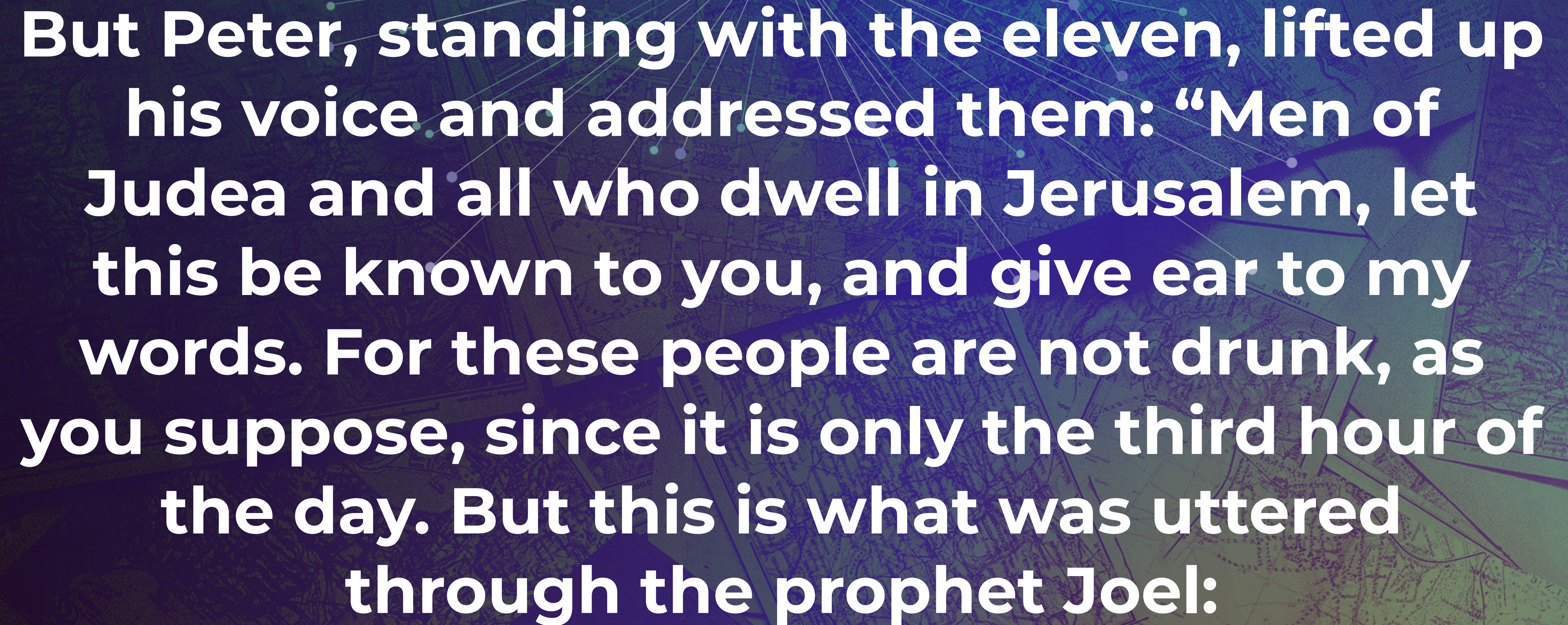


The background features a collage of historical maps in sepia tones, overlaid with a dark blue gradient. A network of white lines connects various glowing blue and white dots across the image, creating a sense of global connectivity. The text is centered in a large, bold, white sans-serif font.

