

Sabbath Brothers

Time to Read Scripture

(76 Hours 13 Minutes)

Old Testament 57.65 Hours*

New Testament 18.57 Hours**

Estimated Time to Read	
The Law/Pentateuch/Torah	13.5 Hours
1. Genesis	3.5 Hours
2. Exodus	3 Hours
3. Leviticus	2 Hours
4. Numbers	3 Hours
5. Deuteronomy	2.5 Hours

Estimated Time to Read	
The Books of History	18.67 Hours
6. Joshua	1.75 Hours
7. Judges	1.75 Hours
8. Ruth	15 Minutes
9. 1 Samuel	2.25 Hours
10. 2 Samuel	1.75 Hours
11. 1 Kings	2 Hours
12. 2 Kings	2.25 Hours
13. 1 Chronicles	2 Hours
14. 2 Chronicles	2.5 Hours
15. Ezra	40 Minutes
16. Nehemiah	1 Hour
17. Esther	30 Minutes

Estimated Time to Read	
The Books of Poetry	9.33 Hours
18. Job	1.75 Hours
19. Psalms	5 Hours
20. Proverbs	1.75 Hours
21. Ecclesiastes	30 Minutes
22. Song of Solomon	20 Minutes

Estimated Time to Read	
The Major Prophets	13.08 Hours
23. Isaiah	3.75 Hours
24. Jeremiah	4 Hours
25. Lamentations	20 Minutes
26. Ezekiel	3.75 Hours
27. Daniel	1.25 Hours

Estimated Time to Read	
The Minor Prophets	3.07 Hours
28. Hosea	30 Minutes
29. Joel	12 Minutes
30. Amos	25 Minutes
31. Obadiah	4 Minutes
32. Jonah	8 Minutes
33. Micah	20 Minutes
34. Nahum	8 Minutes
35. Habakkuk	9 Minutes
36. Zephaniah	10 Minutes
37. Haggai	7 Minutes
38. Zechariah	40 Minutes
39. Malachi	11 Minutes

Estimated Time to Read	
The Gospels	8.5 Hours
40. Matthew	2.5 Hours
41. Mark	1.5 Hours
42. Luke	2.5 Hours
43. John	2 Hours

Estimated Time to Read	
Establishment of the Church	2.25 Hours
44. Acts	2.25 Hours

Estimated Time to Read	
Paul's Public Epistles	4.1 Hours
45. Romans	1 Hour
46. 1 Corinthians	1 Hour
47. 2 Corinthians	40 Minutes
48. Galatians	20 Minutes
49. Ephesians	20 Minutes
50. Philippians	14 Minutes
51. Colossians	13 Minutes
52. 1 Thessalonians	12 Minutes
53. 2 Thessalonians	7 Minutes

Estimated Time to Read	
Paul's Private/Pastoral Epistles	34 Minutes
54. 1 Timothy	16 Minutes
55. 2 Timothy	11 Minutes
56. Titus	7 Minutes

Estimated Time to Read	
General Epistles	1.9 Hours
57. Philemon	3 Minutes
58. Hebrews	45 Minutes
59. James	16 Minutes
60. 1 Peter	16 Minutes
61. 2 Peter	10 Minutes
62. 1 John	16 Minutes
63. 2 John	2 Minutes
64. 3 John	2 Minutes
65. Jude	4 Minutes

