

JOEL LESSON 10

1:1 The word of the LORD that **came** to Joel, the son of Pethuel:

2 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?

3 Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children to another generation.

4 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**.

5 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.

6 For a nation has **come** up against my land, powerful and beyond number; its teeth are lions' teeth, and it has the fangs of a lioness.

7 It has **laid** waste my vine and splintered my fig tree; it has **stripped** off their bark and **thrown** it down; their branches are **made** white.

8 Lament like a virgin wearing sackcloth for the bridegroom of her youth.

9 The grain offering and the drink offering are **cut** off from the house of the LORD. The priests **mourn**, the ministers of the LORD.

10 The fields are **destroyed**, the ground **mourns**, because the grain is **destroyed**, the wine **dries** up, the oil **languishes**.

11 Be **ashamed**, O tillers of the soil; **wail**, O vinedressers, for the wheat and the barley, because the harvest of the field has **perished**.

12 The vine **dries** up; the fig tree **languishes**. Pomegranate, palm, and apple, all the trees of the field are **dried** up, and gladness **dries** up from the children of man.

13 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.

14 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.

15 Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it **comes**.

16 Is not the food **cut** off before our eyes, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

17 The seed **shrivels** under the clods; the storehouses are **desolate**; the granaries are **turned** down because the grain has **dried** up.

18 How the beasts **groan**! The herds of cattle are **perplexed** because there is no pasture for them; even the flocks of sheep **suffer**.

19 To you, O LORD, I **call**. For fire has **devoured** the pastures of the wilderness, and flame has **burned** all the trees of the field.

20 Even the beasts of the field **pant** for you because the water brooks are **dried** up, and fire has **devoured** the pastures of the wilderness.

2:1 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,

2 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.

3 Fire **devours** before them, and behind them a flame **burns**.

The land is like the garden of Eden before them, but behind them a desolate wilderness, and nothing **escapes** them.

4 Their appearance is like the appearance of horses, and like war horses they **run**.

5 As with the rumbling of chariots, they **leap** on the tops of the mountains, like the crackling of a flame of fire

devouring the stubble, like a powerful army drawn up for battle.

6 Before them peoples are in **anguish**; all faces **grow** pale.

7 Like warriors they **charge**; like soldiers they **scale** the wall.

They **march** each on his way; they do not **swerve** from their paths.

8 They do not **jostle** one another; each **marches** in his path; they **burst** through the weapons and are not **halted**.

9 They **leap** upon the city, they **run** upon the walls, they **climb** up into the houses, they **enter** through the windows like a thief.

10 The earth **quakes** before them; the heavens **tremble**. The sun and the moon are **darkened**, and the stars **withdraw** their shining.

11 The LORD **utters** his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful.

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

12 "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

13 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.

14 Who knows whether he will not **turn** and **relent**, and **leave** a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering

for the LORD your God?

15 Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly;

16 gather the people. Consecrate the congregation; assemble the elders; gather the children, even nursing infants.

Let the bridegroom **leave** his room, and the bride her chamber.

17 Between the vestibule and the altar let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, **weep** and **say**, "Spare your people, O LORD, and **make** not your heritage a reproach, a byword among the nations. Why should they **say** among the peoples, 'Where is their God?'"

18 Then the LORD **became** jealous for his land and **had** pity on his people.

19 The LORD **answered** and **said** to his people, "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and oil, and you will be **satisfied**; and I will no more **make** you a reproach among the nations.

20 "I will **remove** the northerner far from you, and **drive** him into a parched and desolate land, his vanguard into the eastern sea, and his rear guard into the western sea; the stench and foul smell of him will **rise**,

for he has **done** great things.

21 "**Fear** not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has **done** great things!

22 **Fear** not, you beasts of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness are **green**; the tree **bears** its fruit; the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

23 "Be glad, O children of Zion, and rejoice in the LORD your God, for he has **given** the early rain for your vindication; he has **poured** down for you abundant rain, the early and the latter rain, as before.

24 "The threshing floors shall be **full** of grain; the vats shall **overflow** with wine and oil.

25 I will **restore** to you the years that the swarming locust has **eaten**, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I **sent** among you.

26 "You shall **eat** in plenty and be satisfied, and **praise** the name of the LORD your God, who has **dealt** wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be **put** to shame.

27 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.

28 "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.

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

30 "And I will **show** wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. 31 The sun shall be **turned** to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. 32 And it shall **come** to pass that everyone who **calls** on the name of the LORD shall be **saved**. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has **said**, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

3:1 "For behold, in those days and at that time, when I **restore** the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem, 2 I will **gather** all the nations and **bring** them **down** to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. And I will **enter** into judgment with them there, on behalf of my people and my heritage Israel, because they have **scattered** them among the nations and have **divided** up my land, 3 and have **cast** lots for my people, and have **traded** a boy for a prostitute, and have **sold** a girl for wine and have **drunk** it.

4 "What are you to me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia? Are you paying me back for something? If you are paying me back, I will **return** your payment on your own head swiftly and speedily.

5 For you have **taken** my silver and my gold, and have **carried** my rich treasures into your temples. 6 You have **sold** the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks in order to remove them far from their own border. 7 Behold, I will stir them up from the place to which you have **sold** them, and I will **return** your payment on your own head. 8 I will **sell** your sons and your daughters into the hand of the people of Judah, and they will **sell** them to the Sabeans, to a nation far away, for the LORD has **spoken**."

9 Proclaim this among the nations: Consecrate for war; stir up the mighty men. Let all the men of war **draw** near;

let them **come** up.

10 Beat your plowshares into swords,

and your pruning hooks into spears; let the weak **say**, "I am a warrior."

11 Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and **gather** yourselves there. Bring down your warriors, O LORD.

12 Let the nations **stir** themselves up and **come** up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat; for there I will **sift** to judge all the surrounding nations.

13 Put in the sickle, for the harvest is **ripe**. Go in, tread, for the winepress is **full**.

The vats **overflow**, for their evil is great.

14 Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision! For the day of the LORD is near

in the valley of decision.

15 The sun and the moon are **darkened**, and the stars **withdraw** their shining.

16 The LORD **roars** from Zion, and **utters** his voice from Jerusalem, and the heavens and the earth **quake**.

But the LORD is a refuge to his people, a stronghold to the people of Israel.

17 "So you shall **know** that I am the LORD your God, who dwells in Zion, my holy mountain.

And Jerusalem shall be holy, and strangers shall never again **pass** through it.

18 "And in that day the mountains shall **drip** sweet wine, and the hills shall **flow** with milk, and all the streambeds of Judah shall **flow** with water; and a fountain shall **come** forth from the house of the LORD

and **water** the Valley of Shittim.

19 "Egypt shall **become** a desolation and Edom a desolate wilderness, for the violence done to the people of Judah, because they have **shed** innocent blood in their land.

20 But Judah shall be **inhabited** forever, and Jerusalem to all generations.

21 I will **avenge** their blood, blood I have not **avenged**, for the LORD dwells in Zion."

PERFECT TENSE
IMPERFECT TENSE