

August 25, 2013 Sermon Application handout

“The Day of the Lord”

Joel, Chapter 3:1-21

I. Introduction

1. Before you begin, take time to pray and ask God to grant salvation for your unsaved family and friends (Rom 10:1-9).
2. Review your lesson for Joel 2:28-32. What was one specific teaching that you understood from this section and applied to your life?
3. Now read Joel 2:28-3:32. How is everything interconnected? What is the theme to this long passage?

II. The Day of God’s Judgment Upon His E_____ (1-16)

4. According to verse 1, in the future day of the Lord, what will He restore? What promise will this fulfill (cf. Deut 30:3)?
5. According to Joel 3:2, when Yahweh’s Day comes, where will He gather the nations (cf. 3:12)? What will He do with them there?
6. According to Joel 3:2-6, what is the reason the Lord desires to gather these nations together on this day? What does He plan to do?

7. Read Joel 3:4-8. What attribute of God do you see displayed? Why is He able to address Tyre and Sidon in this manner? (Cf. Deut 32:4). Did these nations have justification for their actions towards Israel?

8. Read Isaiah 30:18; Job 34:12; Ps. 67:4; Ps 103:6; 146:7; 2 Tim 4:8; and 2 Thess. 1:16. Define biblically the above mentioned attribute. How has it added to your own theological understanding of God? How does knowing this information about the Lord impact your own life? Do you believe God's divine judgment to be appropriate? Why or why not?

9. According to Joel 3:9-12, who are all the people that are supposed to show up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat? What is the tone of the instruction? What will Yahweh do at that time?

10. According to Joel 3:13-15, Isaiah 63:1-6, and Revelation 13:14-20. Who is God referring to in Joel? What is the harvest? Why will it be a terrible day? What is the underlying reason for this demise?

11. The Day described in Scripture above indeed is a sobering picture of what is inevitably coming. For now, God is extending His Grace to all unbelievers. But Jesus also reminds us that "You must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect" (Lk 12:40). What about you? Are you ready? Will you be like the man who is waiting for his master whom He finds awake when He comes?

12. How does this specific attribute of God apply to you today? Give an example of how this impacts your relationships at home, work, and church.

III. The Day of God's Blessings Upon the P_____ (vv 17-21)

13. Read Joel 3:17. What is this a picture of? Who will dwell in Jerusalem? (Cf. Zech 14:4).
14. On that Day when Messiah reigns over His people, what will Israel recognize about the Lord (cf. 2:27)? What will the foreign invaders never do again (cf. Isa 52:1-10; Nahum 1:15)?
15. According to verse 18, what will God's people experience on this day?
16. What about Israel's enemies, in contrast to her blessings, what will they experience (v. 19)? What is the reason for this?
17. Why does the Lord take actions against Israel so seriously? Why is God's loyalty so fierce (See Gen 12:1-3)?
18. How does the book of Joel end? How does this give hope?

19. How does knowing that God is Faithful to his people encourage you?
Give an example of how this impacts you at home, work, or church?

20. Review your lessons for Joel 1-3. Was there a new thought about God?
Were there promises you will remember that give you hope?

Resources:

Specific Resource for Joel and Obadiah:

Joel and Obadiah by Irvin Busenitz

Joel, Amos, Obadiah by Thomas Finley

Joel and the Day of Lord by Walter Price

General Resources for the Minor Prophets:

The Minor Prophets by James Montgomery Boice

The Minor Prophets by Charles Feinberg

The Prophets of Israel by Leon Wood

Major Points from the Minor Prophets by John Blanchard

A Survey of Old Testament Introduction by Gleason Archer

Interpreting the Minor Prophets by Robert Chisholm Jr