

HOPE SABBATH SCHOOL

Major Lessons from Minor Prophets – Part 3

A Holy and Just God (Joel)

Welcome to Hope Sabbath School--an in-depth interactive study of the Word of God. Today we are continuing a series of studies entitled Seek the LORD and Live! –Major Lessons from Minor Prophets. Our topic today: A Holy and Just God (Joel)

Scripture Song: “Seek the LORD while He may be found” – Isaiah 55:6-7

Prayer

- 1) Setting
 - a) Joel, a prophet in the southern kingdom of Judah, shortly before Amos and Hosea (9th century BC).
 - b) Prophecies impending calamities
- 2) Joel reflects upon a time of natural disaster
 - a) Joel 1:1-12 (notice four types of locust in verse 4)
 - b) Deut 28:1, 15, 38
 - c) Are all natural disasters a direct judgment from God?
 - d) What is the most important question we should ask in a time of natural disaster?
 - i) Not “why did God let this happen?”
 - ii) But “God, what do You want to teach us now?”
- 3) A call for prayer and fasting
 - a) Joel 1:13-20
 - b) Notice the wording in verse 14. “the house of the LORD your God”. Why is Joel emphasizing that the LORD is their God? (v5a)
 - c) Are times of fasting and prayer still appropriate today? Matt 9:15, Matt 6:16-18
 - d) What is the purpose of these times of fasting and prayer?
 - e) Joel 2:12-13
 - f) What promises of God bring you hope during a time of disaster or crisis?
- 4) Blow the trumpet
 - a) Joel 2:1-11
 - b) Why is it important to give a warning about impending disaster? John 16:1-4
 - c) How can we prepare for the challenges before us in these last days of earth’s history?
 - i) Isa 55:6-7
 - ii) I John 3:2-3
- 5) Words of hope from the LORD
 - a) Physical blessings - Joel 2:18-27
 - b) Spiritual blessings - Joel 2:28-29
 - i) Acts 2:1-6, 14-18
 - ii) Can the promise of the LORD given through the prophet Joel be fulfilled again in our day? Luke 11:9, 13
 - c) Revival - Joel 2:31-32 What does it mean to “call upon the name of the LORD”?
 - d) Protection - Joel 3:16. Other promises of protection?
 - i) How has the LORD been your refuge and strength?