Lesson 8: Joash & Joel

Readings – 2 Kings 11 and 12, 2 Chronicles 24, Joel 1-3

WHEN?

The history of the divided kingdom has been divided into the time periods of different oppressors. Circle the prophets in this lesson & mark the decades of their activities using the timelines in the reference section/back cover.

WHY?

In this lesson we see the Lord keeping his promise to David as Joash makes his narrow escape at the hands of Athaliah to being crowned King by Jehoiada to his move away from God after the death of Jehoiada and finally his having Zechariah the son of Jehoiada murdered. It is most likely against this backdrop that the prophet Joel used the natural calamity of a Locust Plague to tell the people that a “Day of the Lord” (judgment) was coming and a human army would coming marching thru the land.

The survey of the prophets now shifts from the oral prophets to the written prophets. The prophets of the Divided Kingdom Period deal with the coming punishment of the Assyrians due to idolatry and disobedience to the Mosaic covenant. Included in this period is only one Major Prophet, Isaiah. Rather than learning from the judgment against Israel, the nation of Judah follows in the northern kingdom’s sins. Three Major Prophets speak of this punishment coming from the Babylonians, Jeremiah to people still in land, Ezekiel to those in exile and Daniel to the rulers letting them know God is still in charge.
Who was Athaliah’s father (2 Chr 21:6)?
Who had Athaliah’s sons done with the sacred objects in the temple (2 Chr 24:7)?

2 Kings
What actions did Athaliah take when Ahaziah died (2 Kgs 11:1)?
Who organized the overthrow of Athaliah (2 Kgs 11:4)?
How did Athaliah respond to Joash being crowned (2 Kgs 11:14)?
Was Athaliah killed in the temple (2 Kgs 11:15-16)?

Who saved Joash from Athaliah (2 Kgs 11:2)?
How long did Joash remain hidden (2 Kgs 11:3)?
How was Joash declared king (2 Kgs 11:12)?

How is Joash’s reign described (2 Kgs 12:2)?

How well had the priest followed Joash’s command to collect money to repair the temple (2 Kgs 12:4-6)?

What did Jehoiada do to collect money for the temple repair (2 Kgs 12:9-12)?

What happened after the death of Jehoiada (2 Chr 24:17)?

How did Joash respond to the message of Zechariah son of Jehoiada (2 Chr 24:20-21)?

What did Joash do to keep Hazael from attacking Jerusalem (2 Kgs 12:17-18)?

Who helped the Syrians (Aramean) attack Judah (2 Chr 24:23-24)?

How did Joash die (2 Chr 24:25)?

2 Chronicles 24 (NIV) Joash Listen’s to Wrong People
2 Joash did what was right in the eyes of the LORD all the years of Jehoiada the priest.

17 After the death of Jehoiada, the officials of Judah came and paid homage to the king, and he listened to them. 18 They abandoned the temple of the LORD, the God of their fathers, and worshiped Asherah poles and idols. Because of their guilt, God’s anger came upon Judah and Jerusalem.

19 Although the LORD sent prophets to the people to bring them back to him, and though they testified against them, they would not listen.
Judah see that severe locust plague you experienced as like a coming Day of the LORD

Key Verses

Joel 2:21 (ESV)  
21 “Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice, for the LORD has done great things!

Joel 2:32 (ESV)  
32 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

Outline - Joel
I. Judgment Against Judah  
   A. Locust Invasion (1:1 to 12)  
   B. Call to Repentance (1:13 to 20)
II. Day of the Lord  
   A. Day of the Lord (2:1 to 11)  
   B. Call to Return to the Lord (2:12 to 17)  
   C. Lord’s Mercy (2:18 to 27)  
   D. Lord will Pour Out Spirit (2:28 to 32)
III. Judgment  
   A. Lord Judges Nation (3:1-16)  
   B. Judah’s Future (3:17-21)

Common Prophetic Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prophetic Element</th>
<th>Summarize Verses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In Control – thus says Joel 2:12</td>
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</table>
| Chosen people Joel 2:17  
Joel 2:26-27  
Joel 3:2  
Joel 3:16 |
| Rebellion – Drunk? Lacking – points to when Joash is young & under guidance of Jehoiada |
| Judgment to come Joel 1:15  
Joel 2:1  
Joel 2:11  
Joel 3:2  
Joel 3:4-6 |
| Compassion Joel 2:13-14  
Joel 2:18-19  
Joel 2:20 |
| Call to repentance Joel 2:12-13 |
| Restore in future Joel 2:21-22  
Joel 2:25-26 |
| Kingdom for all Joel 2:32  
Joel 3:11-12  
Joel 3:17 |

Prophet’s Visual Aids

- Repaired Temple
- Abandoned God and served the Asherim and the idols after death of Jehoiada
- By command of the king they stoned Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest in the court of the house of the LORD.
- Army of the Syrians came up against Joash.
- Syrians came against Judah and Jerusalem and destroyed all the princes
- Syrians sent all their spoil to king of Damascus.
- Syrians severely wounded Joash
- His servants killed him because of the blood of the son of Jehoiada the priest.

What is Joel using to help people Visualize
Joel 1:6

Joel 1:8

Joel 2:3
Locust Plague
Joel uses the experience of a Locust plague to speak to the people of God’s coming judgment as army after army would sweep down upon the land. Below is some vivid descriptions

1:4 – Chewing;  Swarming;  Crawling & Consuming Locust
2:7 – Run like mighty men
2:7 – Climb wall like men of war
2:7 – March in formation
2:8 – March in columns
2:9 – Run on the wall
2:9 – Climb into the houses
2:9 – Enter windows like a thief

Armed as Locust

Day of the Lord
The “Day of the Lord” is used to describe a coming judgment & phrase is used 5 times by Joel

1:15 ...For the day of the Lord is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes.
2:1-3 ... for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near, a day of darkness and gloom,
2:11 ... For the day of the Lord is great and very awesome; who can endure it?
2:31 The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.
3:14-15 Multitudes, multitudes, in the valley of decision!
For the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.

Actions Commanded for People to Take

The Prophet Joel commands the people/priest, etc to carry out several different actions. List who is to take these actions.
Tell – 1:2

Wail/Weep – 1:5, 1:13, 2:17

Lament - 1:8, 1:13

Mourn - 1:9, 1:10

Be Ashamed – 1:11

Call a sacred assembly – 1:14, 2:15-16

Cry Out 1:14, 1:19, 1:20

Blow the Trumpet – 2:1, 2:15

Sound the Alarm – 2:1

Rejoice in the Lord – 2:25

List Your Favorite Verse/s

Pouring Out of Spirit
Joel 2:28-32 >>>> Acts 2

Starting with Joel 2:17 a future time and kingdom is described and we know the “pouring out of my Spirit” is a Messianic prophecy fulfilled on the day of Pentecost because Peter tells this was the day spoken by the prophet Joel some 800 years before the event.