

# JOEL

## "THE DAY OF THE LORD"

"Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is near, and it will come as destruction from the Almighty." Joel 1:15

Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
October, 2009

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A1 THE PRESENT CATASTROPHE PREFIGURING THE DAY OF THE LORD 1

A2 THE FUTURE DAY OF THE LORD 2 - 3

MAJOR DIVISIONS OF JOEL  
Based on THE ANALYSIS OF JOEL  
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### **A1 THE PRESENT CATASTROPHE PREFIGURING THE DAY OF THE LORD 1**

- B1 The Introduction 1:1
- B2 The Locust Plague: An unprecedented disaster for crops and the Israeli populace 1:2-14
- B3 The Drought and Fire: Additional devastation from Yahweh creates hardship for man and beast 1:15-20

### **A2 THE FUTURE DAY OF THE LORD 2 - 3**

- B1 The Invading Northern Army (Described in Terms of the Past Locust Plague) 2:1-20
- B2 Wonders During the Millennium: Material prosperity and spiritual vitality 2:21-29
- B3 Events During the Tribulation: Salvation, restoration, war and judgment 2:30 - 3:17
- B4 Sequel: Conditions During the Millennium: Israeli prosperity and supremacy 3:18-21

CONDENSED OUTLINE OF JOEL  
Based on THE ANALYSIS OF JOEL  
Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
October, 2009

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### **A1 THE PRESENT CATASTROPHE PREFIGURING THE DAY OF THE LORD 1**

#### **B1 The Introduction 1:1**

#### **B2 The Locust Plague 1:2-14**

C1 An unprecedented disaster 1:2-3

C2 Destruction by a locust tag-team! -- gnawing, swarming, creeping, and stripping locusts 1:4

C3 The call of the wine-drinkers to mourning 1:5

C4 The description of the locust invaders: A nation with lion-like teeth 1:6

C5 The devastation of the locust invaders: ruining vines and fig trees 1:7

C6 The renewed call to mourning 1:8

C7 The effects of the disaster upon the Israeli populace: priests, farmers, consumers 1:9-12

C8 The calls to lament humbly and to fast: to priests, elders, and inhabitants 1:13-14

#### **B3 The Drought and Fire 1:15-20**

C1 The characterization of the disaster -- the destruction from Yahweh is near! 1:15

C2 The effects of the disaster: Starvation & sadness for priests, aborted harvests -- drought and fire, starving livestock and wild animals 1:16-20

**A2 THE FUTURE DAY OF THE LORD 2 - 3**

**B1 The Invading Northern Army (Described in Terms of the Past Locust Plague) 2:1-20**

C1 The description of the invasion 2:1-11

C2 The call to repentance in light of the coming invasion 2:12-17

C3 God's miraculous overthrow, if the people repent, of the invaders, elevating Israel to world prominence 2:18-20

**B2 Wonders During the Millennium 2:21-29**

C1 Material prosperity for Israel by virtue of a renewed relationship with Yahweh 2:21-27

C2 Spiritual vitality for the Gentiles and especially for Israel 2:28-29

**B3 Events During the Tribulation 2:30 - 3:17**

C1 Salvation amidst judgment 2:30-32

C2 The restoration of Israel 3:1

C3 Bloody war and judgment against all nations in the valley of Jehoshaphat (The Battle of Armageddon) 3:2-17

**B4 Sequel: Conditions During the Millennium 3:18-21**

C1 Israel's prosperity: Bountiful vineyards, productive herds, plenteous water, flowing stream 3:18

