# MAJORING ON THE MINOR









# JOEL TALKS ABOUT THREE DIFFERENT DAYS OF THE LORD: 1. THE IMMEDIATE DAY OF THE LORD. JOEL 1:1-20

## JOEL 1:4, 6:7, 10

4 After the cutting locusts finished eating the crops, the swarming locusts took what was left! After them came the hopping locusts, and then the stripping locusts, too! 6 A vast army of locusts has invaded my land, a terrible army too numerous to count. Its teeth are like lions' teeth, its fangs like those of a lioness.

# JOEL 1:4, 6:7, 10

7 It has destroyed my grapevines and ruined my fig trees, stripping their bark and destroying it, leaving the branches white and bare. 10 The fields are ruined, the land is stripped bare. The grain is destroyed, the grapes have shriveled, and the olive oil is gone.

# JOEL TALKS ABOUT THREE DIFFERENT DAYS OF THE LORD:

- 1. THE **IMMEDIATE** DAY OF THE LORD.

  JOEL 1:1-20
- 2. THE **SOON COMING** DAY OF THE LORD. JOEL 2:1-27

#### **JOEL 2:1-2 NLT**

1 Sound the trumpet in Jerusalem! Raise the alarm on my holy mountain! Let everyone tremble in fear because the day of the Lord is upon us. 2 It is a day of darkness and gloom, a day of thick clouds and deep blackness. Suddenly, like dawn spreading across the mountains, a great and mighty army appears. Nothing like it has been seen before or will ever be seen again.

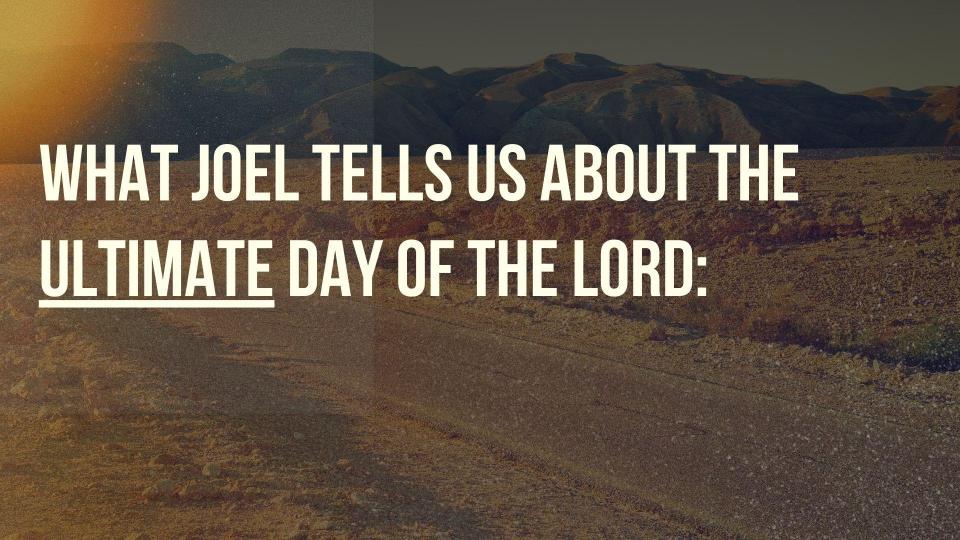
#### **JOEL 2:12-13**

- 12 That is why the Lord says, "Turn to me now, while there is time.
- Give me your hearts.
  - Come with fasting, weeping, and mourning.
- 13 Don't tear your clothing in your grief, but tear your hearts instead."
- Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish.

# JOEL TALKS ABOUT THREE DIFFERENT DAYS OF THE LORD:

- 1. THE <u>IMMEDIATE</u> DAY OF THE LORD.

  JOEL 1:1-20
- 2. THE <u>SOON COMING</u> DAY OF THE LORD. JOEL 2:1-27
- 3. THE **ULTIMATE** DAY OF THE LORD JOEL 2:28-3:21



# WHAT JOEL TELLS US ABOUT THE ULTIMATE DAY OF THE LORD:

1. HE WILL BRING HIS <u>Presence</u> Back to the temple and <u>extend</u> it to all his people.

#### **JOEL 2:27-29 NLT**

27 Then you will know that I am among my people Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and there is no other.

Never again will my people be disgraced.

28 "Then, after doing all those things,

I will pour out my Spirit upon all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy.

Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions.

29 In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants—men and women alike".

# WHAT JOEL TELLS US ABOUT THE ULTIMATE DAY OF THE LORD:

- 1. HE WILL BRING HIS <u>PRESENCE</u> BACK TO THE TEMPLE AND <u>EXTEND</u> IT TO ALL HIS PEOPLE.
- 2. GOD WILL <u>DEFEAT</u> ISRAEL'S ENEMIES AND <u>EVIL</u> WILL BE JUDGED.

#### **JOEL 2:20 NLT**

20 "I will drive away these armies from the north. I will send them into the parched wastelands. Those in the front will be driven into the Dead Sea, and those at the rear into the Mediterranean. The stench of their rotting bodies will rise over the land."

