

2 JOEL AND MODERN TIMES

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These notes, composed from 2013 on, are based on taped lectures given between 1977 and 1997 by Dr. Ernest L. Martin, Ph.D., formerly the Head of Theology for the Worldwide Church of God; he resigned in January 1974 because of his unresolved doctrinal issues with the administration. Sadly Dr. Martin died in January 2002, a great loss to the world and to those who seek Biblical truth.

Peter in the first ever Christian sermon, in 30 A.D., on the day of Pentecost, fifty days after the resurrection of Jesus Christ when there was no New Testament, focused on the prophecy of Joel, about the Day of the Lord.

Why Joel? The Jews had priorities, it had to do with prophecy, and form signs. 1Cor 1:22 plural in the Greek, they wanted many signs.

Greeks wanted philosophical teachings about the heavens and how the world and heavens worked.

John 4:48 Jesus said, You see signs and wonders, and you still do not believe.

In Acts 2: Peter begins in his first sermon, a passage from Joel.

Luke 24:44, 35. The Tanak, three divisions, Law, Prophets, and Writings which were accepted by the Jews as the Word of God.

Prophetic social and religious environment of the day.

The Jews are going to be looking for the same period in the future just before the second coming of Christ.

Joel is a part of this whole thing, a prophecy for then, and especially for us in the soon to come Day of the Lord just before Christ comes back to establish the Kingdom of God.

Cloven tongues from on high, and everyone heard in his own tongue. Even though they had been born all over the world, and did not understand the Hebrew or Aramaic, and had come to Jerusalem for the day of Pentecost. A miracle and a sign of no mean order!

Here is a list of where all the Jews, (also Israel) were from all over the world, who had been born elsewhere.

They said that they were drunk at 9am in the morning! But Peter said that these men are not drunk.

Medes North, place in Mesopotamia called Israel but this was not in Israel. From Egypt, Rome, Cretes, Arabians, from all over, they were all circumcised Jews or could not have been in the court of the Temple.

All the disciples all twelve, were there. Hours counted from sunrise. Here comes Peter's, the top apostle, focuses right in on the prophecy of Joel. Peter thought at that time that this prophecy would be filled in their generation. Later though Peter, said about the day being as a thousand years. They only had the rudiments of the Christian concept, but later came to understand that this was to come later.

Peter are giving the Christian interpretation of this prophecy, and we are starting with this, better to understand that the prophecy was then and in the future.

Women had the 21:9 Philips daughters prophesied, but Paul made it clear that women should not act as the leader or head of the congregations in a religious service, but that did no mean that they could not prophesy, because there are several records in the Bible of this happening. Servants and handmaidens.

Peter is saying that there is going to be a 'refreshing' of the understanding of this prophecy.

Signs and wonders are again mentioned in verse 19, I wilol show wonders in the heavens above etc, BEFORE the day of the Lord shall come, and this is a wonderful chronological hint. Sun to darkness and the moon to blood, Joshua's long day will never to be repeated, but the Sun would continue to shine in its daily affairs. Less than one 24 hour period. None of these things have been witnessed yet so they are to come. All will be saved from this event.

Jesus a man approved of God who showed signs etc., convinced well over half of the Jews, who went on to believe that Christ was the Messiah.

These events are on the horizon. It is only a very short prophecy in the Old Testament, but had great relevance to them in the 9th century B.C., and then to Peter in 30 A.D. and then forecasting the Day of the Lord in the 'end time'.

These events will lead Israel to repentance just before the second coming of Christ, and to an enormous appreciation of the Messiah in the future.

Side B

Joel 2, suns turned to darkness, moon like blood, and other signs that only God could cause to happen. Peter did think it was all going to happen in his day, they did not understand the chronology then, but later he understood better.

Peter was quoting something from the middle of Joel, but there was a prophecy in the early part of Joel which Peter did not mention. He said afterward...

Joel 2:28 Afterward, after what?

Written in 6th 7th century B.C. Main emphasis is mainly to Israel, not Judah or the Jews, and also to the Temple which there will be in our generation, and where is not where they think it is, ELM explains in his writings.

The first is a prophecy of destruction in the area of Jerusalem, but it will not be of the hand of man, not Assyrians, not Romans, not the U.S. the most powerful nation in our age, but it will be insects! It will happen at a time of restoration in the next while, and we do not know when. It will happen over a period of about a year, it will occur in Palestine, preceeding the heavenly signs.

1:2 Hear this, land of Judah, has this been of these days or those of your children, it has never happened.

The palmerworm, cankerworm, etc., these insects are literally insects, not anything else. A nation of insects out of the North will bring about the destruction of the area!!! Talk about a sign from God! The Temple is there, but will not have enough food for the sacrifices because all the harvest of the year and the trees will be destroyed.

Alas for the Day of the Lord is at hand, not quite here yet, but a sign for Israel to get ready for it. Six seals, then the seventh seal is the wrath of the Father and Christ on Israel.

This wrath will not come on us who are already saved and part of the family of God, we will have protection. Seed is rotten under the sods. Blow you the trumpet in Zion, for the Day of the Lord is nigh at hand.

When all this destruction happens, there will be a change of heart in Israel!
This 'people' is insects!

During 40 – 70 A.D. these events did not happen prior to the Temple being destroyed, so these prophesied events have never happened in history, but are destined to happen.

There is a restoration coming which will bring peace before all this destruction happens.

As a child of God, we do not have a commission, but we who have the understanding, do need to give the truth we have to as many people as we can. The Gospel of the Kingdom, and the "Mystery" will go out to the whole world, and then the end will come. Let us get our shoulders to the wheel of this job.

On the heels of this destruction, a restoration is coming as explained in chapter 3.