

Dig Deeper into Joel 2:18-32 for personal study and Life Groups...

Through Joel, God promises wonderful...

- 1) ... **restoration** following repentance (v18-27)
 agricultural emotional spiritual
So return! So be glad!
- 2) ... **communication** following Pentecost (v28-32)
So speak! So call on Jesus!

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1) At 2v18 we move to the turning point of the book. How would you sum up the broad brush strokes of the book before and after this point? (The summary diagram of the book is beneath if you want to walk through it).

2) Let's look at the first promise 2:18-27 (Restoration). Why are the people so happy? Why should we be so happy? What will these verses mean for you?

3) In Acts 2:16, Peter says that what is happening is the fulfilment of this passage. What does the coming of Pentecost mean for salvation history? Charlie said that "capital P" prophecy is closed now that the Scriptures are written, but how can we "little p" prophecy both by faithfully edifying believers and evangelising unbelievers? (see 1 Cor 14:3, 1 Thess 5:20-21).

What does God say we do in a crisis?

- **TAKE STOCK** Mourn your sin (ch1:1-2:11).
- **TAKE HEED** Be warned of God's Judgement (Day of the Lord= 1:15, 2:2, 2:11, 2:31, 3:15).
- **TAKE ACTION** Return to God in repentance (2:12-17)
- **TAKE COURAGE** God promises for his people
 - **Restoration** (2:18-27) the damage undone
 - **Renewal** (2:28-32) the Spirit poured out
 - **Retribution** (3:1-15) enemies judged
 - **Relationship** (3:16-21) safety with God

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Dig Deeper into Joel 3 for personal study and Life Groups...

TAKE COURAGE....God promises ...

1) ...retribution (v1-16)
vengeance on God's enemies
(payback) (war)

2) ...relationship (v17-21)
safety for God's people
(abundance) (presence)

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1) How does this language of judgement make you feel in 3:1-16a? What will help us to keep thinking of it as good news? What action does it spur you to?

2) v16b- 21 speaks of more wonderful promises for the future. Which of these are picked up in Revelation 21: 1-4 and Revelation 22:1-5? And so what is God promising you?

3) All of the blessings in the second half of the book turn on true repentance in chapters 1 & 2 (esp 2:12-13). Has the Lord convicted you of any particular areas that you need to turn from in this series? Have you learned that 2:27 "I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other?" or do you see split loyalty in any areas in your life?

A few websites...

- The **Bible Project** has an excellent 6 minute video on the book of Joel:
<https://www.bible.com/en-GB/videos/3037-joel-the-bible-project>
- **Open Doors** has information about the suffering church
<https://www.opendoorsuk.org/persecution/countries/north-korea/>
- **Stop the Traffik**. It's estimated that 40.3 Million people are trapped in slavery today.
<https://www.stophetraffik.org/>
- **The Clewer Initiative** has an app for you to use to pass on data, if you feel that employees at a carwash may have been trafficked. Stop the Traffik has a similar reporting app.
<https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/>