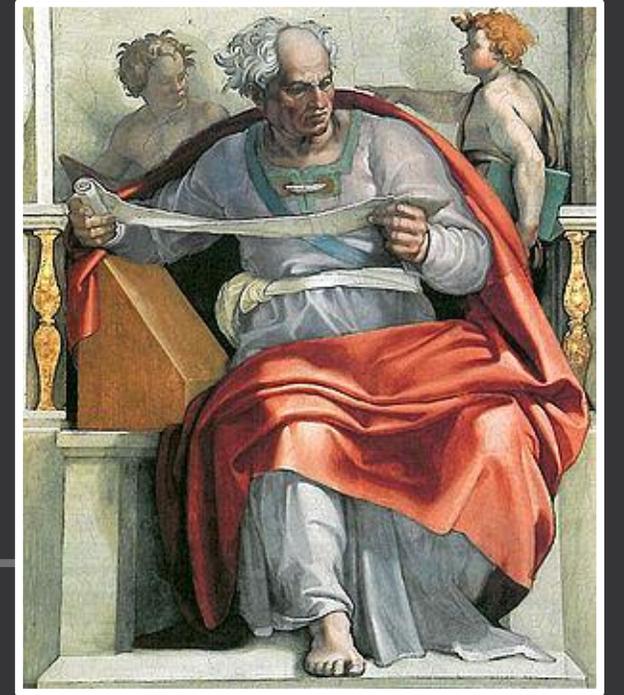


# Book of Joel

Old Testament Workshop  
Morrison Heights Baptist Church  
March 15, 2020



# Biographical Data

## Family of Orientation

Father: Pethuel (1:1)

## Speculations

### ① Ministry Location: Southern Kingdom (Judah)

reference to offerings (1:9, 13; 2:14)

reference to the Temple (1:9, 13-14, 16; 2:17; 3:5, 18)

reference to the priests (1:9, 13; 2:17)

Zion and holy mountain—names for Jerusalem (2:1, 15, 23, 32; 3:16-17, 21)

descriptions of a city—walls, houses, windows (2:7, 9)

Jerusalem mentioned (2:32; 3:1, 6, 16-17, 20)

### ② Ministry Time Period

“Two primary dates have been proposed, the first during the reign of King Joash of Judah (ca. 837 B.C.) and the second in postexilic times (ca. 400 B.C.).”

J. Hardee Kennedy, *The Broadman Bible Commentary*

# Biographical Data

**The Book of Joel is 73 verses; personal information about the prophet is just 1 verse, the first verse.**

**The name Joel means “Yahweh is God.”**

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No Information Available

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**“Happily, Joel’s message does not hinge on the date. Joel’s message is important despite current inability to reconstruct his historical background with accuracy.”**

La Sor, Hubbard, and Bush, *Old Testament Survey*

**“The book has a timeless quality of point and pertinence for every generation and for every new experience of deep distress.”**

J. Hardee Kennedy, *The Broadman Bible Commentary*

# Contents of the Book

## ① Day of the Lord

**1:15; 2:1-2a, 11, 30-32; 3:1-17**

**NOT twenty-four hours!**

**“used by the prophets to indicate the time when the current state of affairs would be replaced by the Lord’s intended order of things . . . What becomes plain as prophecy unfolds is that the new state is to be achieved, not through one immense intervention of God (though such an intervention may be involved in the last step), but through a process of dealing with inequities that have become a great threat to the desired end. . . . In the day of the Lord, justice is done. This is a positive time for those who have been victims, but a day of reckoning for those who have been oppressors.”**

**Andrew E. Hill and John H. Walton, *A Survey of the Old Testament***

**SEE also Isaiah 13:6-16; Ezekiel 7:1-19; 13; 30:1-4; Amos 5:18-20; Obadiah 15-21; Zephaniah 1:1-2:3; Malachi 4:1-5.**

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# Contents of the Book

## ② National Disasters = Judgment of God

### a. Invasion of Locusts

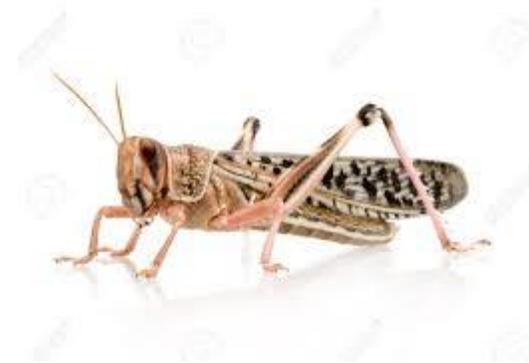
**1:2-10a, 11, 13, 16; 2:1-11, 20, 25**

### b. Drought

**1:10b, 12-13, 16-20**

## ③ Apocalyptic Imagery

**2:2a, 10, 30-31; 3:14-16, 18**



**At a time of national crisis, the prophet Joel served as a mediator.**

**He urged his people to return to God (1:2-3, 5, 8, 11, 13-14; 2:13b-17).**

**He prayed on behalf of his people to God (1:19-20).**

**He spoke to his people on behalf of God (2:1-13a, 18-32; 3:1-21).**

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# Highlights of the Book

## ① Solemn Assembly

**1:13-15; 2:12-17**

## ② Promise of Restoration

**2:12-14, 18-27; 3:1, 16-21**

*“Then I will make up to you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the creeping locust, the stripping locust, and the gnawing locust, my great army which I sent among you.” (2:25)*

## ③ Promise of the Spirit

**2:28-32; Acts 2:1-21**

