

The Day of the Lord is Near?

Joel 1:15

Read Joel-It is only 3 chapters.

Notice these verses: 1:15, 2:1, 2:11, 2:31, 3:18, and especially 3:21.

Question: What do these verses have in common?

-The Day of the Lord.

Question: Near? Obadiah 1:15 speaks of this. (A contemporary of Joel). Zephaniah 1:7, 14, a hundred years before, speaks of this day. Ezekiel 30:3 also speak of the Day. Isaiah in various verses speak of the Day. So what does near mean? If you were in the Revelation study you know: Near is heavenly time, not man's time. Time is nonexistent in Heaven, so man should be ready for the Day in every generation. Besides, our judgment Day comes when we breathe our last.

Point of Joel?

- **If Judah will continue in their sin and not repent because of the locust armies devastating their land, a worse army will come and devastate not only the land, but the people!**
- **Persian is right to their east and ready to conquer them.**
- **YHWH also reminds Judah that He is also the God of the nations: Tyre, Sidon, Philistia, and Sabeans who were always there to buffet Judah and to tempt them into worshipping their idols.**

New Testament significance

- **Joel 2:28-32 is highly significant because Peter quoted it in his first sermon.**
- **Joel foresees a day when God would answer Moses' prayer and the Spirit of prophecy would be poured out on all His people. Peter understood this prophecy to be fulfilled on that day of Pentecost.**
- **In Joel's day, a Jewish male's morning prayer included thanking YHWH that he was not born a slave, a Gentile, or a woman. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came upon ALL people.**

Today's significance?

- **Can the armies of locusts in Joel's day be compared to the pandemic of today? Other diseases are killing thousands every year. The varieties of the flu are killing more than covid-19, so why aren't we giving the flu much attention? Why aren't we fearing HIV and other sexual diseases? Why aren't we fearing what alcohol does to our society?**
- **There are many other whys that we need to heed as warnings to us. Why don't we heed the warning? Most don't care to listen to God or even clear science. They just want to live for today.**
- **Today is the day to listen and be saved from ourselves!**