

Mr Kakoulides translation and Notes on Joel



The Jews divide this book into 4 chapters and the Christians into 3 . Chapter 3 verses 28 to 32 is what makes chapter 3 while the Christian Old Testament chapter 3 makes Chapter 4. Joel means YHWH is God. It is quoted by Peter on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2 : 14- 20 which refers to Joel 2: 28-32 . In Revelation 9 there is no doubt that the Apostle John had this book in mind when speaking about the locust which should come upon this earth to torment people in the last days . Although this is a little book written in a time which is unknown by a person who nothing is known about yet it was God who used him and his voice in this book has not been able to be reduced to silence to this very day. His ministry was focus on the Southern Kingdom of Judah as seen in the following verses which makes reference to Jerusalem 1:14, 2:1, 15, 32, 3:1, 6, 16-17, 20-21 .

Host of the Mr Kakoulides and the Bible Podcast Harris Kakoulides

An Plague of Locusts

Joel 1:1 The word ([utterance](#)) of YHWH that came to Joel the son of Pethuel.

Joel 1:2 Hear this, old men, and give ear, all inhabitants of the land. Has this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers?

Joel 1:3 Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation.

Joel 1:4 The residue of the palmerworm, has the locust eaten; and that which the locust has left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm has left has the caterpillar eaten. This plague of locust is God's army see Joel 2:11

Joel 1:5 Awake, you drunkards, and weep; and howl, all you drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.

Joel 1:6 For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he has the cheek teeth of a great lion. No doubt the Apostle John had Joel in mind when writing Revelation 9:8

Joel 1:7 He has laid my vine a waste, and laid my fig tree for a barking ([barked my fig tree](#)): he has made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white.

Joel 1:8 Lament like a young widow dressed with sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

(be.tu.lah - בְּתוּלָה) Could also mean a young lady who is a virgin as seen in Genesis 24:16 but here it is speaking of a young widow who was once married who was not a virgin.

Joel 1:9 The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the LORD; the priests, the LORD'S ministers, mourn.

Joel 1:10 The field is wasted, the land mourns; for the corn is wasted: the new wine is dried up, the oil languisheth.

Joel 1:11 Be ashamed, O you husbandmen; howl, O you vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field is perished.

Joel 1:12 The vine is dried up, and the fig tree grows feeble [אֲמַל \(a.mal\) is weaken](#); the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men.

A Call to Repent

Joel 1:13 Gird yourselves, and lament, you priests: howl, you ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, you ministers of my Elohim ([God](#)) or the meat offering and the drink offering is not given to you for the house of your Elohim ([God](#)).

Joel 1:14 Sanctify a fast, call a day of assembly restraining *from doing evil*, gather the elders and all

the inhabitants of the land into the house of YHWH your Elohim (God) , and cry unto YHWH,

Joel 1:15 Woe (Alas) for the day! for the day of YHWH is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty, it shall come.

The Septuagint states { "Woe, woe, woe for the day, for near is the day of the lord, and as misery from misery, it shall come." }

Joel 1:16 Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yes, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

Joel 1:17 The seeds (grain of seed) is rotten (shrivelled) under their shovel, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered.

Joel 1:18 How do the beasts groan! the herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate.

Joel 1:19 O YHWH, to you will I cry: for the fire has devoured the pastures (habitations) of the wilderness, and the flame has burned all the trees of the field.

Joel 1:20 The beasts of the field cry also to you: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.

The Day of the Lord

Joel 2:1 Blow the ram's horn (trumpet , shophar, horn) in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of YHWH comes, for it is close at hand;

Joel 2:2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

Joel 2:3 A fire devours before them; and behind them a flame burns: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yes, and nothing shall escape them.

Joel 2:4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.

Joel 2:5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

Joel 2:6 Before their face the people shall be in much pained: all faces shall be in grief.

Joel 2:7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:

Joel 2:8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded.

Joel 2:9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the

houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.

Joel 2:10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining:

Joel 2:11 And YHWH shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of YHWH is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Return to the Lord

Joel 2:12 Therefore also now, says YHWH , return to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning:

Joel 2:13 And let your heart be broken, and not your garments, and return to YHWH your Elohim (God) : for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repents of the disaster *he has done to his people* .

Joel 2:14 Who knows if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering to YHWH your Elohim (God) ?

Joel 2:15 Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly:

Joel 2:16 Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and the : nursing infants (*suckling-baby, giving suck at the breast*) , let the husband (*son-in-law, bridegroom*) leave his chamber, and the bride out of her room.

Joel 2:17 Let the priests, the ministers of YHWH , weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare your people, O YHWH, and give not your heritage to be reproach, that the nations (*the heathen, gentiles*) should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their Elohim (God) ?

