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Joel 3:3-8

God Curses Those Who Curse Israel

by Eric Douma

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God Judges Those Who Abuse Israel

Joel 3:3
They have also **cast lots for My people**, traded a boy for a harlot and sold a girl for wine that they may drink.

Nahum 3:10
Yet she became an exile, she went into captivity; Also her small children were dashed to pieces at the head of every street; they **cast lots for her honorable men**, and all her great men were bound with fetters.

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God Judges Those Who Pillage Israel

Joel 3:4-5
Moreover, what are you to Me, **O Tyre, Sidon** and all the regions of **Philistia**? Are you rendering Me a recompense? But if you do recompense Me, swiftly and speedily I will return your recompense on your head. **5** Since you have taken My silver and My gold, brought My precious treasures to your temples...

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Ethnic Cleansing in Joel's Day

Joel 3:6-7
and **sold the sons of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks** in order to remove them far from their territory, **7** behold, I am going to arouse them from the place where you have sold them, and return your recompense on your head.

- The Philistines and Phoenicians were engaged in "ethnic" cleansing of the Jews in the 9th century!

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God's Reprisal

Joel 3:8
Also I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and **they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a distant nation**," for the LORD has spoken.

1 Kings 10:1
Now when the **queen of Sheba** heard about the fame of Solomon concerning the name of the LORD, she came to test him with difficult questions.

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Why Does Joel Mention Them?

1. Philistines and Phoenicia committed evil against Israel in Joel's day. God would reconcile this in future D.O.L.
2. Joel may have been looking forward to day when Philistines and Phoenicia took advantage of Judah when northern armies attacked her (Obadiah).
3. Joel mentioned these because they were not world powers. This would serve as an example to anyone who might mistreat God's people!

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Attacking Israel Is Attacking God

Genesis 12:3

And I will bless those who bless you, **and the one who curses you I will curse.** And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.

Deuteronomy 32:8-10 ESV

When the Most High gave to the nations their inheritance, when he divided mankind, he fixed the borders of the peoples according to the number of the sons of God. **9 But the LORD's portion is his people, Jacob his allotted heritage.** **10** "He found him in a desert land, and in the howling waste of the wilderness; he encircled him, he cared for him, **he kept him as the apple of his eye.**

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Attacking Israel Is Attacking God

Obadiah 10-11

Because of violence to your brother Jacob, You will be covered with shame, and you will be cut off forever. **11** On the day that you stood aloof, On the day that strangers carried off his wealth, and foreigners entered his gate and cast lots for Jerusalem— You too were as one of them.

Zephaniah 2:4

For Gaza will be abandoned And Ashkelon a desolation; Ashdod will be driven out at noon And Ekron will be uprooted.

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Attacking Israel Is Attacking God

Zechariah 9:5-7

Ashkelon will see it and be afraid. Gaza too will writhe in great pain; also Ekron, for her expectation has been confounded. moreover, the king will perish from Gaza, and Ashkelon will not be inhabited. **6** And a mongrel race will dwell in Ashdod, and I will cut off the pride of the Philistines. **7** And I will remove their blood from their mouth and their detestable things from between their teeth. Then they also will be a remnant for our God, and be like a clan in Judah, and Ekron like a Jebusite.

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