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Joel

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Joel

Joel 1

Joel 1:1

ULT

¹ The word of Yahweh that was to Joel, the son of Pethuel.

UST

¹ I am Joel son of Pethuel. This is a message that Yahweh gave to me.

Whose word came to Joel?

The word of Yahweh came to Joel.

Joel 1:2

ULT

² Hear this, you elders, and listen, all of the dwellers of the land! Has this been in your days or in the days of your fathers?

UST

² You leaders {of Israel}, and everyone else who lives in this country, listen {to this message}! Nothing like this has ever happened during the time that we have lived or during the time when our ancestors lived.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:3

ULT

³ Recount about it to your sons, and your sons to their sons, and their sons to the generation after.

UST

³ Tell your children about it, and tell your children to tell it to their children, and tell your grandchildren to tell it to their children.

To whom were the elders to tell the word of Yahweh?

They were to tell their children, and their children were to tell their children.

Joel 1:4**ULT**

⁴ The residue of the cutting locust, the swarming locust has eaten, and the residue of the swarming locust, the hopping locust has eaten, and the residue of the hopping locust, the destroying locust has eaten.

UST

⁴ Tell them this: The first swarm of locusts came and cut many of the leaves of the crops; then another swarm came and ate the rest of the leaves, then hopping locusts came and ate what they had left, and finally, another swarm came and they destroyed everything else.

What happened to what the hopping locusts have left?

The destroying locust ate what the hopping locusts left.

Joel 1:5**ULT**

⁵ Wake up, drunkards, and weep! And wail, all of the drinkers of wine, upon the sweet wine, for it has been cut off from your mouth.

UST

⁵ You people who are drunk, wake up and cry! Cry loudly, all of you who drink wine, because all the grapes are ruined, and so there will be no new wine!

Why will drinkers of wine wail?

They will wail because the sweet wine has been cut off.

Joel 1:6**ULT**

⁶ For a nation has come up against my land, strong and without number. Its teeth {are} the teeth of a lion, and the fangs of a lioness {are} to it.

UST

⁶ Huge swarms of locusts have entered our country. They are like a powerful army that has very many soldiers; no one can count them. The locusts have teeth that are as sharp as the teeth of lions!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:7**ULT**

⁷ It has made my vine into a waste and my fig tree into splinters. Stripping, it has stripped it and thrown {it} away; its branches have become white.

UST

⁷ They have destroyed our grapevines and our fig trees by stripping off and eating all the bark, with the result that the branches are white and bare.

Into what has the enemy made the vine?

The enemy has made the vine into a waste.

Joel 1:8**ULT**

⁸ Mourn like a virgin dressed in sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

UST

⁸ Cry and wail as a young woman does when the young man to whom she was engaged has died.

For what reason does the virgin mourn?

The virgin mourns for the death of her young husband.

Joel 1:9**ULT**

⁹ The grain offering and the drink offering have been cut off from the house of Yahweh. The priests mourn, the servants of Yahweh.

UST

⁹ There is no more flour or wine for us to offer as sacrifices at Yahweh's temple, so the priests who serve Yahweh are mourning.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The field has been destroyed; the ground mourns, for the grain has been destroyed; the new wine dries up, the oil is made weak.

UST

¹⁰ The locusts have ruined the {crops in the} fields. It is as though the ground itself is mourning because the grain is gone; there will be no {grapes to make} wine, and there is no more {olive} oil.

What has happened to the grain?

The grain has been destroyed.

Joel 1:11**ULT**

¹¹ Feel shame, farmers; wail, vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley, for the harvest of the field has perished.

UST

¹¹ You farmers, despair! You who take care of grapevines, cry loudly, because the crops in the field are gone; there is no wheat or barley growing any more.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:12**ULT**

¹² The vine has dried up and the fig tree has been made weak. The pomegranate tree, also the palm tree and the apple tree, all of the trees of the field have dried up. So joy has dried up from the sons of man.