## **JOEL 3:12 NLT**

12 "Let the nations be called to arms.

Let them march to the valley of Jehoshaphat.

There I, the Lord, will sit to pronounce judgment on them all".

# WHAT JOEL TELLS US ABOUT THE ULTIMATE DAY OF THE LORD:

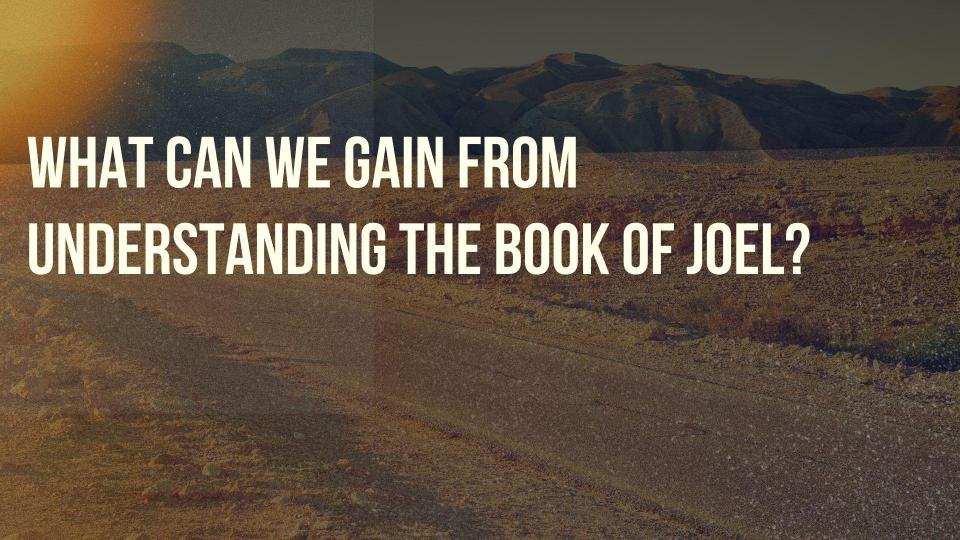
- 1. HE WILL BRING HIS <u>Presence</u> Back to the temple and <u>extend</u> it to all his people.
- 2. GOD WILL <u>DEFEAT</u> ISRAEL'S ENEMIES AND <u>EVIL</u> WILL BE JUDGED.
- 3. HE WILL **RESTORE** THE DEVASTATED LAND AND **RENEW** ALL CREATION.

#### **JOEL 2:25-26 NLT**

25 The Lord says, "I will give you back what you lost to the swarming locusts, the hopping locusts, the stripping locusts, and the cutting locusts. It was I who sent this great destroying army against you.

26 Once again you will have all the food you want, and you will praise the Lord your God, who does these miracles for you.

Never again will my people be disgraced.



# WHAT CAN WE GAIN FROM UNDERSTANDING THE BOOK OF JOEL?

1. GOD HAS THE **ABILITY** TO WORK BENEATH, WITHIN, AND THROUGH OUR **SUFFERINGS**.

#### **MARK 8:31 NLT**

31 Then Jesus began to tell them that the Son of Man must suffer many terrible things and be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but three days later he would rise from the dead.

# **ROMANS 8:28 NLT**

And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.



# WHAT CAN WE GAIN FROM UNDERSTANDING THE BOOK OF JOEL?

- 1. GOD HAS THE <u>ABILITY</u> TO WORK BENEATH, WITHIN, AND THROUGH OUR <u>SUFFERINGS</u>.
- 2. RESILIENT DISCIPLES OF JESUS <u>CULTIVATE</u> A POSTURE OF DEPENDENCE AND <u>TRUST</u>.

### **PSALM 146:5-6 NLT**

5 But joyful are those who have the God of Israel as their helper, whose hope is in the Lord their God.

6 He made heaven and earth, the sea, and everything in them.

He keeps every promise forever.

# WHAT CAN WE GAIN FROM UNDERSTANDING THE BOOK OF JOEL?

- 1. GOD HAS THE <u>ABILITY</u> TO WORK BENEATH, WITHIN, AND THROUGH OUR <u>SUFFERINGS</u>.
- 2. RESILIENT DISCIPLES OF JESUS <u>CULTIVATE</u> A POSTURE OF DEPENDENCE AND <u>TRUST</u>.
- 3. THE <u>ULTIMATE</u> DAY OF THE LORD SHOULD <u>ENCOURAGE</u>
  US TO PRESS ON.

#### 1 THESSALONIANS 4:16-18 NLT

16 For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a commanding shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God. First, the believers who have died will rise from their graves. 17 Then, together with them, we who are still alive and remain on the earth will be caught up in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Then we will be with the Lord forever. 18 So encourage each other with these words.

#### **REVELATION 21:3-5A NLT**

- 3 I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. 4 He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."
- 5 And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!"

# OUR FUTURE, REGARDLESS OF OUR PRESENT, IS SOMETHING TO BE EXCITED ABOUT.