The Lord shows compassion

Joel 2:18 Then will YHWH be jealous for his land, and have compassion (*pity*) on his people.

Joel 2:19 Yes, YHWH will answer and say to his people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and you shall be satisfied : and I will no more make you a reproach among the nations (*heathen*) :

Joel 2:20 But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath done great things.

The Babylon Talmud states in Succah 8 { "R. Awira, according to others R. Joshua b. Levi, lectured: There are seven names for the evil angel (tempting man). The Holy One, blessed be He, names him "evil," as it is written [Gen. viii. 21]: "The imagination of man's heart is evil from his youth"; Moses calls him "obduracy," as it is written [Deut. x. 16]: "Remove the obduracy of your heart"; David calls him "unclean," as it is written [Ps. li. 12]: "Create unto me a clean heart"; and when he says "a clean heart," it must be an unclean one. Solomon calls him "enemy," as it is written [Prov. xxv. 21]: "If thy enemy be hungry, give him bread to eat, and if he be thirsty, give him water to drink; for though

thou gatherest coals of fire upon his head, yet will the Lord repay it unto thee." Do not read ùíí (repay it), but ùíéí (he will make him peaceful toward thee). Isaiah calls him "stumbling-block," as it is written [Is. lvii. 14]: "And he will say, Cast ye up, cast ye up, clear out of the way, lift up every stumbling-block out of the way of my people." Ezekiel names him "stone," as it is written [Ezek. xxxvi. 26]: "I will remove the heart of stone out of your body." Joel calls him "host of the north," as it is written [Joel, ii. 20]: "And the host of the north will I remove." }

Joel 2:21 Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the LORD will do great things.

Joel 2:22 Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree beareth her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.

Joel 2:23 Be glad then, children of Zion, and rejoice in YHWH your Elohim (God) : for he has given you a teacher of righteousness (the former rain moderately) , and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain in the first month.

Joel 2:24 And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the fats shall overflow with wine and oil.

Joel 2:25 And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.

Joel 2:26 And you shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of YHWH your Elohim (God) , that hath dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.

The Babylon Talmud states in Moed Katan 3 {"R. Simeon b. Halafta took leave of Rabh, and the latter said to his son: "Go to him and receive his blessing." R. Simeon pronounced the following: "Let it be the Will that thou shalt not shame others and others shall not shame thee." When he returned to his father he said: "He did not bless me, but only advised me." And his father rejoined: "Nay, it is a blessing; and it is the same, the Holy One, blessed be He, pronounced over Israel, as it is written [Joel, ii. 26]: "And ye shall eat in plenty," etc., "and my people shall not be ashamed unto eternity"; and repeated in the next passage: "And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel," etc., "and my people shall not be made ashamed unto eternity." The repetition here in means, both that they shall not shame others and others shall not shame them."}

Joel 2:27 And ye shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am YHWH your Elohim (God) , and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.

The Lord Will Pour Out His Spirit

Joel 2:28 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:

Moses would of rejoiced to see this prophecy for it was his desire that God's spirit would be poured on all his people Numbers 11:25-29 and we see this fulfilled at the day of Pentecost Acts 2:1-21

Ambrose 374-397 AD in his book On the Holy Spirit states {"But that the Spirit is the arbiter of the divine counsel, you may know even from this. For when we showed that the Holy Spirit was the Lord of baptism and read that baptism is the counsel of God, as you read, "But the Pharisees despised the counsel of God, not being baptized of him," it is quite clear that as there can be no baptism without the Spirit, so too the counsel of God is not without the Spirit. And that we may know more completely that the Spirit is power, we ought to know that he was promised when the Lord said, "I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." He, then, who was promised to us is himself power, as in the Gospel the same Father of God declared when he said, "And I will send the promise of the Father upon you,

but do you remain in the city until you are endued with power from on high. "}

Justin Martyr 100 -165 AD states in his Dialogue with Trypho {" I have already affirmed, and I repeat, that it had been predicted that he would do this after Jesus' ascension into heaven. It was said, therefore, "He ascended on high; he led captivity captive; he gave gifts to the sons of men." And in another prophecy it is said, "And it shall come to pass after this, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and upon my servants and upon my handmaids, and they shall prophesy." }

Tertullian 160-230 AD states in On the Soul {"We declare, then, that dreams are inflicted on us mainly by demons, although they sometimes turn out true and favorable to us. When, however, with the deliberate aim after evil, of which we have just spoken, they assume a flattering and captivating style, they show themselves proportionately vain, and deceitful, and obscure, and wanton, and impure. And no wonder that the images partake of the character of the realities. But from God who has promised, indeed, "to pour out the grace of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh, and has ordained that his servants and his handmaids should see visions as well as utter prophecies" —must all those visions be regarded as emanating. [Those visions] may be compared with the actual grace of God, as being honest, holy, prophetic, inspired, instructive, inviting to virtue, the bountiful nature of which causes them to overflow even to the profane, since God, with grand impartiality, "sends his showers and sunshine on the just and on the unjust." }

Joel 2:29 And also upon the slaves and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Joel 2:30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.

