

THE DAY OF THE LORD IN THE VALLEY OF DECISION

Joel 3:1-21

Many today picture God as a kindly grandpa who is always there for us and who will never _____ our sin
Joel 3 focuses generally on the Day of the LORD and more precisely on the 7-Year _____ Period

I. THE LORD'S _____ CASE AGAINST ALL NATIONS 3:2-8

The LORD as supreme Judge summons all nations to the Valley of Jehoshaphat-- _____ judges

A. The General Charge: The LORD takes personally attacks on _____ --you attack them, you attack Me

B. The Specific Charges:

1) The Assyrians (722 BC) & Babylonians (587 BC) _____ the people of Israel among the nations

2) From these same periods until 1948 the nations _____ the land of Israel; it continues today

3) Beginning in these times of captivity, the nations have _____ the Jews as less than human

4) Babylonians and Romans looted the _____ in Jerusalem and ended the worship of the LORD

**Many believe that this judgment is parallel to the Sheep and _____ Judgment in Matthew 25:31-46

II. THE LORD'S VICTORIOUS _____ WITH ALL NATIONS 3:9-17

A. The _____ to War 3:9-12

1) As opposed to Isaiah 2:4 the LORD counsels the nations to beat their plowshares into _____

2) The Lord says, "Let the _____ say, 'I am strong,'" but "Your arm's too short to box with God!"

3) Other texts teach that the nations will gather around Jerusalem and they will think it is _____ idea

B. The _____ of the War 3:13-17

1) 3:13—2 metaphors of ripe harvest teach that the measure of God's wrath has been _____

2) 3:14—the Valley of Jehoshaphat changes to _____ Valley: the Judge will now render His verdict

3) 3:15-16—the LORD roars and the power of His _____ decides the outcome not armies/armaments

4) All nature also reacts to this roar: Zech.14 states there shall be an _____ at Jerusalem

5) 3:17—The Beast will dominate _____ during the Tribulation, but Jesus will cast out all Anti-Christ forces, never to set foot there again; then He will set up His throne there to rule for 1000 yrs

III. THE LORD'S _____ EARTHLY REIGN OVER ALL NATIONS 3:18-21

A. The _____ Prosperity of This Reign

1) The devastation of the land described in Joel 1-2 will be _____ , the original fertility restored

2) Both Joel 3:18 and Zech.14:8 promise that a fountain will flow from the _____ in Jerusalem

B. The _____ Restoration of Israel Entering This Reign

1) The LORD will again dwell with _____ and they will again know the LORD, their covenant God

2) Based on the rejection of Jesus by Jews generally, how could this be? Zech.12:10 explains that when they see the risen _____ destroy the armies around Jerusalem they will repent and be saved