

## Joel Three

Transcribed from tape of Jeremiah using The Authorized Version of the Holy Bible.

Verse 1:

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

Now the Authorized says "bring again the captivity," but what it means is: "restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem" (R.S.V.). Now why does it separate the two? Well at one time Jerusalem ruled over the twelve tribes. Then we find that ten tribes were completely annihilated and all that was left really was Judah and Jerusalem. So Jerusalem ruled over Judah the tribe. Jerusalem was the ruling city, and Judah was the tribe. So actually "Judah" pictures the LORD'S people and "Jerusalem" was the ruling city. In Matthew 24, YAHWEH says: "then let those who be in Judea flee to the mountains". In other words, the LORD'S people. And when HE says: "Judah fights with Jerusalem", HE means the LORD'S people will fight with Jerusalem. This is the time in the last days when the devil confuses the first witness.

Verse 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.

Now what happened before is a type of what will happen again. In other words, in the times past with the typical Israel, when the Israelites were scattered, we find that YAHWEH'S purpose was prevented. In other words, the heathen conquered YAHWEH'S people they prevented YAHWEH'S purpose from going forward. Now YAHWEH naturally permitted this because they were not the true Israel of promise. HE could not possibly bless a stubborn, stiff-necked, disobedient people. But the "scattering here just pictures the intrusion of the heathen nations which attempt to fight against the LORD'S people. Now this will happen again in the last days when the heathen nations endeavor to stop Israel.

Verse 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.

In other words, they treated the Israelites when they conquered them just like so much merchandise, like HE says here "give a boy

### Joel Three

for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine". In other words, just like something to pay for something, just like so much merchandise. This is a great insult to YAHWEH because these were HIS people, and they're treated as the lowest, they were conquered, and made slaves, and sold here and there. And YAHWEH'S name was reproached throughout the entire earth at that time. HE says:

Verse 4:

Yea, and what have ye to do with me, O Tyre, and Zidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? will ye render me a recompense? and if ye recompense me, swiftly [and] speedily will I return your recompense upon your own head;

Or some translations say "Philistines", it should actually read "Philistines". These are the enemies of YAHWEH. "Will ye render me a recompense?" Now the Moffatt's brings this out clearer:

What do you mean by it, you, O Tyrus, sidon, and all philistia? Were you taking my part as you reap your vengeance, avenging me? I will avenge your acts swiftly and speedily on your own head.

What YAHWEH did, HE removed HIS protecting hand from the disobedient Israelites, and the nations moved in. Now the only reason they were able to conquer is because YAHWEH removed HIS blessings. Now the nations, they didn't take it that way, they figured that they had overcome YAHWEH'S people, and that it was by their own power and might. In other words, HE'S questioning them, "What do you mean by what you've done? When you were taking MY part when you destroyed MY people, when you wreaked this vengeance on MY people?" So what they did was they went too far, they didn't merely subdue the LORD'S people, they went overboard, they took them and sold them as slaves, and really made merchandise of them. Treated them like slaves of any ordinary race of heathen people. So where the heathen nations were permitted to conquer the LORD'S people, we find that they went too far, and they in turn, again, incurred YAHWEH'S wrath. If they had just gone so far and said "will you just pay us taxes, and we'll watch over you because YAHWEH has so decreed" it would have been alright, but they didn't stop there they practically annihilated them.

Verse 5:

Because ye have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things:

Now what they did, they actually over ran Israel. They took everything that was in the temple, "the gold and the silver", they took the holy cups, and everything. The heathen were using it, and it was a great reproach on the name of the Living GOD.

Verse 6:

The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have ye sold unto the Grecians, that ye might remove them far from their border.

Or as the Smith translation brings out:

The people of Judah and the people of Jerusalem ye have sold to the greeks, so as to remove them far from their own territory.

Now this is how far they went. It's not that merely conquered them, they made merchandise of them, they sold them all over the world, just like so much trash, so much merchandise, something to make a profit over. now these were YAHWEH'S People, these were the Israel that HE used.