Estimated Time to Read	
End Times Prophecy	1.25 Hours
66. Revelation	1.25 Hours

*Old Testament 57 Hours 39 Minutes

**New Testament 18 Hours 34 Minutes

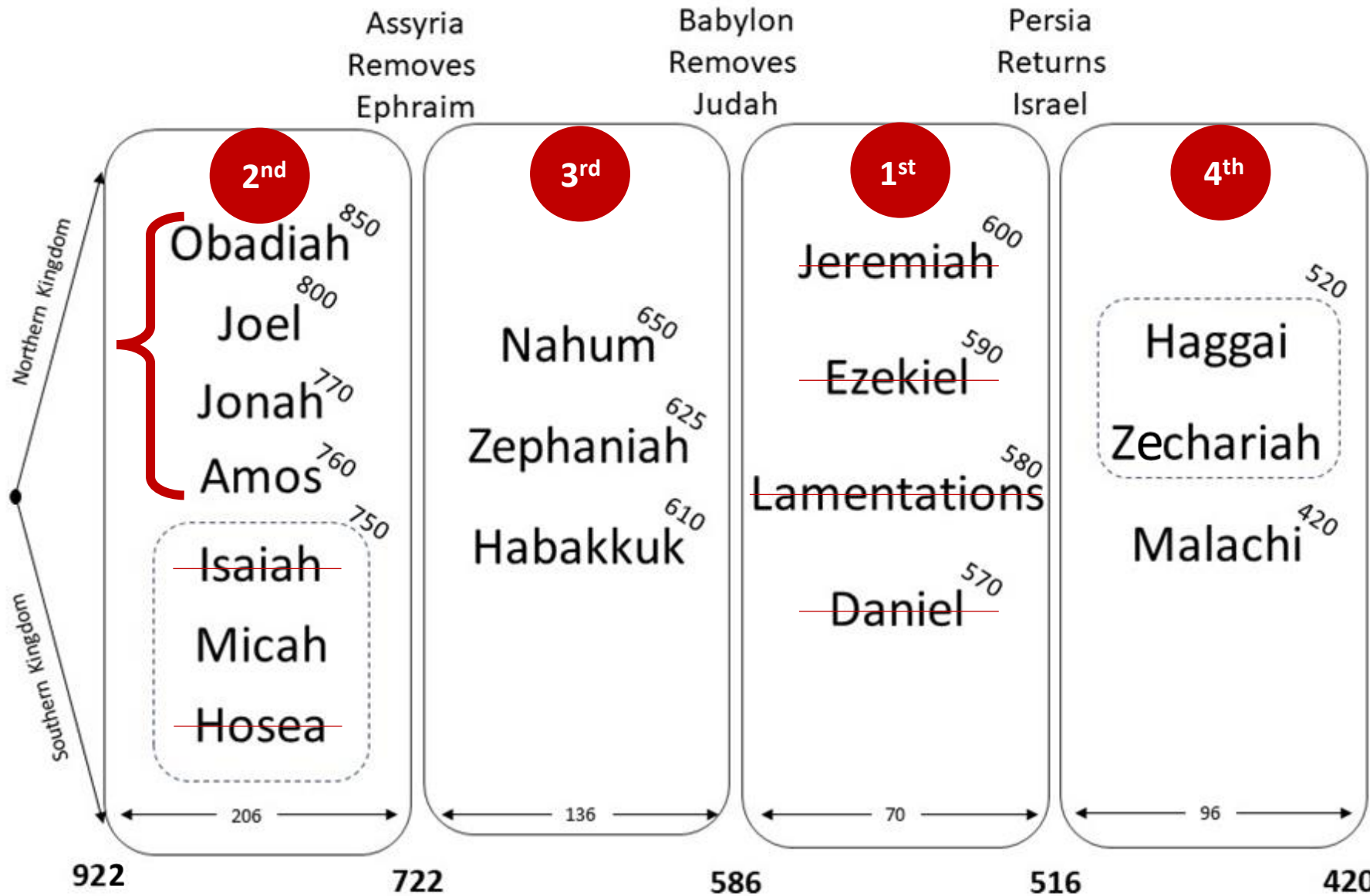
New Testament References to the Prophets

THE PROPHET & THE NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVER

- Matthew 5:12 “Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”
- Luke 11:49-50 “Therefore also the Wisdom of God said, ‘I will send them prophets and apostles, some of whom they will kill and persecute,’ so that the blood of all the prophets, shed from the foundation of the world, may be charged against this generation”
- Matthew 11:13 “For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John”
- Matthew 13:17 “For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it.”
- Matthew 22:37-40 “And he said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.”

