

Joel Lesson 1 Handout 1

PLAN OF THE BOOK

- I The Invasion of Locusts and Drought (1:1–2:27)
 - A. Title and Liturgy of Mourning and Entreaty (1:2–20)
 - B. A Warning About the Day of Yahweh (2:1-11)
 - C. A Call to Repentance (2:12-18)
 - D. Yahweh’s Answer and a Vision of Plenty (2:18-27)
- II The New Age and the Day of Yahweh (3:1-4:19)
 - A. The Outpouring of the Spirit (3:1-5)
 - B. The Judgement of the Nations (4:1–17)
 - C. The Glorious Future of Israel (4:18–21)

Outline of the Book of Joel

BIBLICAL PERIOD	After the Assyrian conquest of the Northern Kingdom of Israel but before the Babylonian conquest and exile of Judah OR In the post-exile period, after the captives returned to Judah	
FOCUS	Calling the covenant people to public repentance before the coming of the final “Day of Yahweh”	
COVENANT	The Sinai Covenant	
SCRIPTURE	1:1-----3:1-----4:19	
DIVISION	The Invasion of Locusts and the Drought (1:2-2:27)	The New Age and the Day of Yahweh (3:1-4:19)
TOPIC	Title and Liturgy of Mourning and Entreaty (1:2-2:27)	The Outpouring of God’s Spirit (3:1-5)
	Yahweh’s Answer and a Vision of Plenty (2:18-27)	The Judgment of the Nations (4:1-17), and Israel’s Glorious Future (4:18-21)
LOCATION	Judah	
TIME	? c. 8 th century BC or 5 th century BC ?	

Important Dates and Events

930 BC ~ After King Solomon's death, his kingdom was divided into two states: the Northern Kingdom of Israel (with its capital at Samaria) and the Southern Kingdom of Judah (with Jerusalem as its capital). Jeroboam I was the king of the Northern Kingdom and Rehoboam, son of Solomon, was the king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. All the kings of Judah were descendants of King David.

783 BC ~ **Jeroboam II** son of Jehoash became king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

781 BC ~ **Uzziah** son of Amaziah became king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

743 BC ~ Zechariah son of King Jeroboam II, reigned for six months before being assassinated.
Shallum son of Jabesh ruled for one month and was assassinated. Then, in the same year, Menahem son of Gadi became king of the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

740 BC ~ Jotham son of Uzziah became king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

738 BC ~ Pekahiah son of Menahem became king of the Northern Kingdom.

737 BC ~ Pekah son of Remaliah became king of the Northern Kingdom after the assassination of King Pekahiah.

736 BC ~ Ahaz son of Jotham became king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

732 BC ~ Hoshea son of Elah assassinated Pekah to become the last king of the Northern Kingdom. Neo-Assyrian King Tiglath-Pileser III conquered and annexed the northern parts of the Kingdom of Israel, including Galilee.

727 BC ~ Shalmaneser V became king of Assyria. Hezekiah son of Ahaz became king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah. For two decades, Judah remained an ally of Assyria.

722 BC ~ Shalmaneser V died while besieging Samaria, the capital of the Northern Kingdom. His successor, Sargon II, conquered, annexed the Northern Kingdom's territory, and exiled the people.

716 BC ~ Hezekiah son of Ahaz became king of the Southern Kingdom of Judah.

705 BC ~ King Sargon II of Assyria died, sparking hope throughout the empire that Assyrian power would diminish. His son, Sennacherib, ascended the throne of Assyria.

701 BC ~ King Hezekiah of the Southern Kingdom of Judah revolted against Assyrian domination, prompting Sennacherib to attack Judah. Jerusalem, Lachish, and 44 other cities were besieged, but Jerusalem was spared after King Hezekiah paid tribute to the Assyrians.
701-688 BC ~ King Hezekiah built a second city wall and tunnel to better protect Jerusalem and its water supply from future Assyrian attacks.
694 BC ~ King Sennacherib of Assyria completed his new palace at Nineveh, including reliefs commemorating his 701 BC siege of Lachish.
690 BC ~ Tirhakah became pharaoh of Ethiopia and Egypt and an ally of King Hezekiah against the Assyrians.
688 BC ~ Assyrian King Sennacherib attacked Jerusalem again. This time the city withstood his siege because God struck his army with a plague, and he withdrew back to Assyria.
686 BC ~ King Hezekiah died.
681 BC ~ King Sennacherib of Assyria was murdered by his sons.
614 BC ~ The Assyrian capital of Assur was sacked by the Medo-Babylonian army.
612 BC ~ The Medo-Babylonians captured and destroyed the Assyrian capital of Nineveh.
609 BC ~ Ashur-uballit II tried to rally the Assyrian army at Harran but was defeated and died in the battle, ending the ancient line of Assyrian kings and Assyria as a state.
587-6 BC ~ Babylonians conquered Judah, destroyed Jerusalem and the Temple, and took the captive population into exile in Babylon.
586 ~ The Babylonians killed the sons of King Zedekiah of Judah, blinded him, and took him as a prisoner in chains to Babylon. He was Judah's last Davidic king.
539 BC ~ Babylon was conquered by Cyrus of Persia. He allowed the exiled citizens of Judah to return to their homeland and rebuild their Temple in Jerusalem.
445-433 ~ Nehemiah, a Jewish cupbearer to the Persian king, served as the Persian governor of Judah. He was appointed by Persian King Artaxerxes I (465-424) and was governor for 12 years. There were no more ruling kings of Judah.
332/331 BC ~ Alexander the Great and his Greek army conquered the Persian Empire and its territories, including Judah.

