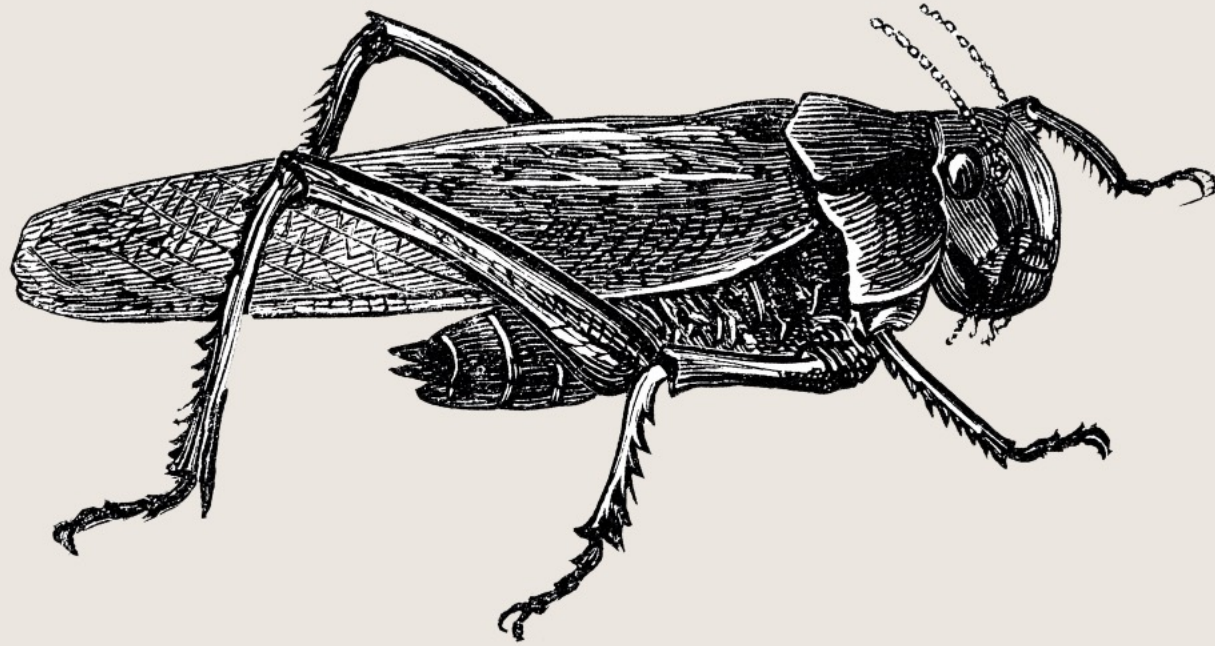


THE BOOK OF  
JOEL



TURN  
TO THE  
LORD



# Here's Your Sign      Joel 1:13-20

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# Four Main Points

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1. Turn back to me. Review Joel 1:13-20.
2. What is true repentance?
3. Maybe the best example of true repentance.
4. What about us? God is calling us to return to Him!



We turn to God for help when our  
foundations are shaking, only to  
learn that it is God who is shaking  
them.

— *C. West Churchman* —

# Joel 1:13-14

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- Plague to repentance. Correlation?
- Sackcloth –Humility.
- Priests and ministers in v13, and then elders and all inhabitants in v14
- Consecrate a fast – Make Holy; Isa 58:1-7

# Joel 1:15

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- **Alas for the day** – pain, cry out loudly, impending doom.
- **Day of the Lord** - 5 times in Joel (1:15; 2:1,11, 31 and 3:14)
  - Refers to God's judgment.
  - Is near or close. Are we ready?
- **Destruction** –The day of the Lord will be judgement / destruction.



# Joel 1:16-17

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- Nothing to bring to the house of the Lord.
- Ability to worship is impeded and joy is gone.
- The result of God's judgement is drought.
- Storehouses are desolate.

# Joel 1:19 (God's Purpose in Trials)

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- To you, O LORD – Usually our last resort.
- Joel makes it clear the Lord is behind the circumstances.
- Very few repent during times of comfort and peace.
- “I call!” Joel is leading by example.
- Fire often represents God's judgement.



# What Is True Repentance

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- OT means to turn 180 degrees.
- NT means to change one's mind.
- Confession is not repentance! Romans 12:2; Matt 3:8
- Performance vs intimacy.
- Remorse due to the consequences of sin? Matt 27:3





True repentance will entirely change you; the bias of your souls will be changed, then you will delight in God, in Christ, in His Law, and in His people.

*- George Whitefield*

# Best Example – Luke 15:11-20

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- The son is living in Father's house.
  - Father was willing to bless him with what he requested.
  - Spent Father's blessing on reckless living.
  - Famine comes; moves in with pigs.
  - Luke 15:17-18 – “But when he came to himself... I have sinned.”
  - Luke 15:20 – “And he arose...” Made decision/Turned around.
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Our approach should not be to change our behavior, but rather to change what we value the most.

- *Mitch Marczewski*

# What About Us?

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- Is God trying to get your attention?
- When we hear repent do we think that's for someone else?
- God is using circumstances in our lives to tell us its time to turn and come back to Him?
- It's time to turn back to the Lord!