UST

¹² The grapevines and the fig trees have withered, and the pomegranate trees, palm trees, and apricot trees have also dried up. The people are no longer joyful.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:13**ULT**

¹³ Dress and lament, you priests! Wail, you servants of the altar. Come, lodge in sackcloth, servants of my God, for the grain offering and the drink offering have been withheld from the house of your God.

UST

¹³ You priests, put on {rough sack} clothes and wail. You who serve my God {by offering sacrifices} on the altar, wear those sack clothes all night {to show that you are mourning}, because there is no flour or wine to be offered at the temple of your God.

What has been withheld from the house of God?

The grain offering and the drink offering have been withheld from the house of God.

Joel 1:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Consecrate a fast, call an assembly. Gather the elders {and} all of the dwellers of the land {to} the house of Yahweh your God, and cry out to Yahweh.

UST

¹⁴ Set apart a day for when the people should go without food. Tell the leaders and the other people to gather at the temple and to cry out to Yahweh {there}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Alas for the day! For the day of Yahweh {is} near, and as destruction from Shaddai it will come.

UST

¹⁵ It will soon be the time when Yahweh, {who is} the Almighty God, will punish us, when he will cause us to experience more disasters. That will be a terrible time!

When will the day of Yahweh be here?

The day of Yahweh is almost here.

Joel 1:16**ULT**

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

UST

¹⁶ Our crops are already gone, and no {one is} rejoicing at all at the temple of our God.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 1:17**ULT**

¹⁷ The seeds shrivel under their clods. The storehouses are desolate, the granaries have been broken down, for the grain has dried up.

UST

¹⁷ When we plant seeds, {they do not grow;} they dry up in the ground, so there are no crops to harvest. Our barns are empty; there is no grain {to store in them}.

What has been broken down?

The storage places for grain have been broken down.

Joel 1:18**ULT**

¹⁸ How the beast groans! The herds of cattle are perplexed, for no pasture {is} to them. Also the flocks of sheep are punished.

UST

¹⁸ Our cattle groan, searching for a pasture with some grass to eat but not finding any. The sheep also {bleat because they} are suffering.

Why are the herds of cattle suffering?

The herds of cattle are suffering because they have no pasture.

Joel 1:19**ULT**

¹⁹ To you, Yahweh, I cry, for fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame has burned all of the trees of the field.

UST

¹⁹ Yahweh, I cry out to you, because {it is as though} a fire has completely burned our pastures and our forests.

To whom does Joel call?

Joel calls to Yahweh.

Joel 1:20**ULT**

²⁰ Even the beasts of the field pant for you, for the streams of water have dried up, and fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

UST

²⁰ The wild animals also are desperate for you to help them, because all the streams have dried up. The dryness is like a fire burning up the wilderness pastures.

For whom do the animals of the field pant?

The animals of the field pant for Yahweh

Joel 2

Joel 2:1

ULT

¹ Blow the shofar in Zion, and shout on the mountain of my holiness! Let all of the dwellers of the land tremble, for the day of Yahweh is coming, for {it is} near,

UST

¹ Blow horns on Mount Zion, God's sacred hill {in Jerusalem}! Shout to the people of Judah that they should {be afraid and} tremble, because it will soon be the time for Yahweh to punish us {further}.

Why should all the inhabitants of the land tremble in fear?

They should tremble in fear, for the day of Yahweh is coming.

Joel 2:2

ULT

² a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness. Like the dawn being spread upon the mountains, a great and mighty people. Like it there has not been from antiquity, and after it there will not be again to years of generation and generation.

UST

² That will be a very dark and gloomy day; A huge swarm of locusts forms a black cloud, making it very dark. The swarm spreads over the mountains like the light of dawn; they are like a mighty army. Nothing like this has ever happened before, and nothing like this will ever happen again.

When has there been an army like this one?

There has never been an army like this one, and there never will be again.

Joel 2:3

ULT

³ A fire is devouring to its face, and behind it a flame is burning. To its face the land is like the garden of Eden, but behind it {is} a wilderness of desolation, and indeed, {there} is no escape from it.

