

JOEL

1 THE word of the LORD that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

[2] Hear this, ye old men, / And give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land. / Hath this been in your days, / Or in the days of your fathers? / [3] Tell ye your children of it, / And let your children tell their children, / And their children another generation. / [4] That which the palmer-worm hath left hath the locust eaten; / And that which the locust hath left hath the canker-worm eaten; / And that which the canker-worm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten. / [5] Awake, ye drunkards, and weep, / And wail, all yet drinkers of wine, / Because of the sweet wine, / For it is cut off from your mouth. / [6] For a people is come up upon my land, / Mighty, and without number; / His teeth are the teeth of a lion, / And he hath the jaw-teeth of a lioness. / [7] He hath laid my vine waste, / And blasted my fig-tree; / He hath made it clean bare, and cast it down, / The branches thereof are made white. / [8] Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth / For the husband of her youth. / [9] The meal-offering and the drink-offering is cut off / From the house of the LORD; / The priests mourn, / Even the LORD's ministers / [10] The field is wasted, / The land mourneth; / For the corn is wasted, / The new wine is dried up, / The oil languisheth. / [11] Be ashamed, O ye husbandmen, / Wail, O ye vinedressers, / For the wheat and for the barley; / Because the harvest of the field is perished. / [12] The vine is withered, / And the fig-tree languisheth; / The pomegranate-tree, the palm-tree also, and the apple-tree, / Even all the trees of the field are withered; / For joy is withered away from the sons of men. / [13] Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests, / Wail, ye ministers of the altar; / Come, lie all night in sackcloth, / Ye ministers of my God, / For the meal-offering and the drink-offering is withholden / From the house of your God. / [14] Sanctify ye a fast, / Call a solemn assembly, / Gather the elders / And all the inhabitants of the land / Unto the house of the LORD your God, / And cry unto the LORD. / [15] Alas for the day! / For the day of the LORD is at hand, / And as a destruction from the

Almighty shall it come. / [16] Is not the food cut off / Before our eyes, / Yea, joy and gladness / From the house of our God? / [17] The grains shrivel under their hoes; / The garners are laid desolate, / The barns are broken down; / For the corn is withered. / [18] How do the beasts groan! / The herds of cattle are perplexed, / Because they have no pasture; / Yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate. / [19] Unto Thee, O LORD, do I cry, / For the fire hath devoured / The pastures of the wilderness, / And the flame hath set ablaze / All the trees of the field. / [20] Yea, the beasts of the field pant unto Thee; / For the water brooks are dried up, / And the fire hath devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

2 Blow ye the horn in Zion, / And sound an alarm in My holy mountain; / Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; / For the day of the LORD cometh, / For it is at hand; / [2] A day of darkness and gloominess, / A day of clouds and thick darkness, / As blackness spread upon the mountains; / A great people and a mighty, / There hath not been ever the like, / Neither shall be any more after them, / Even to the years of many generations. / [3] A fire devoureth before them, / And behind them a flame blazeth; / The land is as the garden of Eden before them, / And behind them a desolate wilderness; / Yea, and nothing escapeth them. / [4] The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses, / And as horsemen, so do they run. / [5] Like the noise of chariots, / On the tops of the mountains do they leap, / Like the noise of a flame of fire / That devoureth the stubble, / As a mighty people set in battle array. / [6] At their presence the peoples are in anguish; / All faces have gathered blackness. / [7] They run like mighty men, / They climb the wall like men of war; / And they move on every one in his ways, / And they entangle not their paths. / [8] Neither doth one thrust another, / They march every one in his highway; / And they break through the weapons, / And suffer no harm / [9] They leap upon the city, / They run upon the wall, / They climb up into the houses; / They enter in at the windows like a thief. / [10] Before them the earth quaketh, / The heavens tremble; / The sun and the moon are become black, / And the stars withdraw their

shining. / [11] And the LORD uttereth His voice
before His army; / For His camp is very great, /
For he is mighty that executeth His word; / For
great is the day of the LORD and very terrible; /
And who can abide it? / [12] Yet even now, saith
the LORD, / Turn ye unto Me with all your heart, /
And with fasting, and with weeping, and with
lamentation; / [13] And rend your heart, and not
your garments, / And turn unto the LORD your
God / For He is gracious and compassionate, /
Long-suffering, and abundant in mercy, / And
repenteth Him of the evil. / [14] Who knoweth
whether He will not turn and repent, / And leave
a blessing behind Him, / Even a meal-offering
and a drink-offering / Unto the LORD your
God?