THE ENTIRE OLD TESTAMENT FORETELLS CHRIST

- Luke 24:27 “Beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”
- Luke 24:44 “Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”
- Matthew 5:17 “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.”



Timeline of the Prophets



OLD TESTAMENT STRUCTURE, 5-12-5-5-12
5 BOOKS OF THE LAW—12 BOOKS OF HISTORY---5 BOOKS OF WISDOM WRITINGS---5 MAJOR PROPHETS
12 BOOKS OF MINOR PROPHETS---MINOR BECAUSE THEY WROTE LESS. NOT LESS IMPORTANT!

Joel

“Joel” means “Jehovah is God” and he is thought to have been a prophet to Judah around the timeframe of Amos and Jonah (circa 800 BC).



Joel wrote this book after the land had been plagued by locusts who devoured all the plants resulting in famine. Joel used this physical condition (calamity) to reflect the state of their souls (Isaiah 45:7; Amos 3:6)

Considerations About the Era of Joel

- “Judah” Called “Israel” (Joel 2:27; 3:16)
- Invasion Referenced (Joel 3:2)
- Philistia (Philistines) Referenced (Joel 3:4)
- Greek Traders Referenced (Joel 3:6)
- Sabeans (South Arabia) Referenced (Joel 3:8)
- Edom Referenced (Joel 3:19)
- Quotes Shared with Amos (1:2) and Isaiah (13:6)
 - Joel 3:16 and Joel 3:10

Outline of the Book of Joel

Joel 1:1 - 2:17	The Invasion of Locusts Represents God’s Judgment
Joel 2:18-3:21	God’s Promise to Restore His People

Joel’s Reference With Other Prophets

Joel 1:15	Amos 4:9; Isaiah 13:6
Joel 2:3	Isaiah 51:3
Joel 2:10	Isaiah 13:10
Joel 2:32	Obadiah 1:17
Joel 3:10	Isaiah 2:4; Micah 4:3
Joel 3:16	Isaiah 13:13; Amos 1:2
Joel 3:18	Amos 9:13



In Joel, “the Day of the Lord” (Joel 2:28-31) is referenced as a blessing instead of a curse to God’s repentant people. (Zephaniah is the opposite as “the Day of the Lord” brings judgment.)

The way that individuals respond to God, determines if “the Day of the Lord” is a day of blessing or judgment.

Joel called for the nation to repent (Joel 1:13-14; 2:12-17) which would lead to both physical and spiritual prosperity (Deuteronomy 27-28).

JOEL

("Jehovah is God")

Joel wrote this book after the land had been plagued by locusts who devoured all the plants resulting in famine.

Joel used this physical condition (calamity) to reflect the state of their souls (Isaiah 45:7; Amos 3:6) and a foreshadowing of future judgment.

The people of Judah had become prosperous and complacent; taking God for granted, they had turned to self-centeredness, idolatry and licentiousness.

Joel warned them that this kind of lifestyle would inevitably bring God's judgment.

Mega-Themes of Joel

Judgment	Joel 1
Forgiveness	Joel 2:12-13; 18-19
Promise of the Holy Spirit	Joel 2:28-32

Without repentance, judgment would bring devastation

A Plague of Locusts (Joel 1:1-12)

¹ The word of the LORD that came to Joel, the son of Pethuel:
² Hear this, O elders, and listen, all inhabitants of the land. Has *anything like* this happened in your days or in your fathers' days?



³ Tell your sons about it, and *let your sons tell* their sons, and their sons the next generation.

⁴ What the gnawing locust has left, the swarming locust has eaten; and what the swarming locust has left, the creeping locust has eaten; and what the creeping locust has left, the stripping locust has eaten.



⁵ Awake, drunkards, and weep; and wail, all you wine drinkers, on account of the sweet wine that is cut off from your mouth.

⁶ For a nation has invaded my land, mighty and without number; its teeth are the teeth of a lion, and it has the fangs of a lioness.