UST

³ {It is as though} the locusts set everything on fire wherever they go. In front of them, the land was {as beautiful} as the garden of Eden, but behind them {the land is like} a desert, and nothing is able to withstand them.

What is the land like behind the army?

The land behind the army is a ruined wilderness.

Joel 2:4**ULT**

⁴ Like the appearance of horses {is} its appearance, and like steeds, thus they run.

UST

⁴ The locusts resemble horses and they run like war horses.

In what way does the locust swarm look and act like an army?

The locusts look like horses and run like horses.

Joel 2:5**ULT**

⁵ Like the sound of chariots, they leap on the tops of the hills; like the sound of a flame of fire devouring stubble, like a mighty people arrayed {for} war.

UST

⁵ Leaping over the mountaintops, they make a noise like rumbling chariots, like a mighty army that is preparing for a battle, or like the roar of a fire that burns up stubble {in a field}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:6**ULT**

⁶ From its face peoples writhe; all of {their} faces gather beauty.

UST

⁶ When people see them coming, they become very pale and frightened.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:7**ULT**

⁷ They run like warriors; like men of war, they climb the wall. And they walk, a man in his ways, and they do not pledge their paths.

UST

⁷ The locusts run and climb over walls like soldiers do; each one continues on its way and never turns aside from its course.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:8**ULT**

⁸ And a man does not crowd his brother; they walk, a man in his road. Among the weapons they fall, and they do not break off.

UST

⁸ They rush straight ahead without pushing each other. People try to fight against them, but that does not cause them to stop.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:9**ULT**

⁹ Upon the city they rush; on the wall they run; into the houses they climb; through the windows they enter like thieves.

UST

⁹ They swarm over the city walls and enter our houses; they enter through our windows as thieves do.

How does the army enter the city?

They rush on the city, they run on the wall, they climb in houses, and they go through windows like thieves.

Joel 2:10**ULT**

¹⁰ The earth shakes to their face, the heavens tremble, the sun and the moon become dark, and the stars withdraw their brightness.

UST

¹⁰ {It is as though} they cause the earth to shake and the sky to tremble as they come. The sun and the moon become dark, and the stars do not shine {because there are so many locusts in the sky}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:11**ULT**

¹¹ Yahweh utters his voice to the face of his army, for very great {is} his camp, for mighty {is} the doer of his word. For the day of Yahweh is great and very fearful, and who will endure it?

UST

¹¹ Yahweh commands this army {of countless locusts}, and they obey him powerfully. This time during which Yahweh is judging and punishing us is very terrible, {with the result that it seems that} no one can survive it.

Whose army is this?

This is Yahweh's army.

Joel 2:12**ULT**

¹² "Yet even now," the declaration of Yahweh, "return to me with all of your heart, and with fasting and with weeping and with mourning."

UST

¹² But Yahweh says, "In spite of these disasters that you have experienced, you can still reconcile yourselves to me in your inner being. Weep, and mourn, and fast {to show that you are sorry that you have abandoned me}."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:13**ULT**

¹³ And tear your heart and not your garments, and return to Yahweh your God. For he {is} gracious and merciful, long of nostrils and great of kindness, and relenting from harm.

UST

¹³ Do not tear {only} your clothes {to show that you are sorry}; {more importantly,} show in your inner being that you are truly sorry and {in that way} reconcile yourselves to Yahweh your God. {Do this} because Yahweh is merciful and kind; he does not quickly become angry; instead, he greatly and faithfully loves us, and he does not like to punish us.

What should the people tear?

They should tear their hearts and not their garments.

Why should the people return to Yahweh?

He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abundant in love, and he would like to turn from inflicting punishment.

Joel 2:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave a blessing after him, a grain offering and a drink offering for Yahweh your God.

UST

¹⁴ It is possible that he will change his mind about punishing {you} and, instead, act mercifully {toward you}. If he does that, he will bless you by giving you plenty of grain and wine so that you can offer {some of} those things for sacrifices to our God, Yahweh.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:15**ULT**

¹⁵ Blow the shofar in Zion, consecrate a fast, call an assembly.

