



A Guided Tour of the Bible: Discovering God in

Joel

Background

- We know little about Joel's life or background. His name means, "Jehovah is God."
- His prophecy focuses on the Southern Kingdom of Judah.
- Some believe he prophesied in middle 800's. Others believe he prophesied in late 500's. The book does not make the date clear.
- His message was prompted by a natural disaster of biblical proportions (1:1-12). It is only a foretaste of a much darker and more total day of judgment (2:1-11).

Roadmap

1. A Message of Desolation and Warning (1:1-2:11)

- A. Their Current Calamity (1:1-20)
- B. A Coming Calamity (2:1-11)

2. A Message of Repentance and Revival (2:12-17)

- A. "It's too late" -
Therefore also now
- B. "I tried that before"
Rend your heart
- C. "He won't have me"
He is gracious and merciful

3. A Message of Restoration and Hope (2:18-3:21)

- A. Immediate Deliverance (2:18-27)
- B. Ultimate Deliverance (2:28-3:21)

Landmark

The theme of Joel is "Preparing for the Day of the Lord." Joel uses a current calamity to teach God's people about the ruin of coming judgment, the depth of real repentance, and the hope of complete restoration.

Must See

- Christ is the God of mercy and kindness who blesses His covenant people (2:13-14)
- Christ is the coming Judge who will wage war against the rebellious nations (3:9-16).
- Christ is the God who will dwell among His people and bring peace and plenty to our world (3:18-21).

Takeaway

1. Calamity and pain often carry a message from God.
2. Before the ultimate peace will come the ultimate war.
3. God can restore sin-wasted and afflicted years in your life.