C2 Nations' desolations (Egypt and Edom) 3:19

C3 Israel's supremacy, possessing Judah and Jerusalem 3:20-21

OUTLINE OF JOEL

Based on THE ANALYSIS OF JOEL

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- C2 Destruction by a locust tag-team! -- gnawing, swarming, creeping, and stripping locusts 1:4
- C3 The call of the wine-drinkers to mourning 1:5
- C4 The description of the locust invaders: A nation with lion-like teeth 1:6
- C5 The devastation of the locust invaders: ruining vines and fig trees 1:7
- C6 The renewed call to mourning 1:8
- C7 The effects of the disaster upon the Israeli populace 1:9-12
  - D1 Upon the priests and their temple offerings -- mourning because offerings have ceased 1:9
  - D2 Upon the farmers and their fields -- wailing because harvests are destroyed. 1:10-11
  - D3 Upon the consumers because of the vines and trees -- joy dried up because of drought 1:12
- C8 The calls to lament humbly and to fast 1:13-14
  - D1 Addressed to the priests 1:13
  - D2 Concerning the elders and the inhabitants of the land: The call to fast in the temple 1:14

#### **B3 The Drought and Fire 1:15-20**

- C1 The characterization of the disaster -- the destruction from Yahweh is near! 1:15
- C2 The effects of the disaster 1:16-20
  - D1 Starvation and sadness for the priests 1:16
  - D2 Drought-halted harvests 1:17

- D3 Starving livestock 1:18
- D4 Flame-devoured pastures and orchards 1:19
- D5 Thirsty and starving wild animals 1:20

## **A2 THE FUTURE DAY OF THE LORD 2 - 3**

### **B1 The Invading Northern Army (Described in Terms of the Past Locust Plague) 2:1-20**

- C1 The description of the invasion 2:1-11
  - D1 The description of the day 2:1-2
  - D2 The description of the invaders -- a great and mighty people 2:2b
  - D3 The description of the invasion 2:2c-3
  - D4 The description of the army -- based on the historical locust invasion: like horses and chariots driven by mighty warriors with relentless discipline and mobility assisted by God 2:4-11
- C2 The call to repentance in light of the coming invasion 2:12-17
  - D1 The character of their repentance (as commanded by God): Whole-hearted sorrow 2:12-13a
  - D2 The character of their God (as explained by the prophet): Gracious and willing to bless if repentance is forthcoming 2:13b-14
  - D3 The mechanics of the call 2:15
  - D4 The segments of society targeted in the call: people, elders, children, newly-married, priests 2:16-17
- C3 God's miraculous overthrow of the invaders if the people repent 2:18-20
  - D1 Yahweh's propitious stance 2:18
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### **B2 Wonders During the Millennium 2:21-29**

- C1 Material prosperity 2:21-27
  - D1 The call not to fear, but to rejoice in view of God's blessing upon the land! 2:21-23
  - D2 The description of God's blessing upon the land: a restored ag economy and relationship with Yahweh 2:24-27

C2 Spiritual vitality 2:28-29

D1 God's pouring out His Spirit on all mankind! 2:28a

D2 The manifestations of the Spirit amongst the Israelis 2:28b-29

**B3 Events During the Tribulation 2:30 - 3:17**

C1 Salvation 2:30-32

D1 Signs of judgment preliminary to the outpouring of the Spirit 2:30-31

D2 Deliverance amidst judgment 2:32

C2 The restoration of Israel 3:1

C3 War and judgment 3:2-17

D1 Yahweh's message of judgment against all nations in the valley of Jehoshaphat for violence done against Israel 3:2-3

D2 Yahweh's message of judgment against Lebanon and Philistia: Certain retaliation in kind for their treatment of His people, Israel 3:4-8

D3 Yahweh's calling the nations to their judgment in the valley of Jehoshaphat (the Battle of Armageddon) 3:9-12

D4 Yahweh's description of the judgment at the Battle of Armageddon: A harvest of international blood with cosmic chaos as He preserves Israel and Jerusalem 3:13-14

**B4 Sequel: Conditions During the Millennium 3:18-21**

C1 Israel's prosperity: Bountiful vineyards, productive herds, plenteous water, flowing stream 3:18

C2 Nations' desolations (Egypt and Edom) 3:19

C3 Israel's supremacy 3:20-21

D1 The eternal Israeli habitation of Judah and Jerusalem 3:20

D2 Yahweh's vengeful enforcement of Israeli habitation of Judah and Jerusalem 3:21

EXPANDED OUTLINE OF JOEL  
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