1 The word of the LORD that came to Joel, the son of Pethuel.

2 Hear this, O elders, and listen, all you inhabitants of the land. Has there been anything like this in your days, or in the days of your forefathers?

3 Tell your children about it, and let your children tell their children, and their children the next generation.

4 That which the cutting locusts left the swarming locusts have eaten. What the swarming locusts left the hopping locusts have eaten. What hopping locusts left the caterpillars have eaten.

5 Wake up you drunkards and weep. Wail all your drinkers of wine, because of the sweet wine; it has been cut off from your mouth.

6 For a "nation" has invaded my land, strong and without number; its teeth are like the teeth of a lion, and it has the fangs of a lioness.

7 It has laid my vine waste, and splintered my fig trees. It has stripped its bark bare, and thrown it away; their branches are pure white.

8 Grieve like a virgin clothed in sackcloth for the husband of her youth.

9 The meal offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house of the LORD; the priests mourn, even the LORD's ministers.

10 The field is devastated, the land mourns; for the grain is destroyed, the new wine is dried up,
the olive oil is slowed to a trickle.

11 Be disappointed, O farmers,
    wail, O vinedressers,
for the wheat and barley;
    for the harvest of the field is wiped out.

12 The vine is withered,
    and the fig tree is dried up;
the pomegranate and the palm tree too,
    and the apple tree,
    along with all the trees of the field that are withered;
for joy has dried up from the people.

13 Clothe yourselves with sackcloth and lament, O priests;
    wail, O ministers of the altar.
Come, pass the night in sackcloth, O ministers of my God;
    for the grain offering and the drink offering
    are withheld from the house of your God.

14 Proclaim a fast,
    call for a sacred assembly.
Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land
    to the house of the LORD your God,
    and cry to the LORD.

15 Alas for the day!
    For the day of the LORD is near;
    It will come as destruction from the Almighty.

16 Is not the food cut off before our eyes,
    joy and gladness from the house of our God?

17 The seeds rot under their clods;
    the storehouses are devastated,
the barns have been torn down;
    for the grain has dried up.

18 How do the beasts groan!
    The herds of cattle wander about,
    because they have no pasture;
    even the flocks of sheep suffer.

19 O LORD, to you I cry;
    for the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness,
and the flames have burned all the trees of the field.

20 The wild animals of the field pant to you;
    for the water brooks are dried up,
and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.
DASV: Joel 2

1 Blow the trumpet in Zion,
   and sound an alarm on my holy mountain.
   Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
   for the day of the LORD comes, it is near.

2 It will be a day of darkness and gloominess,
   a day of clouds and thick darkness.
   Like blackness spreading over the mountains,
   a great and powerful army comes;
   there has never been anything like it,
   nor will there ever be again,
   for many generations.

3 A fire devours before them,
   and behind them a flame burns.
   The land is like the garden of Eden before them,
   but behind them it is like a desolate wilderness;
   nothings escapes them.

4 They look like horses;
   they charge forward like war horses.

5 With a sound like chariots,
   they leap over the mountains tops;
   like the crackling of a fire devouring stubble,
   like a powerful army prepared for battle.

6 At their presence the people writhe in terror;
   all faces grow pale.

7 They charge like warriors;
   they scale the wall like soldiers.
   They each march on their way,
   and they do not deviate from their path.

8 They do not jostle one another;
   each one marches in his own track.
   They burst through the defenses,
   without breaking ranks.

9 They rush into the city;
   they run along its wall.
   They climb up into the houses;
   they gain entrance 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 stop shining.  

11 The LORD raises his voice before his army;  
for his forces are innumerable;  
for the one executing his command is strong.  
The day of the LORD is great and terrifying.  
Who is able to survive it?  

12 "Yet even now," says the LORD,  
"turn to me with all your heart,  
with fasting, weeping, and mourning."  

13 Tear your heart and not your clothes,  
and turn to the LORD your God;  
for he is gracious and merciful,  
slow to anger and abundant in loyal love;  
he may change his mind about punishing.  

14 Who knows? Perhaps he will turn and relent,  
and leave a blessing behind him.  
Perhaps you will be able to offer a grain offering and a drink offering  
to the LORD your God again?  

15 Blow the trumpet in Zion,  
proclaim a fast,  
summon a solemn assembly.  

16 Gather the people,  
sanctify the assembly,  
assemble the elders,  
gather the children,  
even infants who are nursing.  
Let the bridegroom come out of his bedroom,  
and the bride out of her chamber.  