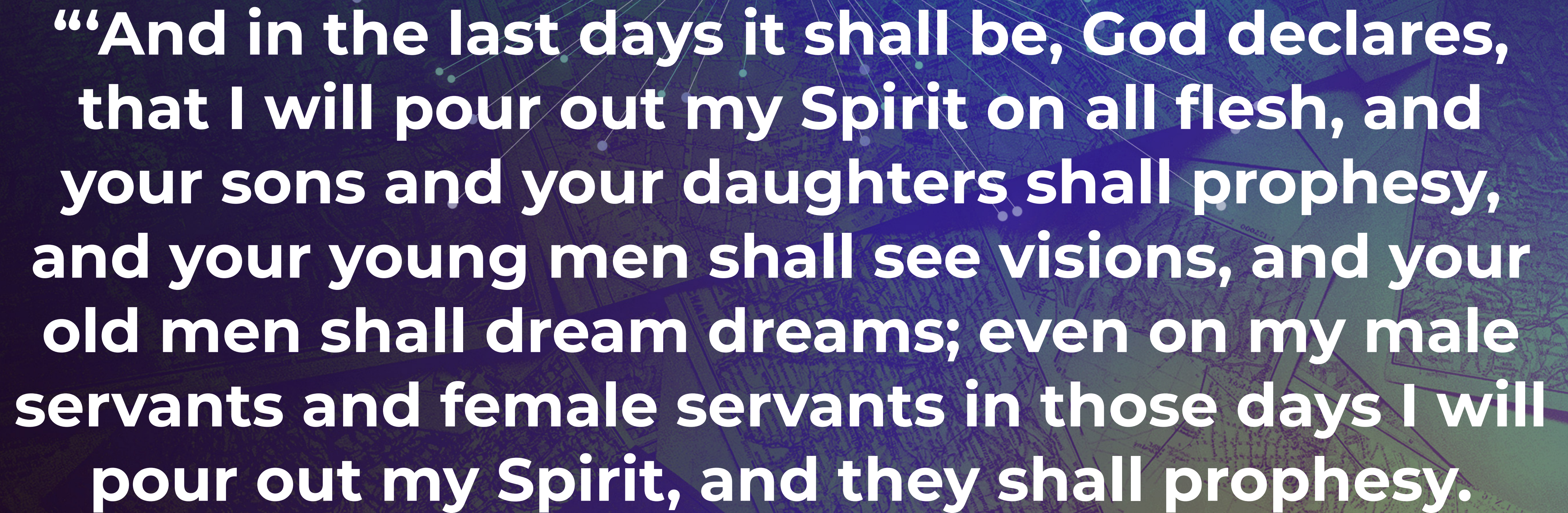
Prophecy, Proclamation, and the First Sermon

Acts 2:14-21



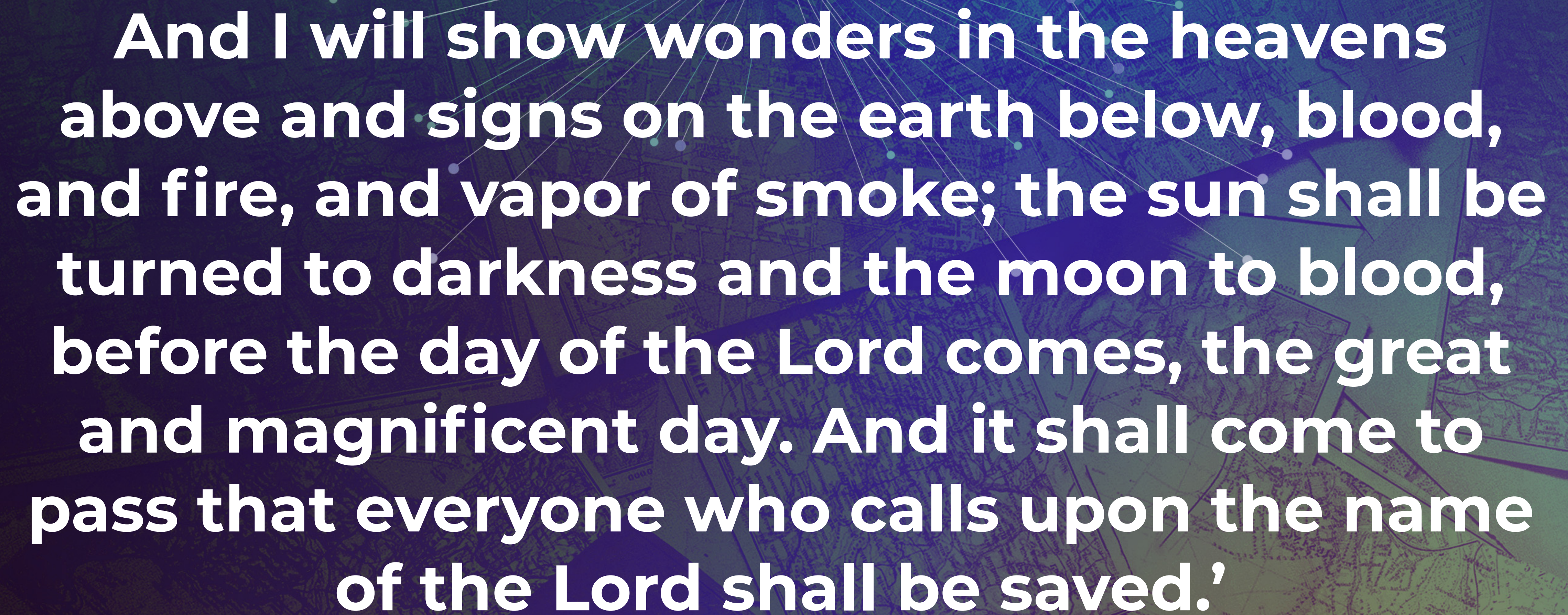
But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