⁷ It has made my vine a waste and my fig tree splinters. It has stripped them bare and cast them away; their branches have become white.



⁸ Wail like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the bridegroom of her youth.

⁹ The grain offering and the drink offering are cut off from the house of the LORD. The priests mourn; the ministers of the LORD.

¹⁰ The field is ruined, The land mourns; For the grain is ruined, the new wine dries up; Fresh oil fails.



¹¹ Be ashamed, O farmers; Wail, O vinedressers; For the wheat and the barley; because the harvest of the field is destroyed.

¹² The vine dries up and the fig tree fails; **The pomegranate, the palm also, and the apple tree;** All the trees of the field dry up. Indeed, rejoicing dries up from the sons of men.

The prophecy of Joel begins with the Word of the Lord as his impetus for writing

Joel is the son of Pethuel (meaning "vision" or "wisdom of God")

The Hebrew name of "Joel" ("Jehovah is God") is similar to the name "Elijah" ("God is Yah"). In the Hebrew Scriptures, the name of God is recorded as YHWH, and "Yah" ("Jeh") is a shortened name of "Yahweh."

Joel's message spans five generations: 1. your days 2. your ancestors 3. your children 4. their children 5. the next generation

Locusts (nicknamed "*the incarnation of hunger*") represent the destructive power of the enemy (Rev 9:3, 7), and the three categories of locusts (devouring, swarming, young) bring utter destruction (Joel 2:25; Nahum 3:15-17).

Everyone is impacted at God's judgment from the elders to the drunkards to the workers

Agriculture was a gift from Yahweh (Hosea 2:8-9) as was wine (Psalm 104:15)

In ancient times, there was a status of "virgin widow" where a young lady was betrothed to a man who died prior to the wedding. The most celebrated events were weddings and childbirth, so anything that disrupted these occasions brought immense sorrow.

Three times, the grain and drink offerings are emphasized (Joel 1:9, 13, 2:14). These fellowship offerings were meant to be times of joy with the Lord.

Locusts were a part of the covenantal agreement with Israel (Deuteronomy 28:38)

"You shall bring out much seed to the field but you will gather in little, for the locust will consume it."

Israel is represented by three trees: 1.the vine – BC 2.the fig tree – church age 3.the olive tree – millennium. In Joel 1:7, the vine and fig tree appear white as if dead.

Israel had a covenantal betrothal to God, but they were to grieve at the loss of their "husband" (Lamentations 1:15; Isaiah 23:12).

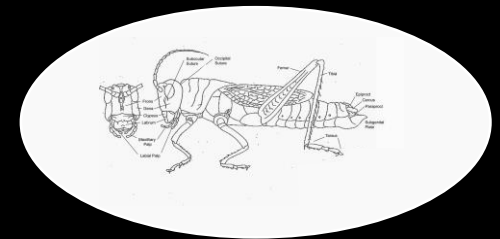
The grain (Feast of Unleavened Bread), new wine (Passover), wheat (Pentecost), barley (Feast of First Fruit), Grapevine (feast of Tabernacles) could not be celebrated

The Plague of Locusts

("The Incarnation of Hunger")



- Locusts have an average life span of several months.
- They grow to be nearly 3 inches long.
- A locust's mouth is designed with chewing parts that help them devour.
- Locusts make a noise by vibrating their hind legs against their forewings.

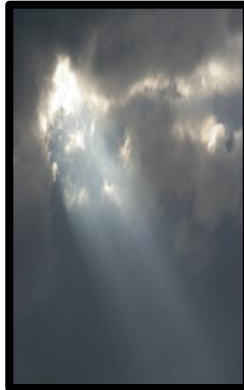


The Day of the Lord

“Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is near, and it will come as destruction from the Almighty.” (Joel 1:15)

The “Day of the Lord” is not a day of Rest, but a time of Reckoning (Joel 2:1, 11, 31, 3:14)

Israel’s “Divine Protector” is actually bringing the destruction.



