

Bible Question Class Books

Bible Study Questions on The Book of Joel by David E. Pratte

**A workbook suitable for Bible classes,
family studies, or personal Bible study**



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***Bible Study Questions on the Book of Joel:
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or personal Bible study***

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**“He who glories, let him glory in the Lord”
– 1 Corinthians 1:31**

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Bible Study Questions on the Book of Joel

Introduction:

This workbook was designed for Bible class study, family study, or personal study. The class book is suitable for teens and up. The questions contain minimal human commentary, but instead urge students to study to understand Scripture.

Enough questions are included for teachers to assign as many questions as they want for each study session. Studies may proceed at whatever speed and depth will best accomplish the needs of the students.

Questions labeled "think" are intended to encourage students to apply what they have learned. When questions refer to a map, students should consult maps in a Bible dictionary or similar reference work or in the back of their Bibles. (Note: My abbreviation "**b/c/v**" means "book, chapter, and verse.")

For class instruction, I urge teachers to assign the questions as homework so students come to class prepared. Then let class time consist of **discussion** that focuses on the Scriptures themselves. Let the teacher use other Scriptures, questions, applications, and comments to promote productive discussion, not just reading the questions to see whether they were answered "correctly." Please, do **not** let the class period consist primarily of the following: "Joe, will you answer number 1?" "Sue, what about number 2?" Etc.

I also urge students to emphasize the **Bible** teaching. Please, do not become bogged down over "What did the author mean by question #5?" My meaning is relatively unimportant. The issue is what the Bible says. Concentrate on the meaning and applications of Scripture. If a question helps promote Bible understanding, stay with it. If it becomes unproductive, move on.

The questions are not intended just to help students understand the Scriptures. They are also designed to help students learn good principles of Bible study. Good Bible study requires defining the meaning of keywords, studying parallel passages, explaining the meaning of the text clearly, making applications, and defending the truth as well as exposing religious error. I have included questions to encourage students to practice all these study principles.

Finally, I encourage plain applications of the principles studied. God's word is written so souls may please God and have eternal life. Please study it with the respect and devotion it deserves!

For whatever good this material achieves, to God be the glory.

Bible study commentary and notes to accompany this and other of our workbooks are available at www.gospelway.com/sales

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Assignments on Joel 1

Read Joel 1, then answer the following questions. If you need help, consult a Bible dictionary or similar reference work.

1. Who was the inspired author of the book – 1:1? What is told about his family? (Think: See if you can learn the meaning of his name.)

2. What did the author say that shows he was claiming to speak by inspiration of God? List similar *passages* elsewhere.

3. Where is the book of Joel quoted elsewhere in Scripture? What can we learn from this?

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| 4. Special Assignment: What can you learn about when Joel prophesied? Note that there are alternative views. |
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5. Skim the book of Joel and summarize its theme.

6. To whom does Joel address his message – 1:2? (Think: See if you can determine what land is being spoken of.)

7. How does Joel describe the amazing event he is discussing?

8. What should the people do with the message – 1:3? What lessons should we learn about the spiritual message that we have today?

9. What does Joel say the different kinds of locusts have done – 1:4? What is the point?

10. List other **passages** about problems caused by locusts or grasshoppers.
11. What affect would the locusts have on the wine – 1:5? Explain.
12. How is the invading nation described in 1:6? Explain the illustration.
13. What harm had been caused as described in 1:7?
14. To what is the grief of the people compared in 1:8?
15. What effect would the locust attack have according to 1:9, and who especially would be affected?
16. What effect would this have on the worship offered by the people? Why?
17. What consequence does the locust attack have according to 1:10?
18. **Special Assignment:** List other **passages** in which grain, wine, and oil are listed as important crops either as a blessing from God when they are harvested or as a punishment when they are withheld.
19. Who would be ashamed and grieve according to 1:11?

20. What trees would be affected according to 1:12?
21. Who should grieve according to 1:13? Why?
22. What should they do about it according to 1:14? Explain why this would be an appropriate response.
23. What day is described in 1:15? What are we told about that day?
24. List other passages referring to the “day of the Lord.” Explain the significance of the expression.
25. What effect would it have on the food and on the temple – 1:16?
26. What consequences are described in 1:17? What effect would this have on future crops?
27. Who else would be affected according to 1:18? Why?
28. Why did Joel cry to the Lord according to 1:19?
29. Who else would cry out to the Lord according to 1:20? Explain.

Assignments on Joel 2

Please read Joel 2, then answer the following questions.

1. What warning is given to the people in 2:1? How should the people react? (Think: What is the significance of blowing the trumpet?)
2. How is the coming day described in 2:2? Explain the illustrations.
3. List other *passages* where darkness and clouds are symbolic of God's judgments.
4. How are the people described who are coming? (Think: To what does this coming people refer? Note the context, especially verse 25.)
5. Compare what precedes them to what follows them – 2:3. What is the significance?
6. To what are they compared in 2:4?
7. What kinds of sounds do they make, and to what are they compared in 2:5?
8. How are the people before them described as they see them coming – 2:6?
9. What is the coming compared to in 2:7?
10. How is their organization described in 2:8? What effect do weapons have on them?