Acts 2:14-21



**“And in the last days it shall be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions, and your
old men shall dream dreams; even on my male
servants and female servants in those days I will
pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.**

Acts 2:14-21



**And I will show wonders in the heavens
above and signs on the earth below, blood,
and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be
turned to darkness and the moon to blood,
before the day of the Lord comes, the great
and magnificent day. And it shall come to
pass that everyone who calls upon the name
of the Lord shall be saved.'**

Acts 2:14-21

Outline

- Context Within Acts
- The Prophet Joel
- Verse Breakdown
- Call to Action

Context Within Acts

- **Acts 1:1-11** The Holy Spirit was promised multiple times to the disciples, tied into a command to stay within Jerusalem.
- **Acts 1:12-26** The followers of Christ stayed hidden alone in Jerusalem and argued over who'd be in charge. This is what a dead church looks like.
- **Acts 2:1-4** The Holy Spirit arrives in a supernatural way, driving them out of their rooms into the street.
- **Acts 2:5-12** Devout Religious Jews from all the nations heard the men and woman speaking, yet each heard their own language. Some were amazed. Some mocked.

Joel: A Brief Overview

- Much about both Joel the prophet and the circumstances of the book are unknown. The one thing that is known is that Israel suffered a terrible famine (Joel 1:10) and is told to repent (Joel 2:12) that the Lord may relent the disaster that befell the land.
- After their repentance, the Lord restores the fortunes of his people by becoming present within their midst (Joel 2:27).
- God's presence precipitates the coming of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-32; our passage today).
- This great event spreads out amongst the earth, bringing all the nation's of the earth before God where some receive judgment and some receive refuge (Joel 3:11-12).

Joel and Acts

As well as clearly being about the coming of the Spirit, the context of Joel speaks to the Sermon Peter preaches on Pentecost, specifically on the key theme of God's Presence.

- In Joel, God's presence is both his answer to the suffering of His people as well as the fulcrum for world-changing transformation.
- In Joel, God's presence is the great equalizer, strengthening the weak and humbling the mighty.
- In Joel, God's presence covers the earth, bringing all nation's before Him.

A Quick Word on Prophesying

Some clarifications to clear up misconceptions about the word “prophesying”

- Biblical Prophesying is best defined as: God’s Truth spoken by a specific person to a specific people for a specific purpose. It’s best modern-day comparison is a sermon.
- Sometimes, inspired prophecies given in the Bible (such as those found within the Prophets and the book of Revelation) hold divine foretelling not featured in “prophesying” as a whole. These are instances unique to specific biblical prophecies.
- In the OT, “prophesying” was reserved to highly-educated individuals called “prophets” who had received a unique divine calling.
- Biblical Prophecy is *not*: Mystical Fortune-telling, looking into the future, magical.

Verse Breakdown 14-16

- Vs. 14: Peter, now filled with the Holy Spirit keeps the situation from deteriorating by addressing a specific group of people; the devout around them.
- Vs. 15: Addressing the mockers, Peter offers a humorous response that both refutes their claims and draws attention to the miracle; *Who learn's another language drunk at 9am?*
- Vs. 16: Peter, having drawn attention to the fact that all could understand him, begins his sermon by quoting a passage familiar to the listeners.

By quoting Joel, Peter connects this event to the primary theme of Joel: God's transformative presence.

[14] But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. [15] For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. [16] But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:

Verse Breakdown 17-18

- Vs. 17-18: God's transformative Spirit eliminates the value/worth divisions of man/woman, old/young, and rich/poor.
- Vs. 17-18: God's transformative Spirit eliminates these divines by empowering *all* to "prophecy", or, proclaim God's Truth to all the world.

God's presence is marked by the eliminations of the most hateful divisions of value and worth we've placed on humanity and supplanted by His Word.

[17] "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; [18] even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy."

Verse Breakdown 19-21

- Vs. 19-20: Joel and Peter name numerous “grand” and “spiritual” events that ultimately don’t even live up to the great and magnificent “day of the Lord”.
- Vs. 21: What is the *truly* grand and spiritual event? “That all who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be save.

The things we consider “grand” and “spiritual” are nothing. A sinner becoming a child of God is what truly breaks the fabric of our world.

[19] And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; [20] the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. [21] And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'



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**The mark of a Spirit-led
Christian is prophesying;
the proclamation of the
Word of God to those God's
placed in their life.**