs. 18a

a) This is in reference the Kingdom Age that will last 1, 000 years.

b) That day is tied to the five time mention of “the day of the Lord”, which runs from the beginning of the seven-year Tribulation to end of the Millennium. Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14

2) The material blessings are agricultural, “*That* the mountains shall drip with new wine, The hills shall flow with milk, And all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water.” vs. 18a-d

* Amos 9:13-14; Is. 35:6

a) Isaiah has an entire chapter on the Kingdom Age when everything is returned to the pre-fall of Adam, with the exception of sin and death. Is. 11

b) “The wolf also shall dwell with the **lamb**, The leopard shall lie down with the young goat, The calf and the young **lion** and the fatling together; And a little child shall lead them.” Is. 11:6

3) The abundant supply of water from the temple, “A fountain shall flow from the house of the LORD And water the Valley of Acacias.” vs. 18e-f

* This takes place as Jesus steps down on the Mount of Olives, the water will flow to the Dead Sea and heal to have fish of every kind and the other goes to the Mediterranean Sea, fruit trees will be in abundance every month on both sides of the river, their leaves for medicine. Ezk. 47:1-12; Zach. 14:1-21

3:19 The retribution of God against Egypt and Edom.

1) “Egypt and Edom will be destroyed by God, being enemies of Israel. vs. 19a-b

2) The reason is due to their violence against Judah. vs. 19c

3) The nature of the violence was shedding innocent blood in their land. vs. 19d

* This was during the destruction of the Temple in 586 B.C. as they handed over the fleeing Jews to the enemy

and divided the land. Ps. 137:7; Ezk. 25:12; 35:1-15; Is. 11:15; Obadiah

3:20 The affirmation God's promise to Israel.

- 1) The promise is eternal, "But Judah shall abide forever." vs. 20a
- 2) The perpetual capital of Israel, "And Jerusalem from generation to generation." vs. 20b

3:21 The restoration of Israel to God.

- 1) By forgiving them of their all their sins, "For I will acquit them of the guilt of bloodshed, whom I had not acquitted." vs. 21a-b
- 2) By being present with them, "For the LORD dwells in Zion." vs. 21c
 - a) The Shekinah glory of God will return to the Millennial Temple. Ezk. 43:1-6