

# **A Study of the Prophets**

## **OT Survey Lesson 103--Joel 1:1-2:27**

**Introduction:** Joel may be the earliest of the literary prophets, writing about 830 BC. The land of Israel had suffered from a terrible locust plague and by a severe drought. Joel saw in this indications that God was not pleased with His people. He arose to warn the Israelites of the need to repent in order to again receive God's blessings.

**Lesson aim:** To show how God may use natural disasters to bring people to repentance.

### **A description of the desolation of the land and a call to repentance— Joel 1:1-2:17**

1. Was this desolation of the land like anything that had gone before? (v. 2-3)
2. What kind of plague was devastating the land? (v. 4)
3. What had the locusts done to the grape vines and the fig trees? (v. 5-7) Who did God warn to wake up and wail?
4. Name some of the things that had dried up because of the drought (v. 8-12).
5. What were God's people urged to do? (v. 13-14)
6. What did these plagues indicate was near if Israel did not repent? (v. 15)
7. Describe what had happened to the land since the drought? (v. 16-20)
8. To what does Joel compare the locusts in their destructive power? (2:4 -11)
9. Whose army was this locust plague? (v. 11)
10. What did the Lord want the people to do? (2:12-14) Why?
11. What did Joel urge all the leaders of Israel to do? (2:15-17)

12. What did Joel not want the peoples around Israel to say about them?

### **A promise of deliverance if Israel repents--Joel 2:18-27**

1. What did Joel say the Lord would do if His people repented? (v. 18) What would be the result? (v. 19)
2. What did God say He would remove? (v. 20)
3. It would appear from this section (2:21—27) that God's people repented of their sins and God brought blessing upon the land. What are the land and the animals urged to do? (v. 21 —22)
4. What are the people urged to do? (v. 23) Why? (v. 23b-24)
5. What did God say He would do? (v. 25-27)
6. Thought question: Does God continue to punish people by plagues like this one today? Give a reason for your answer.