

Major Profit from Minor Prophets

(Joel)

- Introduction:
1. If you're interested in Jesus, you should be interested in the prophets.
 2. Revelation 19:10 says that the spirit of prophecy is the testimony of Jesus.
 3. (Luke 24:44) Jesus said that all that had been written of him in the Law, the Psalms, and Prophets must be fulfilled.
 4. The prophets were great and godly men; men who could not be silenced by bribery or threat.
 5. (Matthew 16:13-15) - What a great compliment to the prophets!

I. Brief Background to the book of Joel

- A. Joel is a pre-exilic prophet.
- B. It was written to the southern kingdom of Judah.
- C. Joel warns of an impending judgment of God upon Judah, but also shares the good news of God's eventual blessing.
- D. The message of the prophets was often a mixture of God's judgment and his blessing; bad news and good news.
- E. This is precisely what we see in the book of Joel.

II. Practical Lessons to Learn from Joel

- A. The Day of the Lord.
 1. Was the plague of locusts an nature event or a divine judgment (Joel 1:4)?
 2. (Joel 1:15; 2:1,11,31; 3:14).
 3. God rules in the kingdoms of men (Daniel 4:17; 5:21).
- B. Pass On to the Next Generation.
 1. (Joel 1:2-3).
 2. (Deuteronomy 6:4-9).
 3. (Judges 2:10).
 4. (Ephesians 6:4).
- C. Make Intercession in Prayer.
 1. (Joel 1:14-15; 2:14).
 2. (James 5:16).
- D. Rend Your Heart and Not Your Garments.
 1. (Joel 2:13).
 2. (2 Corinthians 7:10).
- E. The Prophet of Pentecost.
 1. (Joel 2:28-29).
 2. Consider how Isaiah 2, Daniel 2, Joel 2 are fulfilled in Acts 2.
 3. Consider also all the specific details that were revealed 800 years before their fulfillment!
- F. The Valley of Decision.
 1. (Joel 3:14).
 2. (Joshua 24:15).
 3. (Revelation 22:17).

- Conclusion:
1. Like the children of God in the days of Joel, we too stand in the "valley of decision."
 2. Will we refuse to acknowledge God in our lives and fail to realize our accountability to him?
 3. Or will we rend our hearts, and not just our garments? The decision is yours.