UST

¹⁵ Blow the {signal} horns on Mount Zion! Gather the people together! Set apart time to fast{, to show that you are sorry for your sins}.

Why should the people blow a trumpet in Zion?

They should blow a trumpet to consecrate a fast and to call a sacred assembly.

Joel 2:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Gather the people, consecrate the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children and the ones sucking the breasts. May the bridegroom come out from his chamber and the bride from her room.

UST

¹⁶ Gather everyone together and prepare them for a special meeting for Yahweh. Bring everyone— the old people and the children, even the babies; yes, even summon bridegrooms and brides from their rooms.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:17**ULT**

¹⁷ Let the priests, the servants of Yahweh, weep between the porch and the altar. And let them say, "Have pity upon your people, Yahweh, and do not give your inheritance to reproach, for the nations to rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, 'Where {is} their God?'"

UST

¹⁷ Tell the priests who serve Yahweh to cry all the way from the entrance of the temple to the altar and to pray this: "Yahweh, be merciful to us, your people; do not allow people from other nations to despise us; do not allow them to rule over us and say among themselves, 'Their God has abandoned them!'"

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:18**ULT**

¹⁸ Then Yahweh was jealous for his land, and he had pity on his people.

UST

¹⁸ Then Yahweh showed that he cared deeply about his people and that he would act mercifully toward them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:19**ULT**

¹⁹ And Yahweh answered and said to his people, "Behold me, sending to you grain and new wine and oil, and you will have enough with it, and I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.

UST

¹⁹ When the people prayed, Yahweh answered and said, "I will give you plenty of grain and wine and olive oil, and you will be satisfied. I will no longer allow other nations to insult you.

What had Yahweh's people been among the nations?

Yahweh's people had been a reproach, an object of scorn, among the nations.

Joel 2:20**ULT**

²⁰ And I will distance the northerner from upon you, and I will banish him into a land of dryness and desolation, his face into the eastern sea and his back into the western sea. And his stench will rise, and his odor will rise, for he has been great in doing."

UST

²⁰ When an army from the north comes {to attack you}, I will force them to continue {past Jerusalem} into the desert. Some will go into the {Dead} Sea in the east, and some will go into the {Mediterranean} Sea in the west. {There they will all die,} and their bodies will stink powerfully, because they were powerful in what they did."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:21**ULT**

²¹ Do not fear, land! Be glad and rejoice, for Yahweh has been great in doing.

UST

²¹ Do not be afraid, people, for what might happen to the land. You can rejoice, because Yahweh will be powerful in what he does!

Why should the land not fear?

The land should not fear, because Yahweh has done great things.

Joel 2:22**ULT**

²² Do not fear, beasts of the field, for the pastures of the wilderness have sprouted, for the tree has borne its fruit, the fig tree and the vine have yielded their strength.

UST

²² And the wild animals should not be afraid, because the meadows will soon become green again; the fig trees and other trees will be full of fruit, and the grapevines will be covered with grapes.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:23**ULT**

²³ And be glad, sons of Zion, and rejoice in Yahweh your God, for he has given to you the early rain for vindication and has brought down the shower to you, the early rain and the late rain in the first.

UST

²³ You people of Jerusalem, rejoice about what Yahweh, your God, will do {for you}. He will send rain to deliver you at the right time— before planting and before harvesting, as he did previously.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:24**ULT**

²⁴ And the threshing floors will be full {of} grain, and the vats will overflow {with} new wine and oil.

UST

²⁴ The ground where you thresh the grain will be covered with grain, and your vats where you store the fresh grape juice and olive oil will be full.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:25**ULT**

²⁵ “And I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust, the hopping locust and the destroying locust and the cutting locust have eaten— my great army that I sent among you.

UST

²⁵ Yahweh said, “I will repay you for everything that those great swarms of locusts destroyed, that enormous army that I sent to attack you.

Who sent the mighty army?

Yahweh sent the mighty army.

