

JOEL Date: Unclear. Prob. c. 800 B.C.

There are 14 men by this name in the Bible (Scroggie, p. 154). means, the Lord is God

All we know of him is in this prophetic book. He was the "son of Pethuel," but we do not know who Pethuel was.

That he lived in Jerusalem seems apparent from the book. Therefore, he must have been a prophet to Judah.

(2) Joel is primarily concerned with the events of the Great Tribulation, followed by God's blessing upon Israel, the judgment of the nations, and the Millennium. In doing so, he uses an historical judgment as a warning to the people of the coming "day of the Lord."

The outline is as follows:

- I. Introduction (1:1).
- II. Judgment ~~Depicted historically~~ (1:2-2:17)
 - A. ^{first} Depicted historically (1:2-7). This is the plague of the locusts, a type.
 - B. The call to repentance (1:8-20).
 - C. Predicted prophetically (2:1-11). This is the day of the Lord, the antitype.
 - D. The second call to repentance (2:12-17).
 - The Great Tribulation MT. 24:21
 - The Time of Jacob's Trouble Jer. 30:7
 - The Seventieth Week of Daniel - 9:27
 - The Abomination of Desolation - MT. 24:15
- III. Blessing (2:18-3:21).
 - A. Implied historically (2:18-27).
 - B. Indicated prophetically (2:28-3:21). They are given as promises.
 1. The Outpouring of the Spirit (2:28, 29). This was partially fulfilled at Pentecost in Acts 2, but not completely.
 2. The Signs Preceding the Coming of the Lord (2:30-3:1).
 3. The Judgment of the Gentile Nations (3:2-17).
 4. The Kingdom, or The Millennium (3:18-21).

Note: God's purpose historically and prophetically are exactly the same:

- 1/ Historically (2:27).
- 2/ Prophetically (3:17).

42 MONTHS - REV. 11:2, 13:5
1,260 DAYS - REV. 11:3, 12:6
TIME, TIMES, & 1/2
REV. 12:14
DAN. 7:25; 12:7.

The historical setting. While undoubtedly Joel spoke under the inspiration of the Spirit of God, yet it is very conceivable that he knew the prediction of judgment found in Deut. 28:36-42. He recognized in the plague of locusts, the judgment of God; in the extent of the plague, the intensity of God's displeasure with His people.

The Spirit of God revealed to Him the fact that the present judgment was a foreshadowing of a future judgment: the day of the Lord, also known as The Great Tribulation.

The connection between these two judgments is seen:

- 1/ In 1:2-7 we have a judgment which had fallen on the people.
- 2/ In 2:18, 19 we have language (Heb. imperfects) which shows that the people had repented.
- 3/ In 2:1 "the day of the Lord" was coming, but was not there yet. So this speaks of a different judgment from that of the locusts.

WHAT DID PETER THINK?