

OT-OV

Lesson 126

1. Last week I taught in part an overview of the Book of Joel. We need to review some of that learned and then pick up with new material on page three where we were reviewing the doctrine of The Day of The Lord.
2. Joel was authored by Joel himself from Judah. The prophet deals with the judgment of God on both Jew and gentile and the coming blessing on Israel when the Messiah shall reign on planet earth. Joel wrote of conditions in Judah when Judah was in need of discipline.
3. Joel wrote the book of Joel according to Joe 1:1 and Acts 2:16. The author cannot be identified with any of the other Old Testament persons bearing this name and nothing is known of him outside the book.
4. There is no other reference to Joel in the Old Testament but his writings indicate he was the only son of Pethuel and lived in Judah, probably in Jerusalem.
5. There are those who make a case for an early writing of the book in c. 830 and a later writing in c. 400. Earlier I gave you arguments for both the earlier and later dates. With only internal evidence, dating is the greatest problem of the book.
6. So far scholars have not been able to agree on the dating of the book of Joel. The question as to when the book was written, oddly enough has little effect on the interpretation of the Scriptures penned by Joel. Joel paints a picture of major discipline, repentance and eschatological restoration.
7. The swarms of locust of Joel 1:2-12 depict foreign armies disciplining Judah; much like what we have historically seen in the Assyria in c. 700, Babylonia in c. 600 and Rome in c. 60 B.C. and 70 A.D.
8. Judah's first call to repentance can be found in Joel 1:13-18.
9. The message of Joel is divided into a near term application and a far term application. In each case Joel is motivated to write of a discipline, a response to that discipline and then a promise of restoration in both a near term and an eschatological term respectively.
10. There is a second invasion of locust described by Joel; the second would seem to occur just before the Lord returns to rescue His people at the Second Advent. Joel 2:1-11
11. After the second invasion Judah receives a second call to repentance. Joel 2:12-17

12. As earlier pointed out Israel has always needed revival and discipline for their failures. While continuing to observe the mechanics of the old covenant, they often were thoughtless in their understanding and careless in their liturgical practices. They were spiritually fruitless and dabbled with idolatry. Joel is convinced Judah's apostasy cannot long be tolerated.

13. Joel not only draws attention to Judah's present spiritual need and the terribleness of the day of the Lord, he also sees a glorious future for those who will return to the Lord.

14. The purpose of Joel's prophecy, then, is to call Judah back to God before the day of the Lord comes, to assure the return of God's blessings, and to promise future restoration and vindication at the Second Advent. Joel 2:28-32

14.1 I mentioned last week a problem with Joel 2:28-32 and its interpretation by Peter in Acts 2:16-21. We need to look at these passages before continuing with the specifics of the restoration described by Joel.

14.2 Peter at Pentecost (Acts 2:16-21) quotes Joel (Joel 2:28-32).

Joe 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and Z your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions:

Joe 2:29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Joe 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

Joe 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD come.

Joe 2:32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

Acts 2:16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;

Acts 2:17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Acts 2:18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Acts 2:19 And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke:

Acts 2:20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come:

Acts 2:21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

14.3 In correcting those who thought the Jerusalem disciples were drunk because of their speaking in tongues, Peter said, "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel" (Acts 2:16).

14.4 The apostle may have been making specific reference only to that portion of the prophecy which speaks of the Spirit's out pouring and the consequent prophesying. For certainly there was no fulfillment of the entire events predicted by Joel.

14.5 Given the entire context of Peter's explanation, certainly to include his instructions to remain in Jerusalem for the Lord's return, we might be better served by understanding Peter was only announcing what he understood about the Messiah.

14.6 In Peter's eyes Jesus had come to implement His Kingdom for Israel. Clearly his early sermons found in Acts chapter two seemed to indicate Peter expected an imminent return of Christ to return to Jerusalem where He would implement His Kingdom.

14.6.1 Such an explanation would be consistent with Peter's later life where on several occasions he clearly did not understand the mystery doctrines of the Church Age.

14.7 The Nations Are Judged By The Returning Messiah In The Restoration. Joel 3:1-8

14.8 In The Process of The Restoration The Nations Are Brought To Megiddo and the Last Battle of Armageddon. Joel 3:9-16

Joe 3:10 Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weakling say, "I am strong!"

Joe 3:11 Come quickly, all you nations from every side, and assemble there. Bring down your warriors, O LORD!

Joe 3:12 "Let the nations be roused; let them advance into the and Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the nations on every side.

Joe 3:13 Swing the sickle, for the harvest is ripe. Come, trample the grapes, for the winepress is full and the vats overflow-- so great is their wickedness!"

Joe 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.

Joe 3:15 The sun and moon will be darkened, and the stars no longer shine.

14.8.1 Clearly the highlighted verse is contrary to Isaiah's famous verse of beating weapons into ploughshares. The Isaiah verse (Isa 2:4) refers to events made possible by the Lord Jesus' presence on earth when He will protect Israel and Joel's admonition is a command for the armies of the world to come to the valley of Jehoshaphat and be destroyed. How important then is a knowledge of dispensations.

14.9 Joel describes certain blessings for Israel in the Restoration. Joel 3:17-21

15. The Day of the Lord:

15.1 The term "day of the Lord" is that period of time when the Lord openly intervenes in the affairs of men.

15.2 It will be inaugurated with the rapture of the Church. 1Co 15:50-58; 1Th 4:13-18

15.3 The day of the Lord covers the time of the coming tribulation (Revelation chapters 6 through 19) and the reign of Christ on David's throne (Revelation chapter 20).

15.4 It will be brought to an end by the judgment of the great white throne (Rev 20:11-15) and the ushering in of the new heavens and earth, called "the day of God" (2Pe 3:10-13).