[15] Blow the horn in Zion, / Sanctify a
fast, call a solemn assembly, / [16] Gather the
people, / Sanctify the congregation, / Assemble
the elders, / Gather the children, / And those that
suck the breasts; / Let the bridegroom go forth
from his chamber, / And the bride out of her
pavilion. / [17] Let the priests, the ministers of
the LORD, / Weep between the porch and the
altar, / And let them say: 'Spare Thy people, O
LORD, / And give not Thy heritage to reproach, /
That the nations should make them a byword. /
Wherefore should they say among the peoples. /
Where is their God?' / [18] Then was the LORD
jealous for His land, / And had pity on His
people / [19] And the LORD answered and said
unto His people: / 'Behold, I will send you corn,
and wine, and oil, / And ye shall be satisfied
therewith; / And I will no more make you a
reproach among the nations; / [20] But I will
remove far off from you the northern one, / And
will drive him into a land barren and desolate, /
With his face toward the eastern sea, / And his
hinder part toward the western sea; / That his
foulness may come up, and his ill savour may
come up, / Because he hath done great things.' /
[21] Fear not, O land, be glad and rejoice; / For
the LORD hath done great things. / [22] Be not
afraid, ye beasts of the field; / For the pastures of
the wilderness do spring, / For the tree beareth
its fruit, / The fig-tree and the vine do yield their
strength. / [23] Be glad then, ye children of Zion,
and rejoice / In the LORD your God; / For He
giveth you the former rain in just measure, /
And He causeth to come down for you the
rain, / The former rain and the latter rain, at the
first. / [24] And the floors shall be full of corn, /
And the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. /

[25] And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, / The canker-worm, and the caterpillar, and the palmer-worm, / My great army which I sent among you. / [26] And ye shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, / And shall praise the name of the LORD your God, / That hath dealt wondrously with you; / And My people shall never be ashamed. / [27] And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, / And that I am the LORD your God, and there is none else; / And My people shall never be ashamed.

3 And it shall come to pass afterward, / That I will pour out My spirit upon all flesh; / And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, / Your old men shall dream dreams, / Your young men shall see visions; / [2] And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids / In those days will I pour out My spirit. / [3] And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, / Blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. / [4] The sun shall be turned into darkness, / And the moon into blood, / Before the great and terrible day of the LORD come. / [5] And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered; / For in mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those that escape, / As the LORD hath said, / And among the remnant those whom the LORD shall call

4 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, / When I shall bring back the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem, / [2] I will gather all nations, / And will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat; / And I will enter into judgment with them there / For My people and for My heritage Israel, / Whom they have scattered among the nations, / And divided My land. / [3] And they have cast lots for My people; / And have given a boy for a harlot, / And sold a girl for wine, and have drunk.

[4] And also what are ye to Me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the regions of Philistia? will ye render retribution on My behalf? and if ye render retribution on My behalf, swiftly, speedily will I return your retribution upon your own head. [5] forasmuch as ye have taken My silver and My gold, and have carried into your temples My goodly treasures; [6] the children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye sold unto the sons of the Jevanim, that ye might remove

them far from their border; [7] behold, I will stir them up out of the place whither ye have sold them, and will return your retribution upon your own head; [8] and I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the men of Sheba, to a nation far off; for the LORD hath spoken.

[9] Proclaim ye this among the nations, / Prepare war; / Stir up the mighty men; / Let all the men of war draw near, / Let them come up. / [10] Beat your plowshares into swords, / And your pruning-hooks into spears; / Let the weak say: 'I am strong' / [11] Haste ye, and come, all ye nations round about, / And gather yourselves together; / Thither cause Thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD! / [12] Let the nations be stirred up, and come up / To the valley of ^aJehoshaphat; / For there will I sit to judge / All the nations round about. / [13] Put ye in the sickle, / For the harvest is ripe; / Come, tread ye, / For the winepress is full, the vats overflow; / For their wickedness is great. / [14] Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision! / For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision. / [15] The sun and the moon are become black, / And the stars withdraw their shining. / [16] And the LORD shall roar from Zion, / And utter His voice from Jerusalem, / And the heavens and the earth shall shake; / But the LORD will be a refuge unto His people, / And a stronghold to the children of Israel. / [17] So shall ye know that I am the LORD your God, / Dwelling in Zion My holy mountain; / Then shall Jerusalem be holy, / And there shall no strangers pass through her any more. / [18] And it shall come to pass in that day, / That the mountains shall drop down sweet wine, / And the hills shall flow with milk, / And all the brooks of Judah shall flow with waters; / And a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, / And shall water the valley of Shittim. / [19] Egypt shall be a desolation, / And Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, / For the violence against the children of Judah, / Because they have shed innocent blood in their land. / [20] But Judah shall be inhabited for ever, / And Jerusalem from generation to generation. / [21] And I will hold as innocent their blood that I have not held as innocent; / And the LORD dwelleth in Zion.

a That is, *The Lord judgeth*.