11. What do they do when they enter a city – 2:9?
12. How are the earth and the sky affected – 2:10?
13. List other **passages** where God's judgments are symbolized by earthquakes.
14. Where else does the chapter use darkness as a symbol of judgments?
15. Once again, according to 2:11, what has Joel been describing? Whose power is really behind the events being described?
16. What response does God hope the people will give to this warning – 2:12-14?
17. List the expressions in these verses that describe the attitude that must accompany repentance.
18. List other **passages** in which God requires people to repent of their sins in order to receive forgiveness.
19. List other **passages** that demonstrate that man's repentance, must come from sincere sorrow for sin.
20. **Application:** What reason is given in these verses why sinners must repent? What lessons should we learn?

21. What should the people do to encourage repentance according to 2:15,16? Who should attend?

22. How does Joel emphasize the importance of this assembly?

23. **Application:** What application should we make about the value of assemblies for God's people today?

24. What role should the priests have in this assembly – 2:17?

25. What affect would the people's repentance have on God – 2:18?

26. What would God do for the people as a result – 2:19?

27. What would happen to the invading "army" – 2:20?

28. What effect would this have on the people and the animals – 2:21-23?

29. How would this affect the harvests – 2:22-24?

30. What is the significance of the former and the latter rain (check cross-references)?

31. According to 2:25, what is the "army" that God has been describing? Where else in the book are these various kinds of locusts described?

32. How will the people be blessed in the end – 2:26?

33. What would all this prove about God – 2:27?

34. What does God promise beginning in 2:28?

35. **Special Assignment:** Where is 2:28-32 quoted in the New Testament and what application is made of it?

36. According to the New Testament, when would “the last days” occur (compare Acts 2 and Hebrews 1:1,2).

37. List the miraculous manifestations that would happen in those days – 2:28-31. (Think: In what sense did these come upon the “all flesh.”)

38. **Special Assignment:** Where else do prophets use such expressions as the sun being darkened and the moon being turned into blood? What is the significance?

39. What blessing is promised in 2:32, and what must people do to receive it? (Think: What is the significance of the expression “a remnant”?)

40. List New Testament **passages** where Israel, Zion, or Jerusalem refers spiritually to the church.

41. **Special Assignment:** Where is 2:32 quoted in the New Testament? According to the New Testament, does this mean a sinner is saved simply by a prayer acknowledging his faith in Jesus? Note Acts 2:38; 22:16; Romans 6:3,4; Galatians 3:26,27; Matthew 7:21-23; Luke 6:46.

Assignments on Joel 3

Please read Joel 3, then answer the following questions.

1. What did God promise to do for His people in 3:1? (Think: At what time does the verse say this would happen? Note to: 28-32.)
2. What would God do with other nations at this time – 3:2,3?
3. Find the meaning of the name of Jehoshaphat.
4. What reason does God give for this judgment?
5. Explain the significance of the reference to selling a boy and a girl.
6. What specific people are named in 3:4,5? What challenge does God make to them?
7. What reason is given for God's retaliation to them?
8. What had these people done for which God would punish them – 3:6?
9. What would God do for His people – 3:7?
10. What would He do to those who sold His people – 3:8? (Think: Who were the Sabeans?)

11. What proclamation does God give the people in 3:9?

12. Explain the symbols used in 3:10. Where else are similar symbols used in Scripture?

13. What challenge does God issue in 3:11?

14. **Special Assignment:** List **passages** describing the spiritual warfare God's people face under the New Testament. What application would these verses in Joel have today?

15. What does God say would happen when the nations come to the valley of Jehoshaphat – 3:12?

16. Explain the symbols used regarding this judgment in 3:13.

17. How is the valley described in 3:14, and who will be there?

18. What symbolism is used again in 3:15? Where else is it used in this book?

19. How is God's power described in 3:16? What effect would it have on the heavens and earth?

20. However, what promise does God make to His people?

21. What would the people know then – 3:17?

22. What condition would then characterize Zion or Jerusalem? Explain the meaning.

23. Once again review the passages where Zion or Jerusalem refers to the church in the New Testament.

24. What will characterize the mountains and hills in that day – 3:18? (Think: Recall what time period is predicted by the expression “in that day” in this context.)

25. What will characterize the brooks?

26. **Special Assignment:** Explain the symbolic significance of the wine, milk, and water. How does this compare to the condition caused by the locusts?

27. What would happen to Edom and Egypt at that time? Why?

28. List other **passages** where these nations symbolize enemies of God’s people.

29. How is the final condition of Judah and Jerusalem described in 3:20,21?

30. Check various translations of verse 21 and explain the possible alternative meanings of the verse.

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