Verses 7 and 8:

7 Behold, I will raise them out of the place whither ye have sold them, and will return your recompense 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 Sabeans, to a people far off: for the LORD hath spoken [it].

This verse also I'll read from the Goodspeed Translation:

7 Behold, I am going to rouse them up from the place into which you have sold them, and I will requite your needs upon your own head.

8 I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the Sabeans, to a distant nation, for the LORD has spoken.

Now, in other words, YAHWEH is going to turn the tables. HE'S going to sell them to Judah, and Judah is going to sell them to a distant nation. Well, what HE'S telling you here in plain language, is that by the time they're sold and re-sold, they disappear. They won't be found anymore. So in plain language; they are going to be done away with. They will never interfere with Israel again, they will be finished.

Verse 9:

Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up:

Now all of a sudden this verse is inserted, right after the one that says Judah would purchase them and sell them to a distant nation, indicating that they would disappear, never to be found. And now HE says: "Prepare for war." So this is actually what is

### Joel Three

going to bring about the disappearance of the heathen, which are symbolically sold to Judah and Judah sells them off someplace else faraway, so they can't be found. It's actually warfare that will do away with them so that they will be never found, because they will be dead. Now HE'S telling this to the heathen, to the outside nations, "Proclaim ye this among the gentiles" or among the heathen, "prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near, let them come up". In other words, everyone that has anything to do with war, anyone that believes in fighting; "get ready now because the time for fighting is coming.

Verse 10:

Beat your plowshares into swords, and your pruninghooks into spears: let the weak say, I [am] strong.

Now this is just the opposite of what it will be in the kingdom where "your swords will be beat into plowshares, and your spears into pruning hooks, nation will not lift up sword against nation, neither will they teach war anymore." But this is in the kingdom. But now before the world goes down, there is a great preparation for war, so when the command is "beat your plowshares into swords" Now this is happening. We find that with the new weapons brought about by science, that even a small nation, even a weak nation can be pretty powerful, because they can have an accumulation of nuclear weapons. And they can have something to say for themselves. So at one time, before there were any fire arms were invented you might say a little man didn't have a chance over a big man. But when guns were invented they kind of equalized them, the little man was just as effective as the big man, so now with these nuclear weapons even the small nations can be reckoned with.

Verse 11:

Assemble yourselves, and come, all ye heathen, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O LORD.

Now notice HE'S calling the heathen to assemble together. Now the heathen are all those who are not Israel. Now HE made this very clear in the past, there was only HIS nation, which was Israel, and everybody else was heathen. Now when HE restores the fortunes of Israel, we find that HIS people again are Israel. And everyone who opposes Israel and doesn't understand the plan . of the Almighty GOD, HE considers heathen. In order not to be heathen, they must get an understanding of YAHWEH and obey HIM and become one of HIS people. Now in the Catholic Duoay it says "Break forth and come all ye nations from round about and gather yourselves together. There will the LORD cause all the strong ones to fall down." In other words, this final; war is not going to be a victory for anybody. It's going to be annihilation for all those who are not Israel.

Verse 12:

Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.

Now we've had a study on Jehoshaphat. We find that there the three powers came up against Jerusalem, ammon, moab and mt. seir. We find that ammon pictures politics, it is fulfilled in russia, where politics dominates and controls both commerce and religion. Those of moab were the rich and undisturbed, those who live a life of ease and this pictures a commercial nation, which is headed by the united states. Where politics and religion is the servant of big business. And mt. seir, which was the capital of edom, pictures religion. So the three got together and came up against Jehoshaphat (2 Chronicles 20). And there YAHWEH caused politics, and commerce to turn on religion, and they turned on each other and annihilated themselves. And in the last days it is going to be exactly the same thing. So HE says: "Let the heathen be wakened and sent up to the valley of Jehoshaphat" in other words, "come on, come after my people." HE'S actually challenging them. "For there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about". In other words, it's going to be a fulfillment of the type of what happened with Jehoshaphat. The fulfillment will be. Now there is a scripture in Isaiah 65:12 that goes along with it. It states:

There will I number you to the sword, and ye shall all bow down to the slaughter; because when I called ye did not answer, when I spake ye did not hear, but did evil before mine eyes and did choose that which I delighted not.