Joel 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of YHWH come.

Joel 2:32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of YHWH shall be saved (**delivered**) : for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall come salvation (**deliverance**) , as YHWH has said, and in the remnant (**survivors**) whom YHWH shall call.

The Septuagint states {"And it shall come to pass that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved: for in mount Sion and in Jerusalem shall the saved one be as the Lord has said, and they that have glad tidings preached to them, whom the Lord has called." }

Ambrose states in Concerning Repentance {"Return, then, to the church, those of you who have wickedly separated yourselves. For he promises forgiveness to all who are converted, since it is written, "Whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved." "}

YHWH Judges the Nations

Joel 3:1 For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem,

Joel 3:2 I will also gather all nations , and will bring them down into the valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.

Joel 3:3 And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for an harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink.

Joel 3:4 Yes, and what have you to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? Are you giving me a reward? and if you paying me a reward, swiftly and speedily will I return your payment upon your own head;

Joel 3:5 Because you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried them into your temples my goodly desirable (pleasant) things:

Joel 3:6 The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem you had sold unto the Greeks (Grecians, the sons of the Grecians) that you might remove them far from their border.

Joel 3:7 Behold, I will raise them out of the place where you had sold them, and will return your recompence upon your own head:

Joel 3:8 And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans (People of Sheba, descendants of Cush) , to a people far off: for YHWH has spoken it.

Joel 3:9 Proclaim (Sanctify , Set apart) you this among the nations (the Gentiles) ; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up:

Joel 3:10 Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruning knives (pruning hooks, scythes) into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.

Joel 3:11 Assemble yourselves, and come, all you Gentiles (heathen, Nations) , and gather yourselves together round about: there cause your men of war גִּבּוֹרִים (gib.bor) (mighty ones, warriors) to come down, O YHWH.

Joel 3:12 Let the Gentiles (heathen, Nations) be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the Gentiles (heathen, Nations) round about.

Joel 3:13 Put in your sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get down; for the press is full, the fats overflow; for their wickedness is great.

Joel 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision (concision , threshing) : for the day of YHWH is near in the valley of decision.

The Septuagint states { "Noises have resounded in the valley of judgment: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of judgment ."}

Joel 3:15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their glow.

Joel 3:16 YHWH also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but YHWH will be the hope (harbour, place of repair) of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

Judah will have a Glorious future

Joel 3:17 So shall you know that I am YHWH your Elohim (God) dwelling in my holy mountain of Zion : then shall Jerusalem shall be holy (shall be in holiness) , and there shall no strangers passing through her any more.

Joel 3:18 And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of YHWH, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

Joel 3:19 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.

Joel 3:20 But Judah shall dwell (abide) for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

Joel 3:21 For I will punish (avenge , cleanse) them for their blood, that I have left unpunished (taken no revenge , not cleansed) : even I the YHWH that (for the YHWH) dwells in Zion.

The Septuagint states { "And I will make inquisition for their blood, and will by no means leave it unavenged: and the Lord shall dwell in Sion. " }

The Babylon Talmud states in Rosh 5 { " "How were these bonfires lighted? They brought long staves of cedar wood," etc. R. Jehudah says: There are four kinds of cedars: the common cedar, the Qetros, the olive tree, and the cypress. Qetros says Rabh is (in Aramaic) Adara or a species of cedar. Every cedar, said R. Johanan, that was carried away from Jerusalem, God will in future times restore, as it is written [Isa. xli. 19]: "I will plant in the wilderness the cedar tree," and by "wilderness" He means Jerusalem, as it is written [Isa. lxiv. 19]: "Zion is (become) a wilderness." R. Johanan says again: Who studies the law, and teaches it in a place where there is no other scholar, is equal to a myrtle in the desert, which is very dear. The same says again: "Woe to the Romans, for whom there will be no substitution," as it is written [Isa. lx. 17]: "Instead of the copper, I will bring gold, and for iron I will bring silver, and for wood, copper, and for stones, iron." But what can He bring for R Aqiba and his comrades (who were destroyed by Rome)? Of them it is written [Joel, IV. 21]: "I will avenge (but for) their (Aqiba's and his comrades') blood I have not yet avenged." }

"And whence did these bonfires commence?" From Beth Baltin. What is Beth Baltin? "Biram," answered Rabh. What (does the Mishna) mean by the captivity? Said R. Joseph, "Pumbeditha." And how was it that the whole country looked like a blazing fire? We learn that each Israelite took a torch in his hand and ascended to the roof of his house." }