Prophets Proclaiming the “Day of the Lord”

Isaiah 2:12; 13:6, 9; 22:5; 34:8

Jeremiah 46:10

Ezekiel 7:10; 13:5; 30:3

Amos 5:18-20

Zephaniah 1:7, 14-18

Obadiah 1:15

Zechariah 14:1

Hebrew Language (Joel 1:15)

yā·bō·w.	mi·šad·day	ū·kə·šōd	Yah·weh,	yō·wm	qā·rō·wb	kī	lay·yō·wm;	'ā·hāh
יְבוֹא:	מִשְׁדַּי	וּכְשֹׁד	יְהוָה	יוֹם	קָרוֹב	כִּי !	לַיּוֹם	אָהָה
it shall come	from the Almighty	and as destruction	of Yahweh	the day	[is] at hand	for	for the day	Alas

The Hebrew word for “Shaddai” is šadday (שַׁדַּי)

The Hebrew word for “Destruction” is šōd (שׁוֹד)

The “Almighty” refers to “Shaddai” (šadday) & the Hebrew word for breast is “shad”

One of the names of God is “El Shaddai” (“big breasted God” or “God Almighty” - omnipotent) because one of the positive attributes is endurance (not simply power) similar to a nursing mother (powerful in an enduring way).

The perseverance of a parent is likened to the omnipotence (El Shaddai) of God

Jewish Patriarchs (Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob) referred to God as “El Shaddai” as God did not reveal His covenantal name of “Yahweh” until Moses (Exodus 3:14)

Repent or Die (Joel 2:1-14)

1 Blow a trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm on My holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble; For the day of the LORD is coming; Surely it is near,
2 A day of darkness and gloom; A day of clouds and thick darkness. as the dawn is spread over the mountains, so there is a great and mighty people; **there has never been anything like it, nor will there be again after it to the years of many generations.**

3 A fire consumes before them and behind them a flame burns. The land is like the garden of Eden before them but a desolate wilderness behind them, and nothing at all escapes them.



4 Their appearance is like the appearance of horses; and like war horses, so they run. 5 With a noise as of chariots, they leap on the tops of the mountains; like the crackling of a flame of fire consuming the stubble; like a mighty people arranged for battle.

6 Before them the people are in anguish; all faces turn pale.

7 They run like mighty men; they climb the wall like soldiers; and they each march in line, nor do they deviate from their paths.



8 They do not crowd each other; they march everyone in his path; When they burst through the defenses; they do not break ranks.

9 They rush on the city; they run on the wall; they climb into the houses; they enter through the windows like a thief.

10 Before them the earth quakes; the heavens tremble, the sun and the moon grow dark and the stars lose their brightness.



11 The LORD utters His voice before His army; surely His camp is very great, for strong is he who carries out His word. The day of the LORD is indeed great and very awesome, and who can endure it?

12 "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "Return to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, weeping and mourning;

13 And rend your heart and not your garments." Now return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and compassionate; slow to anger, abounding in lovingkindness and relenting of evil.



14 Who knows whether He will not turn and relent and leave a blessing behind Him, Even a grain offering and a drink offering for the LORD your God?

The horn was a shofar (a ram's horn) which was used to communicate alarm and war (Numbers 10:5-9) as well as the gathering of God's people to a feast (Numbers 10:16)

The holy mountain references Mount Moriah as the covenant God communicates to His covenant people

Similar to a plague of locusts, God's judgment would cover the sky and mask the sun.

The term "fire" might relate to the color of the insects (Joel 1:19-20).



The appearance of the locusts is like "horses equipped for battle." (Job 39:19-20; Revelation 9:7)

Locusts emit a clicking noise by vibrating their hind legs against their forewings.

Throughout Scripture, horses represent military power (Proverbs 21:31; Jeremiah 4:29, 8:6; Psalm 66:12; Job 39:19-20; Proverbs 30:27 → Revelation 9:7)

A locust's mouth also makes a different clicking sound when their mandibles chew their food.