Joel 2:26**ULT**

²⁶ And eating, you will eat and be full, and you will praise the name of Yahweh your God, who has done with you working wondrously, and forever my people will not feel shame.

UST

²⁶ Then you will eat until your stomachs are full. Then you will praise me, Yahweh, your God, for the wonderful things that I have done for you, and never again will I let others shame you, my people.

Will Yahweh ever bring shame on his people again? (vv26-27)

No, he will never bring shame on his people again.

Joel 2:27**ULT**

²⁷ And you will know that I {am} in the midst of Israel, that I {am} Yahweh your God and there is no other, and forever my people will not feel shame.

UST

²⁷ When that happens, you will know that I am {always} among you, that I am Yahweh, your God, and that there is no other {God}. Never again will I let others shame you."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:28**ULT**

²⁸ And it will happen after this, I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions.

UST

²⁸ "Some time later, I will give my Spirit to many people. You sons and daughters will proclaim messages that come directly from me. Your old men will have dreams that come from me, and your young men will have visions that come from me.

What will happen when Yahweh pours out his Spirit? (vv28-29)

Their sons and your daughters will prophesy, their old men will dream dreams, and their young men will see visions.

Joel 2:29**ULT**

²⁹ And even on male servants and on female servants, in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

UST

²⁹ At that time, I will generously give my Spirit even to servants, both men and women.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 2:30**ULT**

³⁰ And I will give wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and pillars of smoke.

UST

³⁰ I will do unusual things on the earth and in the sky. On the earth, there will be much bloodshed, {and there will be} very large fires and smoke that resembles huge clouds.

What will Yahweh show in the heavens and on the earth?

Yahweh show wonders in the heavens and on the earth.

Joel 2:31**ULT**

³¹ The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, to the face of the coming of the great and terrible day of Yahweh.

UST

³¹ In the sky, the sun will become dark, and the moon will become {as red as} blood. {Those things will happen} before that great and terrible day when I, Yahweh, come {to judge all people}.

Into what will the sun turn?

The sun will turn into darkness.

Joel 2:32**ULT**

³² And it will be, everyone who calls on the name of Yahweh will be saved. For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be escape, just as Yahweh has said, and among the survivors whom Yahweh {is} calling.

UST

³² And I will do this: I will save everyone who worships me. As I have said before, 'On Mount Zion in Jerusalem I will make a way for them to escape; those whom I have chosen will survive.'"

Who will be saved at that time?

Everyone who calls on the name of Yahweh will be saved.

Joel 3

Joel 3:1

ULT

¹ For behold, in those days and at that time, when I return the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

UST

¹ Yahweh says this: "At that time, I will bring back the people whom their enemies took away from Jerusalem and from {other places in} Judah.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:2

ULT

² then I will gather all of the nations, and I will bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and I will judge them there because of my people and my inheritance, Israel, whom they scattered among the nations, and they divided up my land.

UST

² Then in the Valley of Jehoshaphat I will gather together {the people of} all of the other nations; there I will judge {and punish} them because they scattered my Israelite people and forced them to go to other countries, and because they divided up my land {among themselves}.

Who will Yahweh bring to the Valley of Jehoshaphat?

Yahweh will bring the nations to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.

Who did the nations scatter?

The nations scattered Yahweh's people.

Joel 3:3

ULT

³ And they cast the lot for my people, and they traded a boy for a prostitute, and they sold a girl for wine, and drank.

UST

³ {I will judge them} also {because} they played games of chance to determine who would get {each of} my people. They traded {some of the} Israelite boys for prostitutes, and they sold {some of the} Israelite girls to get {money to buy} wine, and they drank {it}.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:4**ULT**

⁴ And indeed, what {are} you to me, Tyre, Sidon, and all of the regions of Philistia? Are you repaying a recompense to me? And if you are recompensing me, swiftly, speedily I will return your recompense upon your head,

UST

⁴ You people of the cities of Tyre and Sidon, and you people of Philistia—you have no reason to be angry with me. You are behaving as if you are trying to avenge yourselves on me for something. If that is what you are doing, I will very quickly do the same thing to you.

