

“RETURN TO THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART”

March 6th, 2019

1. LAMENT

¹The word of the LORD that came to Joel, the son of Pethuel: ²Hear this, you elders; give ear, all inhabitants of the land! Has such a thing happened in your days, or in the days of your fathers? ³Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children to another generation. (Joel 1:1-3)

⁸Lament like a virgin wearing sackcloth for the bridegroom of her youth. (Joel 1:8)

¹¹Be ashamed, O tillers of the soil; wail, O vinedressers, for the wheat and the barley, because the harvest of the field has perished. (Joel 1:11)

¹³Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests; wail, O ministers of the altar. Go in, pass the night in sackcloth, O ministers of my God! Because grain offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God. ¹⁴Consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the LORD your God, and cry out to the LORD. (Joel 1:13-14)

2. JUDGEMENT

The LORD utters his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful. For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome; who can endure it? (Joel 2:11)

“Judge not, that you be not judged. ²For with the judgment you pronounce you will be judged, and with the measure you use it will be measured to you.” (Matthew 7:1-2)

3. REPENT

“...and rend your hearts and not your garments.” (Joel 2:13a)

Return to the Lord your God, for he is merciful and compassionate, slow to anger and filled with unfailing love. He is eager to relent and not punish (Joel 2:13b)

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. (Psalm 51:11)

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God. Working together with him, then, we appeal to you not to receive the grace of God in vain. ²For he says, “In a favorable time I listened to you, and in a day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. (2 Corinthians 5:21- 6:2)

4. URGENT

MEMORY VERSE

That is why the LORD says, “Turn to me now, while there is time.” (Joel 2:12a)

5. SENT

From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. (2 Corinthians 5:16,18-20a)