



# Restoration

A Study in the Book of *Joel* ✦

Each book of the Bible has two authors... Every word [the prophets] wrote was guided by the Holy Spirit to say exactly what God's people needed to hear, both then and now. (*Jesus Daily Bible, page 1175*).

We can easily get lost when reading the prophets, but they each tend to have two major themes: 1) impending **judgment** due to sin; and 2) hope for **restoration** when the Messiah comes. (*JDB, page 918*).





Joel 2:18 - The Lord became *jealous* ...

*Qana* (Hebrew) - lack of tolerance for any rival

*Zelos* (Greek) - zeal, passionate intensity

Human jealousy - rooted in insecurity, selfishness, and warped and sinful ego.

Divine jealousy - rooted in God's perfect character.

Godly jealousy - like Jesus: zeal for the Father's glory and the good of others.



## Joel 2:19, 26

Through the work of Jesus, God has graciously granted eternal, spiritual, soul refreshment and satisfaction to all who repent and believe.



Come, everyone who is thirsty,  
come to the water;  
and you without silver,  
come, buy, and eat!  
Come, buy wine and milk  
without silver and without cost!





<sup>2</sup> Why do you spend silver on what is not food,  
and your wages on what does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,  
and you will enjoy the choicest of foods.

<sup>3</sup> Pay attention and come to me;  
listen, so that you will live.

-Isaiah 55:1-3



They looked for a harvest; in fact, they seemed to see it spring up, and then it was devoured before their eyes. So the ungodly one, who has no faith in Christ, is often charmed with the prospect of a happiness which he never reaches. A little more, and he will be content. He gets a little more; and this increases his thirst for yet another draught from the golden cup ... The student must know a little more; the ambitious must climb a little higher upon the ladder of honor, and then he will be at ease. He learns, he reaches the honor: but the ease is still as distant as ever— perhaps it is even further off.



Earth's cups, when they seem most sweet, only hold brine-draughts, which beget a growing thirst. ***We swallow the horse-leech when we drain the chalice at the feasts of this world, and an insatiable craving follows.*** The locust-eaten years of sin are years of labor, and years of bitter disappointment.

—Charles Spurgeon





Joel 2:20: God has and will drive  
out our spiritual enemies.

We're fighting a battle He's already  
won.



Joel 2:21-24: Don't be afraid ...God has and  
will *handle* it.

...in the hope that the creation itself will be  
set free from the bondage to decay into the  
glorious freedom of God's children.

-Romans 8:20-21 ✦

## Joel 2:25: Repayment

I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust ate,  
the young locust, the destroying locust,  
and the devouring locust - my great army that I sent against  
you.

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an  
eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison.

*II Corinthians 4:17*







## Joel 2:25: Repayment

I will repay you for the years  
that the swarming locust ate,  
the young locust, the destroying locust,  
and the devouring locust - my great army that I sent against you.

For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal  
weight of glory beyond all comparison. II Corinthians 4:17





Linger a moment over this mystery of love. Picture the spirits of evil, year after year bearing away from the fields of human life all their harvests. Whither have they borne the precious products? ... To call back these harvests would be a task which only madness could attempt... The fruits of wasted years are gone, gone past hope.





Yet, behold, the Lord who called light out of darkness, and will yet bring forth life from the tomb, declareth that these long-lost spoils shall be restored! And shall it not be done? Is anything too hard for the Lord? Does not the very difficulty, yea impossibility of the enterprise, make it the more worthy of the Almighty? ... Never was fairytale more strange, or dream of Arabian nights more romantic; yet here it stands in sober words, and many a time in solid fact these words have been true. When we come into the region where the Lord worketh, we come at once into contact with miracles, and walk in the midst of marvels.

*—Charles Spurgeon*



## Joel 2:26-27

No more shame and disgrace; praise and presence

Praise: a manifestation of worship. Humans are created to worship, it is inherent in our nature. We are always appreciative of something, we will always praise something.

Presence: There is no greater blessing in this life – and the greatest part about the life to come – is the presence of God.



## The great and terrible Day of the Lord

When judgment and wrath and mercy and restoration will all be distributed according to one measure of perfect justice.

That perfectly righteous distribution of judgment and restoration, and each of our personal experiences on that day of the Lord, hinges on the answer to one question: **What is your relationship with God as it is determined by your faith in his Son?**





## Joel 2:32

Then everyone who calls  
on the name of the Lord will be saved,  
for there will be an escape  
for those on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem,  
as the Lord promised,  
among the survivors the Lord calls.



1. Don't underestimate the destructiveness of sin (don't feed the locusts).
2. Pursue holy, godly jealousy.
3. Feast on the Bread of Life (come to the Table).
4. Praise the Lord. "Praise God for \_\_\_\_\_."
5. Live in the hope and joy of the repayment and complete restoration that is to come.
6. Repent and be restored.