At whom are Tyre, Sidon and all the regions of Philistia angry?

Tyre, Sidon and all the regions of Philistia are angry at Yahweh.

Joel 3:5**ULT**

⁵ because you took my silver and my gold, and you brought my precious treasures into your temples.

UST

⁵ You took the silver and gold and other valuable things from my temple and put them into your own temples.

What did Tyre, Sidon, and Philistia do with Yahweh's treasures?

They brought his treasures into their temples.

Joel 3:6**ULT**

⁶ And you sold the sons of Judah and the sons of Jerusalem to the sons of Javan, in order to remove them far from their territory.

UST

⁶ You dragged away the people of Jerusalem and {other places in} Judah, and you took them far away from their homes and sold them to Greek traders.

What did Tyre, Sidon, and Philistia do to the people of Judah and Jerusalem?

They sold the people to the Greeks in order to remove them far from their territory.

Joel 3:7**ULT**

⁷ Behold me rousing them from the place where you sold them there, and I will return your recompense onto your head.

UST

⁷ But I will make it possible for my people to return from the places to which you sold them, and I will do to you what you did to them.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:8**ULT**

⁸ For I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the sons of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a faraway nation." For Yahweh has spoken.

UST

⁸ Then I will cause people to take {some of} your sons and your daughters and sell them to the people of Judah! And then they will sell {some of} them to the Sabeans, who live far away. {That will certainly happen} because I, Yahweh, have said it."

What will Yahweh do to the sons and daughters of Tyre, Sidon, and Philistia?

Yahweh will sell their sons and daughters to the Sabeans by the hand of the people of Judah.

Joel 3:9**ULT**

⁹ Proclaim this among the nations: "Consecrate a war! rouse the warriors! may they approach: may all of the men of war come up.

UST

⁹ Proclaim to {the people of} all nations, "Prepare for a war! Summon your soldiers; tell them to stand in their battle positions.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:10**ULT**

¹⁰ Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears. Let the weak say, 'I {am} strong.'

UST

¹⁰ Take your plows and make swords from them; take your pruning knives and make spears from them. {Even} the weak {people} must {also} act like {they are} strong {soldiers}.

Into what should the nations beat their plowshares?

They should beat their plowshares into swords.

Joel 3:11**ULT**

¹¹ Hurry and come, all of you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there." Yahweh, bring down your warriors!

UST

¹¹ All of {you people from} the nations that are near Judah must come quickly and gather there." But Yahweh, {when that happens,} send your army {of angels to attack them}!

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:12**ULT**

¹² "Let the nations rouse themselves and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat, for there will I sit to judge all of the surrounding nations.

UST

¹² Yahweh says, "The {people in the} nations near Judah must get ready and come to the Valley of Jehoshaphat. There I will sit as a judge, and I will punish them.

What will Yahweh do to all surrounding nations?

Yahweh will sit to judge all surrounding nations.

Joel 3:13**ULT**

¹³ Stretch out the sickle, for the harvest has ripened. Come, go down, for the winepress is full. The vats overflow, for their wickedness is great."

UST

¹³ {They are like} crops that are ready for farmers to harvest them; so {strike them as a farmer} swings his sickle to cut the grain. {They are like} large piles of grapes in the pits where farmers will press them; {so crush them as a farmer tramples on the grapes.} {Punish them severely} because they are very wicked. {If all of the wicked things that they have done became grape juice,} they are so wicked that the juice would make the vats overflow."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:14**ULT**

¹⁴ Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision, for the day of Yahweh {is} near in the valley of decision!

UST

¹⁴ There will be huge crowds of people in that Valley of Judgment. It will soon be the time that Yahweh will punish them in that Valley of Judgment.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:15**ULT**

¹⁵ The sun and the moon become dark, and the stars withdraw their brightness.

UST

¹⁵ At that time there will be no light from the sun or moon, and the stars will not shine.

What will happen to the sun, moon, and stars?

The sun and moon will become dark, and the stars will withdraw their brightness.

