

From Judgment to Joy

Call to Readiness (v. 1-11)

Call to Repentance (V. 12-17)

Promise of Restoration (v. 18-27)

Joel 2:1-27 ESV

¹ Blow a trumpet in Zion;
 sound an alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,
² a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness there is spread upon the
 mountains a great and powerful people;
their like has never been before,
 nor will be again after them
through the years of all generations.
³ Fire devours before them,
 and behind them a flame burns.
The land is like the garden of Eden before
 them,
 but behind them a desolate wilderness,
 and nothing escapes them.
⁴ Their appearance is like the appearance of
 horses, and like war horses they run.
⁵ As with the rumbling of chariots,
 they leap on the tops of the mountains,
 like the crackling of a flame of fire
 devouring the stubble,
 like a powerful army drawn up for battle.
⁶ Before them peoples are in anguish;
 all faces grow pale.
⁷ Like warriors they charge;
 like soldiers they scale the wall.
They march each on his way;
 they do not swerve from their paths.
⁸ They do not jostle one another;
 each marches in his path;
 they burst through the weapons and are
 not halted.
⁹ They leap upon the city, they run upon the
 walls,
 they climb up into the houses,
 they enter through the windows like a thief.
¹⁰ The earth quakes before them;
 the heavens tremble.
The sun and the moon are darkened,
 and the stars withdraw their shining.
¹¹ The LORD utters his voice before his army,

 for his camp is exceedingly great;
 he who executes his word is powerful.
For the day of the LORD is great and very
 awesome;
 who can endure it?
¹² "Yet even now," declares the LORD,
 "return to me with all your heart,
 with fasting, with weeping, and with
 mourning;
¹³ and rend your hearts and not your garments."
Return to the LORD your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
 slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast
 love; and he relents over disaster.
¹⁴ Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
 a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD your God?
¹⁵ Blow the trumpet in Zion; consecrate a fast;
 call a solemn assembly;
¹⁶ gather the people.
Consecrate the congregation; assemble the
 elders;
 gather the children, even nursing infants.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
 and the bride her chamber.
¹⁷ Between the vestibule and the altar
 let the priests, the ministers of the LORD,
 weep and say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
 and make not your heritage a reproach,
 a byword among the nations.
Why should they say among the peoples,
 'Where is their God?'"
¹⁸ Then the LORD became jealous for his land
 and had pity on his people.
¹⁹ The LORD answered and said to his people,
 "Behold, I am sending to you grain, wine, and
 oil, and you will be satisfied;
 and I will no more make you
 a reproach among the nations.
²⁰ "I will remove the northerner far from you,
 and drive him into a parched and desolate

land, his vanguard into the eastern sea,
and his rear guard into the western sea;
the stench and foul smell of him will rise,
for he has done great things.

²¹ "Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things!

²² Fear not, you beasts of the field,
for the pastures of the wilderness are green;
the tree bears its fruit;
the fig tree and vine give their full yield.

²³ "Be glad, O children of Zion,
and rejoice in the LORD your God,
for he has given the early rain for your
vindication;
he has poured down for you abundant rain,
the early and the latter rain, as before.

²⁴ "The threshing floors shall be full of grain;
the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

²⁵ I will restore to you the years
that the swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,
my great army, which I sent among you.

²⁶ "You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,
and praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has dealt wondrously with you.

And my people shall never again be put to
shame.

²⁷ You 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 again be put to
shame.