

Messianic Prophecies: **Joel**

Acts 2:16-21 quotes Joel 2:28-32.

So Joel speaks of Messiah, or more specifically, the Age of Messiah

What is Joel about?

2 parts, each with same climax:

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|------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. His day (OT): 1:1 – 2:27. | Climax: 2:27 |
| 2. Future (NT): 2:28 – 3:21. | Climax: 3:17 |

Climax and purpose: so you will **know** that I alone am your God,
and you will trust and serve Me alone.

How He got their attention then: major plague of locusts!

(We don't know when he wrote. Most likely 9th cent B.C. or after exile)
1:2-12; 1:16 – 2:11.

Imagine a locust plague...

Purpose of the plague: call them to repentance: 1:14-15; 2:13-17

Result of repentance: God relented and showed mercy: 2:18-27

They knew as they had never known: God is their only Refuge and
Hope.

Then in 2:28 he looks to distant future and greater Hope and greater
Judgment:

I. _____: the NT Age of the Spirit: **2:28-32**

A. Promise of the Spirit: v28-9

Jesus has come! And died and risen. So we live in the Age of the
Spirit.

Universal: all nations, ages, genders

ALL of you are ministers to display the power of God in your
changing lives.

Are you expecting change? Do you dream of what could be (2:28)?

B. Warning: more signs of the Day of the Lord: 2:30-1

Possibly literal and/or metaphorical

C. Promise & invitation of this Age: 2:32

Uniquely HIM Who will save you. No other.

Are you prophesying/telling the warning and invitation to people without hope in your life?

And if you don't believe that He is your only hope...

II. _____: The Day of the LORD: **3:1-21**

The Valley of Jehoshaphat ("the Lord judges"): 3:2

The Valley of Decision (God's final Decision): 3:14

The Final Day of the LORD: 3:15-16a

3:16b: BUT...

O then everyone will either have or wished above all things that they had made Him their Refuge & Stronghold!

For then you will **know: 3:17!**

Final contrast: Heaven of Delights (3:18)

Or Hell of Desolation (3:19)

3:20-1: so God's people live forever. Because they are good? No.

Because they are _____.

So... the MAIN THING in life is to know Him as your Refuge and your God (2:27; 3:17).

He will do whatever it takes to get you to see that.

The American Church is like the Church in Joel's day

Qt. David Bryant: Jesus Christ is no longer at the center of His Church

On a grand scale: plagues, droughts, epidemics, war

Or on a personal scale: thwarting your agenda because you have left Him out of your plans.

C.S. Lewis: He shouts to us in our **pain**.

Beware taking a vacation from Him during the holidays. Full of stuff, but empty of soul. Come back to Him now for your joy.

Urgent call: Fast (1:14-15; 2:13-17)

Joel 2:32 is still in operation today. But there are no promises of tomorrow.