Joel 3:16**ULT**

¹⁶ Yahweh will roar from Zion, and from Jerusalem he will utter his voice, and the heavens and the earth will shake. But Yahweh {will be} a shelter for his people and a stronghold for the sons of Israel.

UST

¹⁶ From Mount Zion in Jerusalem, Yahweh will speak forcefully; his voice will be like thunder, and his voice will cause the sky and the earth to shake. But Yahweh will protect his people; he will be like a strong wall around the people of Israel.

What two things will Yahweh be for his people?

Yahweh be a shelter and a stronghold for his people.

Joel 3:17**ULT**

¹⁷ "Then you will know that I {am} Yahweh your God living in Zion, the mountain of my holiness. And Jerusalem will be holy, and strangers will not pass through it again.

UST

¹⁷ Yahweh says, "At that time, you {Israelite people} will know that I am Yahweh, your God. I live on Zion, my holy hill. Jerusalem will be a holy city, and soldiers from other countries will never conquer it again.

Who lives in Zion?

Yahweh their God lives in Zion.

Joel 3:18**ULT**

¹⁸ And it will be on that day, the mountains will drip sweet wine, and the hills will flow {with} milk, and all of the brooks of Judah will flow {with} water, and a spring will go forth from the house of Yahweh and water the Valley of Shittim.

UST

¹⁸ At that time, there will be vineyards bearing sweet grapes on the mountains, and your cattle and goats on those hills will produce plenty of milk. The streams in Judah will have abundant water, and a stream will flow from my temple into the Valley of Acacia {northeast of the Dead Sea}.

With what will the hills flow?

The hills will flow with milk.

Joel 3:19**ULT**

¹⁹ Egypt will become desolation, and Edom will become a desolate wilderness for the violence of the sons of Judah, that they shed innocent blood in their land.

UST

¹⁹ {The armies of} Egypt and Edom attacked the people of Judah and killed many people there who had not done anything that was wrong. As a result, those countries will become wastelands, with no one living there any longer.

Who will be abandoned because of the violence they did to the people of Judah?

Egypt and Edom will be abandoned.

Joel 3:20**ULT**

²⁰ But Judah will dwell forever, and Jerusalem to generation and generation.

UST

²⁰ But there will always be people living throughout Judea and in Jerusalem, forever.

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Joel 3:21**ULT**

²¹ And I will acquit their blood {that} I have not acquitted, for Yahweh {is} dwelling in Zion."

UST

²¹ I, Yahweh, live on Mount Zion {in Jerusalem}, and I will not punish people {further} for killing my people, for which I {previously} punished them."

(There are no questions for this verse.)

Contributors

unfoldingWord® Translation Questions Contributors

Larry Sallee (Th.M Dallas Theological Seminary, D.Min. Columbia Biblical Seminary)
Perry Oakes (BA Biblical Studies, Taylor University; MA Theology, Fuller Seminary; MA Linguistics, University of Texas at Arlington; PhD Old Testament, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary)
Joel D. Ruark (M.A.Th. Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary; Th.M. Stellenbosch University; Ph.D. Candidate in Old Testament Studies, Stellenbosch University)
Jesse Griffin (BA Biblical Studies, Liberty University; MA Biblical Languages, Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary)
Susan Quigley, MA in Linguistics
Jerrell Hein
Cheryl Stauter
Deb Richey
Don Ritchey
Gena Schottmuller
Irene Little
Marsha Rogne
Pat Naber
Randy Stauter
Russ Isham
Vickey DeKraker
Door43 World Missions Community