Rev 20:11 Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them.

Rev 20:12 And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to their works as recorded in the books.

Rev 20:13 The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to their works.

Rev 20:14 Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death.

Rev 20:15 If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

2Pe 3:10 But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

2Pe 3:11 Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives

2Pe 3:12 as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat.

2Pe 3:13 But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

15.5 The time of fulfillment will occur in the latter days when Israel turns to the Lord.

Hos 3:5 Afterward the Israelites will return and seek the LORD their God and David their king. They will come trembling to the LORD and to his blessings in the last days.

Dan 12:1 "At that time Michael, the great prince who protects your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress such as has not happened from the beginning of nations until then. But at that time your people--everyone whose name is found written in the book-- will be delivered.

Dan 12:2 Multitudes who sleep in the dust of the earth will awake: some to everlasting life, others to shame and everlasting contempt.

Isa 13:19 Babylon, the jewel of kingdoms, the glory of the Babylonians' pride, will be overthrown by God like Sodom and Gomorrah.

Isa 13:20 She will never be inhabited or lived in through all generations; no Arab will pitch his tent there, no shepherd will rest his flocks there.

Isa 13:21 But desert creatures will lie there, jackals will fill her houses; there the owls will dwell, and there the wild goats will leap about.

Isa 13:22 Hyenas will howl in her strongholds, jackals in her luxurious palaces. Her time is at hand, and her days will not be prolonged.

Isa 14:1 The LORD will have compassion on Jacob; once again he will choose Israel and will settle them in their own land. Aliens will join them and unite with the house of Jacob.

Isa 14:2 Nations will take them and bring them to their own place. And the house of Israel will possess the nations as menservants and maidservants in the LORD'S land. They will make captives of their captors and rule over their oppressors.

Isa 14:3 On the day the LORD gives you relief from suffering and turmoil and cruel bondage,

Isa 14:4 you will take up this taunt against the king of Babylon: How the oppressor has come to an end! How his fury has ended!

15.6 During the day of the Lord Christ returns to first rescue His people Israel, destroy the armies of the world at Armageddon, and judge both Jews and Gentiles who survive the Tribulation.

15.7 The Christ then establishes His millennial reign of perfection.

15.7.1 In summary then:

15.7.2 The Day of the Lord is that period of time when God openly intervenes in the affairs of men--in judgment and in blessing.

15.7.3 It will begin with the translation of the Church and will terminate with the cleansing of the heavens and the earth and the ushering in of the new heavens and the new earth.

15.7.4 The order of events are:

- the rapture of the Church just preceding the beginning of the Day of the Lord (1Th 4:16 and 17);

1Th 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

1Th 4:17 Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

- the fulfillment of Daniel's seventieth week (Dan 9:27), the latter half of which is the great tribulation (Mat 24:21);

Dan 9:27 He will confirm a covenant with many for one 'seven.' In the middle of the 'seven' he will put an end to sacrifice and offering. And on a wing of the temple he will set up an abomination that causes desolation, until the end that is decreed is poured out on him."

Mat 24:21 For then there will be great distress, unequaled from the beginning of the world until now-- and never to be equaled again.

- the return of the Lord in glory to establish the millennial kingdom (Mat 24:29-30);

Mat 24:29 "Immediately after the distress of those days "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.'

Mat 24:30 "At that time the sign of the Son of Man will appear in the sky, and all the nations of the earth will mourn. They will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of the sky, with power and great glory.

- the destruction of the beast, the false prophet, and their armies, which is the "great and terrible" aspect of the day of the Lord (Rev 19:11-21);

Rev 19:11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and makes war.

Rev 19:12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

Rev 19:13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God.

Rev 19:14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

Rev 19:15 Out of his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty.

Rev 19:16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.

Rev 19:17 And I saw an angel standing in the sun, who cried in a loud voice to all the birds flying in midair, "Come, gather together for the great supper of God,
Rev 19:18 so that you may eat the flesh of kings, generals, and mighty men, of horses and their riders, and the flesh of all people, free and slave, small and great."
Rev 19:19 Then I saw the beast and the kings of the earth and their armies gathered together to make war against the rider on the horse and his army.
Rev 19:20 But the beast was captured, and with him the false prophet who had performed the miraculous signs on his behalf. With these signs he had deluded those who had received the mark of the beast and worshiped his image. The two of them were thrown alive into the fiery lake of burning sulfur.
Rev 19:21 The rest of them were killed with the sword that came out of the mouth of the rider on the horse, and all the birds gorged themselves on their flesh.

- the judgment of Gentiles (Mat 25:31-46) and the judgment of Israel (Eze 20:34-38);

Mat 25:31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory.
Mat 25:32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.
Mat 25:33 He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.
Mat 25:34 "Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.
Mat 25:35 For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in,
Mat 25:36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'
Mat 25:37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?
Mat 25:38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you?
Mat 25:39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?'
Mat 25:40 "The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.'
Mat 25:41 "Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.
Mat 25:42 For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,
Mat 25:43 I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.'
Mat 25:44 "They also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?'
Mat 25:45 "He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.'

Mat 25:46 "Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life."

Eze 20:34 I will bring you from the nations and gather you from the countries where you have been scattered-- with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm and with outpoured wrath.

Eze 20:35 I will bring you into the desert of the nations and there, face to face, I will execute judgment upon you.

Eze 20:36 As I judged your fathers in the desert of the land of Egypt, so I will judge you, declares the Sovereign LORD.

Eze 20:37 I will take note of you as you pass under my rod, and I will bring you into the bond of the covenant.

Eze 20:38 I will purge you of those who revolt and rebel against me. Although I will bring them out of the land where they are living, yet they will not enter the land of Israel. Then you will know that I am the Lord.

End Lesson