Now the reason they are being gathered there is because these people have been talked to, have been preached to, they have seen that YAHWEH is with Israel, and they are still against HIM and still have not come over to Israel. So they are now on the side against Israel. And HE pictures them as being in the valley of Jehoshaphat.

Verse 13:

Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness [is] great.

Now we've had a study in Revelation where YAHWEH pictures the "juice of grapes" as the shed blood of the human race. And the "wine press squeezing the grapes" pictures the slaughter of the human race, and the "juice" is the blood that pours out. HE says "there will be blood for 200 miles," indicating that there will be a tremendous out-pouring of blood. This indicates there will be a great slaughter. So here HE says: "Put in the sickle, gather the harvest, for the harvest is ripe." In other words, the time for the slaughter is here.

### Joel Three

Verse 14 brings out:

Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD [is] near in the valley of decision.

Now HE calls the valley of Jehoshaphat, HE calls this the valley of decision, This is where YAHWEH pronounces judgement, this is where the people either live or die. They've reached the point where they are facing the axe, you might say; they are facing the death sentence. And there are "multitudes" in this valley, there will actually be about 2 billion, 700 million people ready to be slaughtered by their own hands. Never has there been such a slaughter, Jeremiah 25:33 says "It'll be from one end of the earth to the other. They shall not be gathered, nor buried, nor mourned. They shall lay as dung upon the ground." Who is going to bury 2,700,000,000 people? That is a job where even if you could get at them, it'll take a long time. And we find that we won't even be able to get out of the mountains for seven months, because of the radioactivity. So they will just lay there. Now this is the end of the world, this is the greatest destruction the world has ever seen. This is what YAHWEH has decreed shall happen. It will happen. It is impossible for YAHWEH to lie. And only those who will please the Living GOD, who are sincerely trying to do what is right, will live through. And it's not just merely living through, those who make the grade will gain everlasting life. "He who endures until the end, he shall be saved" (Matthew 24:13).

Verses 15 and 16:

15 The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.

16 The LORD also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the LORD [will be] the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.

Now during this day the sun goes out, the moon is darkened, in other words, there will be darkness, there will be a lack of understanding amongst the heathen. This is because they didn't pay attention when they should pay attention. They refused to recognize any of the signs of fulfillment, so they continue in their own way until they are in the valley of decision, or the valley of slaughter, or the valley of Jehoshaphat, where YAHWEH is a typical form, destroyed the heathen. now YAHWEH raising HIS voice, and making the world know what is coming to pass, will actually shake both heaven and earth: the visible and the invisible ruling element. They will know at this time that the end is here. Now you notice "but the LORD will be the hope of HIS people" and who are HIS people? "The strength of the children of Israel". This is all Israel, Israel has always been HIS people, this is what HE always talks about. "The strength of the children of Israel" It is Israel from beginning to end, and it will always be Israel. Now HE says nothing about the catholics, the baptists, the pentecostals, the presbyterians, No, the strength of the children of Israel. This is

### Joel Three

brother of Jacob. This pictured the ones who had the first and foremost opportunity to have the truth before us, this is religion. They had all the resources, they had the time, the money, the schools, and everything else and yet YAHWEH doesn't use them, we find that Esau sold his birthright for a bowl of lentil soup. In other words, for something material. This meant more to him that YAHWEH'S blessings. But his brother Jacob, who later became Israel, wrestled with an angel all night in order to receive YAHWEH'S blessings. So there was a big difference in the two men. Likewise there is a difference between Israel and the religionists of this world. The religionists are trying to gain the favor of the leaders of this world. They are getting money and glory and prestige, something tangible, a blessing that they can handle immediately. Which Israel is willing to suffer and wait for YAHWEH'S time of blessing. Now they "have been violent against Judah and shed innocent blood". Because they have fought against those who are right, Israel was right, and this world has fought against Israel and this world will continue to fight against Israel until it is annihilated. And this world is made up of politics, commerce and religion.