17 Let the priests, the ministers of the LORD,  
weep between the porch and the altar,  
and let them say,  
"Spare your people, O LORD,  
and do not permit your heritage to be ridiculed,  
a mocking proverb among the nations.  
Why should they say among the peoples,  
'Where is their God?""

18 Then the LORD may become jealous for his land,  
and have pity on his people.  
19 The LORD replied to his people,  
"Look, I will send you grain, new wine, and olive oil,
and you will be satisfied with it;
I will no more make you a mockery among the nations;

20 I will remove the northern army far away,
and will drive it into a barren and desolate land,
itself vanguard to the east into the Dead Sea,
and its rear guard into the western Mediterranean Sea.
Its stench will come up,
and its foul odor will rise up."

Surely he has done great things.

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

22 Do not be afraid, O animals of the field;
for the pastures of the wilderness are green,
for the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine yield their produce.

23 Be glad, O children of Zion,
and rejoice in the LORD your God;
for he gives you the former rain as vindication,
and he pours down rain for you,
the former rain and the latter rain just like before.

24 The threshing floors will be full of wheat,
and the vats will overflow with new wine and olive oil.

25 I will repay you the years that the swarming locust ate,
the hopping, destroying and cutting locusts,
my great army that I sent against you.

26 You will have plenty to eat and will be satisfied;
you will praise the name of the LORD your God,
who has done wondrously for you;
my people will never be put to shame.

27 You will know that I am in the midst of Israel,
and that I am the LORD your God,
there is no other.
My people will never be put to shame.

28 It will come to pass afterward,
that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh.
Your sons and your daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.

29 Also on male and female servants in those days
will I pour out my Spirit.

30 I will display wonders in the heavens and in the earth,
blood, fire, and columns of smoke.

31 The sun will be turned into darkness
    and the moon into blood,
before the great and terrible day of LORD comes.

32 Then whoever calls on the name of the LORD will be delivered;
    for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem
    there will be those who escape,
as the LORD has said,
among the survivors
    will be those whom the LORD calls.
For in those days and at that time, 
I will bring back the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,

I will gather all nations, 
and will bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat.
I will execute judgment on them there 
for my people and for my inheritance Israel, 
whom they have scattered among the nations.
They have divided up my land, 
and have cast lots for my people. 
They have traded a boy for a prostitute, 
and sold a girl for wine so that they could drink.

What do you have against me, O Tyre and Sidon, and all the regions of Philistia? If you are repaying me for something, swiftly and speedily, I will pay back your deeds on your own head.
For you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried off my precious treasures into your temples.
You have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, removing them far from their border.
Look, I will rouse them out of the place to which you have sold them, and will pay back on your head what you have done.
I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the people of the Sabaeans, to a nation far off, for the LORD has spoken it.

Proclaim this among the nations: 
Prepare for war, 
rouse the mighty men. 
Let all the soldiers draw near, 
let them come up.
Beat your plowshares into swords, 
and your pruning hooks into spears. 
Let the weak say, 
"I am strong."
Come quickly, all you surrounding nations, 
gather yourselves together there.

Bring down your warriors, O LORD.

Let the nations rouse themselves, 
and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat;
for there I will sit to judge all the surrounding nations.

13 Put in the sickle,
    for the harvest is ripe.
Come, tread grapes for the winepress is full.
The vats overflow,
    for their wickedness is great.

14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision!
    For the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.
15 The sun and the moon will be darkened,
    and the stars will stop shining.
16 The LORD will roar from Zion,
    and utter his voice from Jerusalem;
    the heavens and the earth will shake.
The LORD will be a refuge to his people,
    and a stronghold to the people of Israel.

17 Then you will know that I am the LORD your God,
    dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain.
Then Jerusalem will be holy,
    and no strangers will ever again pass through.
18 In that day, the mountains will drip with sweet wine,
    and the hills will flow with milk,
    and all the brooks of Judah will flow with water.
A spring will flow out of the house of the LORD,
    and will water the Valley of Shittim.
19 Egypt will be a desolation,
    and Edom will be a desolate wilderness,
because of the violence done to the people of Judah,
in whose land they shed innocent blood.
20 Judah will be inhabited forever,
    and Jerusalem from generation to generation.
21 I will avenge their blood;
    I will not acquit the guilty,
    for the LORD dwells in Zion.