

## **Joel**

### **Summary**

The old testament includes a number of people named Joel. Unfortunately, not much is known about Joel, other than his father's name, Pethuel (Joel 1:1). Joel's primary concern was motivating repentance by proclaiming the coming day of the Lord. Joel speaks to God's people about their desperate need of repentance in order to experience restoration.

### **Author and Date:**

Very little is known about Joel except that he was a prophet, son of Pethuel, and priest of the southern kingdom of Judah. 835 - 796 BC.

### **Audience/ Setting:**

Judah, southern kingdom. The people of Judah became prosperous and complacent. They took God for granted. They turned to self-centeredness, idolatry, and sin. Joel warned that this behavior would lead to God's judgement.

### **Purpose:**

Joel speaks about the day God comes back. He gives warnings and hope. He warned the people of Judah of God's impending judgement because of their sins and urged them to turn back to God. Judgement would come on the pagan nations and His chosen people who refused to worship Him. God's people needed to repent and be restored to Him.

### **Key People:**

Joel, people of Judah

### **Key Places:**

Jerusalem

### **References**

NLT Life Application Study Bible  
Tony Evans Study Bible