Italians call them "Cavalette" meaning "little horses"

Germans call locusts "Heupferde" meaning "hay horses"

Nothing can stop the onslaught and defenses are inconsequential as the invaders take over the land at will to plunder and destroy.

God desires a sincere, internal change instead of outward show

If God's people repented, the Lord also might relent of His judgment.

If the Lord called away the rapacious locusts, there would be harvests remaining to provide for offerings to the Lord.

Characteristics of God that Repentance Reveals (Joel 2:13)
God is Gracious (Full of Grace)
God is Merciful
God is Slow to Anger
God Abounds in Steadfast Love
God Relents Over Disaster

Yahweh extends His Spirit to all flesh (Isaiah 44:3-4; Ezekiel 39:29)

Infusion Of God's Spirit (Joel 2:28-32)

²⁸ "It will come about **after this** that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy; Your old men will dream dreams; Your young men will see visions.



²⁹ "Even on the male and female servants, I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

³⁰ "I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire and columns of smoke.

³¹ "The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes.

³² "**And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD will be delivered;** for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be those who escape, as the LORD has said, even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.

From this point in the book of Joel, there is much apocalyptic imagery. In fact, in Hebrew scriptures (Masoretic Text), this passage begins the next chapter (Joel 2:28 is marked as Joel 3:1 in the Hebrew Scriptures and Masoretic Text.)

This passage is quoted by Peter at Pentecost (Acts 2:14-21, 37-39) to represent the similarity in experience (Numbers 1:29, 12:6), but "*after this*" primarily references post-Tribulation (Hosea 3:5).

The Tribulation will drive many to Jesus although His "lights" in this world will be persecuted and darkened (Ezekiel 32:6-8; Isaiah 50:3; Daniel 12:3).

"And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." (Joel 2:32) This verse is quoted in the New Testament in reference to Jesus (Romans 10:13)

Beyond the Jewish community, God would give His Spirit to all mankind (Isaiah 19:19-25).

Gender nor social status influences who receives the Spirit of God.



Jews believe that nature would be disrupted and disturbed when the Messiah entered the world.



Armageddon

(Joel 3:9-11)

Hebrew meaning *“Mount Megiddo”*



⁹ Proclaim this among the nations:
Prepare a war; rouse the mighty men!
Let all the soldiers draw near, **let them come up!**

¹⁰ **Beat your plowshares into swords**
And your pruning hooks into spears;
Let the weak say, “I am a mighty man.”

¹¹ Hasten and come, all you surrounding nations, and gather yourselves there.
Bring down, O LORD, Your mighty ones.



Apocalyptically, armies prepare for the battle of Armageddon where the Gentile armies join to fight Christ before being destroyed (Revelation 16:14-21).

In the Tribulation, tools will be exchanged for weapons and afterwards in the millennium, the weapons will be exchanged for tools (Isaiah 2:4)

The nations of the world will amass against God’s people in Israel (Isaiah 8:9-10; 17:12-14; Ezekiel 38-39; Zechariah 12-14; Revelation 16:14-16; 19:17-19)

The world’s (weak) “mighty” ones will come up to fight God’s mighty ones coming down for battle.

Angels Can Function as Military Servants

Deuteronomy 33:2-3

2 Kings 6:16-17

Matthew 16:27

Matthew 25:31

Mark 8:38

2 Thessalonians 1:7

Revelation 19:14

The River of Life (Joel 3:18)

“And in that day the mountains will drip with sweet wine, and the hills will flow with milk, and all the brooks of Judah will flow with water; and a spring will go out from the house of the LORD to water the valley of Shittim.”

Joel 3:18

“And on the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither, nor their fruit fail, but they will bear fresh fruit every month, because the water for them flows from the sanctuary. Their fruit will be for food, and their leaves for healing.”

Ezekiel 47:12

“...through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month. The leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.”

Revelation 22:1

