

OUTLINE OF JOEL

1A THE INVASION OF THE LOCUSTS chap 1:1-2:11

1B The present plague of locusts and drought is described chap 1:1-20

Here, the statements are in the past and present tense, this is what the land is experiencing as Joel spoke.

1C The call to reflect on the present disaster chap 1:1-12

2C The call to lamentation and prayer regarding it chap 1:13-20

2B The future invasion of more locusts is threatened chap 2:1-11

Here the statements are in the future tense, this is what the land will experience if the people do not repent now. The locust invasion is described in graphic and true to life detail; they are literally like an overwhelming army - the locusts are "the Lord's army" of 2:11, 25

2A THE CALL TO REPENTANCE chap 2:12-27

1B Repentance is exhorted chap 2:12-17

1C The encouragement given to repent chap 2:12-14

2C The assembly gathers to repent chap 2:15-17

2B Restoration is promised chap 2:18-27

1C The locusts (the northern army) will leave and die chap 2:18-20

2C The land will be restored chap 2:21-27

3A THE PROMISE OF FUTURE BLESSING chap 2:28-3:21

1B The promise of the Holy Spirit chap 2:28-32 (see Acts 2:16-21)

1C Fulfilled at the beginning of the New Covenant era chap 2:28-29

(See Acts 2:1-15)

2C Fulfilled at the end of the New Covenant era chap 2:30-31

(See Matthew 24:29-30)

3C Fulfilled throughout the New Covenant era chap 2:32

(See Romans 10:13)

2B The promise of judgment on the enemies of God's people chap 3:1-16

1C God's controversy with Israel's enemies chap 3:1-8

The Phoenicians and the Philistines (vs.4) have sold Israelites into slavery to Greece, scattered them abroad, and have stolen the wealth of the land by force.

See also Amos 1:5-9, 2Chronicles 21:17

2C God's challenge to Israel's enemies chap 3:9-16

Armour up. Gather your troops. We are going to war in the valley of Jehoshaphat, and you are going to lose.

3B The promise of eternal blessing in the New Earth chap 3:17-21

Ultimately, the people of God will have permanent prosperity and peace.

THEME: The "Day of the Lord" will bring judgment, unless the people repent.

Key verse: KJV Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for *it is nigh* at hand.