Verses 20 and 21:

20 But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.

21 For I will cleanse their blood [that] I have not cleansed: for the LORD dwelleth in Zion.

In other words, HIS judgements come from Zion. So Judah, HIS people shall dwell forever and Jerusalem from generation to generation. Meaning all of the time. Now this is the blessing of YAHWEH. When the people become submissive, when they begin to learn the purpose of YAHWEH, when they prove themselves obedient, then they are in line to receive HIS blessing. HE cannot bless disobedient people, HE can't bless people who are not interested in doing what is just and right. Because if HE blessed those people, you would have wicked people living in the kingdom, and you would have the same situation that you have had for the past 6,000 years. So YAHWEH must "separate the sheep from the goats," the meek from the head strong ones (Matthew 25). And HE must put the sheep in HIS place of favor, HIS "right hand" and the "goats on HIS left" There is a distinct separation. One is marked for blessing, the other is marked for slaughter.

### QUESTIONS:

Q. Explain verse 5.

A. In other words they took everything that belonged to YAHWEH. We find that babylon actually took the gold and silver, and the utensils from the temple and instead of using them for holy work, they were drinking and sitting down with harlots, and drinking wine out of them. In other words, they reproached, they took everything that belonged to YAHWEH that was holy and used it a blasphemous manner. They cared nothing for YAHWEH. They didn't say "Listen,

what it always was. These brand names HE never intended for anyone to have, they're just eye-catchers to try to attract customers.

Verse 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.

Now YAHWEH dwells in Zion, this means that HIS influence comes from HIS ruling organization. Zion, which is made up of Yahshua and the 144,000, this is the ruling organization. HIS will is done through Zion, through HIS heavenly organization. Dwelling there means actually that HIS influence is there and it comes from Zion. The Jerusalem of old, on earth, had all kinds of people going through her. Conquering heathen that overran her, it was full of strangers, full of outsiders. But this Jerusalem which is the heavens is preserved for only those who have met with YAHWEH'S approval, and no one else, will get in there.

Verse 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 the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.

Now this is bringing out the blessings that will come upon HIS people. The Israel of the flesh was in a very mountainous region. This would indicate that there would be a tremendous blessing and prosperity, "new wine" the new wine is a blessing. The Bible says that "wine makes the heart glad" (Psalm 104:15) The new blessing is actually the blessing of the kingdom which is actually something new. They will be just filled with new wine and flow with milk, indicating that there will be prosperity, plenty for all, and blessings for all. "And all the rivers of Judah shall flow with the waters" indicating that there will no longer be any dried up areas which will not be productive. All of Israel will be productive and blessed. "and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD and shall water the valley of Shittim." or "Acacia". This word means "those who are diverted, or turned aside." These will be "watered" or provided with the understanding so that they will be kept in the truth.

Verse 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.

Now Egypt was one of the nations of this world, it was the first world power, it is not one of YAHWEH'S nations. It pictures the world. Edom also was the organization started by Esau, who was the

let that go, that's YAHWEH'S, the Almighty GOD'S. "They just stole everything like it belonged to some criminal, no regard for YAHWEH whatsoever.

Q. Explain the last part of verse 18, "watering the valley of shittim."

A. Shittim, or acacia. This is a kind of wood. The meaning of the word is "they that are diverted, or turned aside." In other words, this river that flows, that waters this valley, means that the truth will continue forever to those who had once been turned aside, or diverted by the devil, so that they will always be in the truth, and not have to lose sight of the truth anymore like they were once before.

Q. Verse 21, "for I have cleansed their blood that I have not cleansed."

A. This is a bad translation: R.S.V. states: "I have avenged their blood that I have not avenged." In other words, "for the violence done to the children of Judah" in verse 19. This violence will be avenged by the destruction of the heathen.