The Chapters of Joel

Harold Willmington

Liberty University, hwillmington@liberty.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/outline_chapters_bible

Part of the Biblical Studies Commons, Christianity Commons, and the Religious Thought, Theology and Philosophy of Religion Commons

Recommended Citation

http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/outline_chapters_bible/22

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the A Guide to the Systematic Study of the Bible at DigitalCommons@Liberty University. It has been accepted for inclusion in An Alliterated Outline for the Chapters of the Bible by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@Liberty University. For more information, please contact scholarlycommunication@liberty.edu.
SECTION OUTLINE ONE (JOEL 1-3)
Joel writes about current and future conditions in Israel.

I. CURRENT CONDITIONS (1:1-20): The worst locust plague in Judah’s history has settled upon the land.
   A. The devastation (1:1-12, 15-18)
      1. The severity (1:1-4, 6-7, 15): The crops are consumed by a fourfold attack:
         a. The cutting locusts (1:1-4a, 15)
         b. The swarming locusts (1:4b)
         c. The hopping locusts (1:4c)
         d. The stripping locusts (1:4d, 6-7)
      2. The sorrow (1:5, 8-12, 16-18): Hungry cries of anguish are heard everywhere.
   B. The proclamation (1:13-14)
      1. Dress in sackcloth (1:13a).
      2. Declare a fast (1:13b-14a).
   C. The supplication (1:19-20): Both people and animals cry out for divine intervention.

II. COMING CONDITIONS (2:1-3:21): There will be three future "days."
   A. The day of Pentecost (2:28-32; see also Acts 2:14-18; Rev. 6:12-14)
      1. The contents (2:28-32)
         a. God's Spirit will be poured out upon Israel (2:28-29).
         b. Great signs will occur in the heavens (2:30-31).
         c. Salvation will be offered to all (2:32).
      2. The chronology (see Acts 2:14-18; Rev. 6:12-14)
         a. Present fulfillment (see Acts 2:14-18)
         b. Future fulfillment (see Rev. 6:12-14)
   B. The day of the Lord—a title for the coming Great Tribulation (2:1-21; 3:1-16): Using the locust plague as an object lesson, Joel describes a future invasion where enemy soldiers (not insects) will ravage the land.
      1. The alarm (2:1, 15)
      2. The admonition (2:12-14, 16-17): God calls for Israel's repentance.
      3. The assurance (2:18-21): God promises deliverance following this repentance.
      4. The attack (2:2-11): A fierce and seemingly unstoppable foreign army will invade Israel, marching in precise fashion, causing great fear.
      5. The anger (3:3-8): God is furious concerning Israel's past and future mistreatment by the pagan Gentiles.
      6. The announcement (3:9-11): These pagan Gentiles are warned to prepare for the worst, for God himself will soon battle against them.
      7. The assembling (3:1-2, 12): God plans to drive his enemies into the valley of Jehoshaphat (called the Kidron Valley in the New Testament) so he can kill them.
      8. The annihilation (3:13-16): The enemies will be crushed like overripe grapes.
   C. The day of Christ—a title for the Millennium (2:22-27; 3:17-21)
      1. Body blessings—the provision of food (2:22-26; 3:18-19)
      2. Soul blessings—the presence of God (2:27; 3:17, 20-21)