MAJOR OLD COVENANT PROPHETS: 9th CENTURY BC – 1st CENTURY AD
(all dates approximate)

PROPHET OF YAHWEH	DATE OF MINISTRY (approximate)	MINISTRY NATION	HISTORICAL PERIOD	SCRIPTURAL TEXT	
ELIJAH	873-853 BC	Israel	Assyrian Empire	1 Kings 17-2 Kings 2:15	
ELISHA	853-793 BC	Israel		1 Kings 19:1 – 2 Kings 13:21	
OBADIAH	?848-841 BC	Edom		2 Kings 8:16-24; 2 Chronicles 21:1-20; Book of Obadiah	
JONAH	782-753 BC	Assyria		2 Kings 13:10-25; 14:23-29; Book of Jonah	
AMOS	783-743 BC	Israel		2 Kings 14:23 -15:7; Book of Amos	
HOSEA	783-732 BC	Israel		2 Kings 14:23-18:12; Book of Hosea	
ISAIAH	740-680 BC	Judah		2 Kings 15:1-20:21; 2 Chronicles 26:16 – 32:22; Book of Isaiah	
MICAH	735-700 BC	Judah		2 Kings 15:32 – 19:37; 2 Chronicles 27:1 –32:23; Book of Micah	
ZEPHANIAH	640-609 BC	Judah		2 Kings 22:1-2; 2 Chronicles 34:1-7; Book of Zephaniah	
NAHUM	614 BC	Assyria		2 Kings 21:1-18; 2 Chronicles 33:1-20; Book of Nahum	
JEREMIAH	626-586 BC	Judah	Babylonian Empire (Conquers Assyria 606 BC)	2 Kings 22:3 – 25:30; 2 Chronicles 34:1 – 36:21; Book of Jeremiah	
HABAKKUK	605-597 BC	Judah		2 Kings 23:31 – 24:7; 2 Chronicles 36:1-8; Book of Habakkuk	
EZEKIEL BARUCH	593-571 BC 582 BC	Exiles of Judah in Babylon		2 Kings 24:8-25:30; 2 Chronicles 36:9-21; Book of Ezekiel	
BARUCH	582 BC	Judah		2 Kings 24:8-25:30; 2 Chronicles 36:9-21; Book of Baruch	
DANIEL	605-535 BC	Exiles in Babylon & Persia		70 year exile Judah Persian Empire	2 Kings 23:34-25:30; 2 Chronicles 36:4-23; Book of Daniel
HAGGAI	520 BC	Judah			Ezra 5:1-6:16; Book of Haggai

ZECHARIAH	519-480 BC	Judah	(Persians defeat Babylon 538BC) Judah returns from exile 537BC Greek Empire of Alexander the Great 336-323BC Hellenistic Period 323-63 BC	Ezra 5:1-6:15; Book of Zechariah
MALACHI	450 BC	Judah		Nehemiah 13:1-31; Book of Malachi
JOEL	?8 th cent. BC ?400 BC	Judah		Book of Joel; Acts 2:16-21
YEHOHANAN ben Zechariahs (John the Baptist)	AD 28 - 29	Judea	Roman Empire	Luke 1-9:9 Matthew 3:1-14:12; Mark 1:4-6:28

Scripture mentions 11 Prophetesses of the Old and New Testaments: 10 true and 1 false

Prophetess	Scripture Reference
Miriam, sister of Moses	Exodus 15:20
Deborah Judge & Prophetess	Judges 4:4
Hulda	2 Kings 22:14; 2 Chronicles 34:22
Isaiah's wife	Isaiah 8:3
Noadiah	Nehemiah 6:14
New Testament Prophetesses	
Anna	Luke 2:36
Philip's four daughters	Acts 21:9
"Jezebel" the False Prophetess	Revelation 2:20
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