

# The Book of Joel

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- Author** Joel, the son of Pethuel
- Date** Early 8<sup>th</sup> century B.C. Opinions vary widely (from 900 to 400 B.C.) with little internal evidence. Joel was often placed with Hosea and Amos because it was believed he wrote during that time. Assyria, Babylon, and Persia are not mentioned. Tyre and Sidon were more powerful then.
- Theme** The Day of the Lord
- Message** The final judgment of the Lord nears, so call on the name of the Lord and be saved from God's wrath.
- Key Issue** What are the locusts of chapter 2?

1. Chapter 2 describes a literal locust plague (either the same or a subsequent plague as chapter 1)
2. Chapter 2 describes the invasion of an enemy army.
3. Chapter 2 describes the day of the Lord, extending the metaphor of the locust invasion.

## Structure

1. The Locusts (1:1-27)
  - 1.1. The devastation of the locusts (1:1-12)
  - 1.2. A call to solemn repentance (1:13-20)
2. The Day of the Lord and the Locust-like Army (2:1-27)
  - 2.1. The enemy army on the Day of the Lord like locusts (2:1-11)
  - 2.2. A call to solemn repentance (2:12-17)
  - 2.3. The restoration of God's people (2:18-27)
3. The Future Blessing (2:28-3:21)
  - 3.1. The outpouring of the Spirit on God's people (2:28-32)
  - 3.2. The judgment of God on the nations (3:1-16)
  - 3.3. The promise of God's restoration of his people repeated (3:17-21)