

The Book Of Acts

Part One: The Witness in Jerusalem (1:1-8:4)

I. The Power of the Church (1:1-2:47)

G. Peter Explains Pentecost (2:14-41)

LUKE Quotes A Foundational OT Text for the NT CHURCH: Joel 2:28-32

READ the Book of Joel:

A. Its Background:

- The Prophet Joel is only mentioned in the Bible in the book that bears his name. Nothing more is known of the Prophet Joel than what is known from his short - 3 chapter - prophetic book.
- The book of Joel is undated. Neither are there any time markers in the book to date it (ex. the reign of a king, or any enemy threat, etc.). Most, however, date Joel as the earliest writing prophet. That places the book of Joel as the oldest prophetic book in the Bible.
- Chapter 1 begins with a terrifying locust plague. It is reminiscent of the 8th Egyptian plague: God's plague of locusts on Egypt (ref. Exodus 10:1-20). The presence of this locust horde and destruction Scripturally link these events to God's promised curse on the land as described in Deut. 28:15,27-29,38.

1. How does the locust plague of Joel 1 relate to Deut. 28:38?

B. A Brief Overview of the Book:

The central theme of this prophetic book is the "Day of the LORD." It is the ultimate day of God's wrath poured out on a Godless, sinful, unrepentant world (see Revelation 6:16-17 and following). In **Chapter 1**, God's judgment of a devastating locust plague is a small foretaste of God's coming "great and awesome day of His judgment. **Chapter 2** uses the locust plague to picture a greater army of destruction that God's will bring on unbelief and wickedness in the land. And then finally, **Chapter 3** details the end-time Day of the LORD's judgment on all the earth, and the LORD's preservation of His people and of His city Jerusalem, from where the Lord Himself will both dwell and rule!!

C. **BUT** First, the Spirit is Poured Out and Church Built before this Day Comes!

See Joel 2:28 - 32; **1)** the Spirit is poured-out on ALL flesh (Jew and Gentile), **2)** EVERYONE who calls on the name of the Lord (Jesus) will be saved, those whom the Lord calls, **3)** then comes the heavenly signs and the great and awesome Day of the LORD.