

A. SERMON SLIDES

Slide 1: Title

The Day of the Lord

Book of Joel

Slide 2:

Joel 1:1-5 (ESV)

The word of the LORD that came to Joel, the son of Pethuel:
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?
Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children,
and their children to another generation.
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.
Awake, you drunkards, and weep, and wail, all you drinkers of wine,
because of the sweet wine, for it is cut off from your mouth.

Slide 3:

Joel 1:13-15 (ESV)

Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests;
wail, O ministers of the altar.
Go in, pass the night in sackcloth,
O ministers of my God!
Because grain offering and drink offering
are withheld from the house of your God.
Consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly.
Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land
to the house of the LORD your God, and cry out to the LORD.
Alas for the day!
For the day of the LORD is near,
and as destruction from the Almighty it comes.

Slide 4:

Joel 2:1-2 (ESV)

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,
a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful
people;

their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

Slide 5:

Joel 2:28-29 (ESV)

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.

Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

Slide 6:

Joel = "Jehovah is God"

Who was he?

Slide 7:

Joel's message: Remember the "bad" news.

Consider your life in the shadow of a former catastrophe and a coming "Day of the Lord."

Slide 8:

All the prophet's melody line:

- 1) Repent or judgment (Sin)
- 2) This is the judgment that is coming (Judgment)
- 3) In spite of lack of repentance, and judgment...future hope (Mercy and Grace)

Slide 9:

Joel "sets up shop" between:

2a) Judgment of locusts

2b) Future judgment of an army like locusts

Slide 10:

Joel's Message:

The locust plague was 1) a result and illustration of their sin, as well as 2) a warning about God's future greater judgment on sin...which is a "Day of the Lord."

Slide 11:

How is a locust plague a result and illustration of sin?

Slide 12:

God's passive judgment is when he removes (ever so slightly) His active grace.

Slide 13:

Romans 1:18 (ESV)

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men

Romans 1:24 (ESV)

Therefore God gave them up...

Slide 14:

Joel 2:11 (ESV)

For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome;
who can endure it?

Slide 15:

What is a "Day of the Lord?"

God's active judgment is when He affirms, confirms, extends or accelerates His passive judgment

Slide 16:

What is the point of all of this?

1) Repent = Wake up! = Take heed

Slide 17:

What is the point of all of this?

1) Repent = Wake up! = Take heed

2) Be Thankful for a Savior

B. GROUP DISCUSSION

1. Joel says that a locust plague was a warning of future judgment and a reason for repentance. Explain "natural" disasters today. Do we see them as Joel saw them?

Why or why not?

2. Can you explain God's "passive" wrath?

3. Can you explain God's "active" wrath?

4. Explain the meaning of a "Day of the Lord"

5. In what way are all disasters opportunities to repent? Does it matter if we inflicted the disaster or were victims of it?

6. In what way does Jesus receive the "Day of the Lord" on the cross, and why did He do it?

7. Prayer and praise.