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**Much Love!**

Pastor Ed

**Title:** Day of the Lord

**Text:** Joel 1-3

**Target:** To see the four distinct “Days of the Lord” mentioned in Joel and determine which one you are living in.

**I. Consuming Time of Crisis:** “Hear this, you elders give ear, all inhabitants of the land! Has such a thing happened in your days, or in the days of your fathers?” (Vs.1:2)

**A. The Locust have Devoured:** “What the cutting locust left, the swarming locust has eaten. What the swarming locust left, the hopping locust has eaten and what the hopping locust left, the destroying locust has eaten.” (Vs.1: 4)

**B. The Listeners were Devastated:** “Is not the food cut off before our eyes, joy and gladness from the house of our God?” (Vs.1:16)

**II. Clarifying Trumpet of Conviction:** “Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain, Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,” (Vs. 2:1)

**A. The Coming of Retribution:** “For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome, who can endure it?” (Vs. 2:11)

**B. The Call to Repentance:** “Yet even now,” declares the LORD, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments.” Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.” (Vs. 2:12-13)

**III. Compelling Truth of Comfort:** “You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel and that I am the LORD your God and there is none else. And my people shall never again be put to shame.” (Vs. 2:27)

**A. Promise of His Spirit:** “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;” (Vs. 2:28a)

**B. Prophecy by His Spirit:** “your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.” (Vs. 2:28b)

**C. Protected by His Spirit:** “And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.” (Vs. 2:32)

**IV. Chilling Testimony of what’s to Come:** “Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations and gather yourselves there. Bring down your warriors, O LORD.” (Vs. 3:11)

**A. Valley of Jehoshaphat:** “Let the nations stir themselves up and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.” (Vs. 3:12)

**B. Valley of Judgement:** “Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.” (Vs. 3:14)

**Takeaway:** It is never the wrong time to do the right thing.