unfoldingWord® Literal Text Contributors

Nicholas Alsop
Scott Bayer
Larry T Brooks, M.Div., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Matt Carlton
George "Drew" Curley, M.Div., PhD, Professor of Biblical Languages
Dan Dennison
Jamie Duguid
Paul M Fahnestock, M.Div. Reformed Theological Seminary, D.Min. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Michael Francis
Laura Glassel, MA in Bible Translation
Jesse Griffin, BA Biblical Studies, MA Biblical Languages
Jesse Harris
C. Harry Harriss, M.Div.
Alrick G. Headley, M.Div., Th.M.
Bram van den Heuvel, M.A.
John Huffman
D. Allen Hutchison, MA in Old Testament, MA in New Testament
Jack Messarra
Gene Mullen
Adam W. Nagelvoort, M.Div. Academic Ministries, Columbia International University
Timothy Neu, Ph.D. Biblical Studies
Kristy Nickell
Tom Nickell
Elizabeth Oakes, BA in Religious Studies, Linguistics
Perry Oakes, PhD in Old Testament, MA in Linguistics

James N. Pohlig, M.Div., MA in Linguistics, D. Litt. in Biblical Languages
Ward Pyles, M.Div., Western Baptist Theological Seminary
Susan Quigley, MA in Linguistics
Dean Ropp
Joel D. Ruark, M.A.Th., Th.M., Ph.D. in Old Testament, University of Stellenbosch
Larry Saltee, Th.M Dallas Theological Seminary, D.Min. Columbia Biblical Seminary
Peter Smircich, BA Philosophy
Doug Smith, M.T.S., M.Div., Th.M., Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary
Leonard Smith
Suzanna Smith
Tim Span
Dave Statezni, BA Orig langs., M.Div. Fuller Theological Seminary
Maria Tijerina
David Trombold, M. Div.
Aaron Valdizan, M.Div., Th.M. in Old Testament, The Masters Seminary
James Vigen
Hendrik "Henry" de Vries
Thomas Warren, M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, D.Min, Reformed Theological Seminary
Angela Westmoreland, M.A. in Theological Studies (Biblical Language track)
Henry Whitney, BA Linguistics
Benjamin Wright, MA Applied Linguistics, Dallas International University
Grant Ailie, BA Biblical Studies, M.Div.
Door43 World Missions Community

unfoldingWord® Simplified Text Contributors

Nicholas Alsop
Larry T Brooks, M.Div., Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
Matt Carlton
George "Drew" Curley, M.Div., PhD, Professor of Biblical Languages
Paul M Fahnestock, M.Div. Reformed Theological Seminary, D. Min. Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
Michael Francis
Laura Glassel, MA in Bible Translation
Kailey Gregory
Jesse Griffin, BA Biblical Studies, MA Biblical Languages
C. Harry Harriss, M.Div.
Alrick G. Headley, M.Div., Th.M.
Bram van den Heuvel, M.A.
John Huffman
D. Allen Hutchison, MA in Old Testament, MA in New Testament
Robert Hunt, Freely-Given.org
Demsin Lachin
Jack Messarra
Gene Mullen
Adam W. Nagelvoort, M.Div. Academic Ministries, Columbia International University
Timothy Neu, Ph.D. Biblical Studies
Kristy Nickell
Tom Nickell
Elizabeth Oakes, BA in Religious Studies, Linguistics
Perry Oakes, PhD in Old Testament, MA in Linguistics
James N. Pohlig, M.Div., MA in Linguistics, D. Litt. in Biblical Languages
Ward Pyles, M.Div., Western Baptist Theological Seminary
Susan Quigley, MA in Linguistics
Dean Ropp
Joel D. Ruark, M.A.Th., Th.M., Ph.D. in Old Testament, University of Stellenbosch

Larry Saltee, Th.M Dallas Theological Seminary, D.Min. Columbia Biblical Seminary
Peter Smircich, BA Philosophy
Christopher Smith, M.A.T.S. Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, Ph.D. Boston College
Leonard Smith
Dave Statezni, BA Orig langs., M.Div. Fuller Theological Seminary
David Trombold, M. Div.
James Vigen
Hendrik  Henry  de Vries
Thomas Warren, M.Div., Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, D.Min, Reformed Theological Seminary
Angela Westmoreland, M.A. in Theological Studies (Biblical Language track)
Henry Whitney, BA Linguistics
Benjamin Wright, MA Applied Linguistics, Dallas International University
Door43 World Missions Community