JOEL, TEETH IN THE WIND

Dear Teen:

You are beginning a study of a marvellous prophecy that gives us a vision of what is going to happen in the future, the kind of information that builds up our faith. The little book of Joel is full of hid treasure, warning, and hope for our generation, the last generation before Jesus returns.

The on-line commentary and the questions in this package are designed to help you get into what Joel has to say. You will find the commentary helpful in answering the questions, but with any commentary you need to be careful how you use it. The evidence of God's word must support its interpretations.

We hope the study of Joel will open our eyes to future events so that we can be prepared with extra oil for our lamps and be ready when Jesus returns.

We pray that by working through the questions not only will this make our class time more interesting and profitable but it will help us all to be awake and watching for Jesus' return. So, start working on the booklet TODAY, do a little each day, and try to think why each question was asked.

May God bless you as you study His word!

- The commentary: <u>Joel, Teeth in the Wind</u> needs to be down loaded from the internet. http://JoelTeethInTheWind.com Since it is 110 pages long, you don't need to print it. Just save the file on your computer and refer to it as a reference to help answer the questions.
- Some of the questions have the answers already written. You only need to answer the questions where there are blanks. But, do come to camp having looked through <u>all</u> the questions so that you understand all the answers, even the ones you didn't have to write!

JOEL Commentary SECTION 1: Please read Joel chapter 1

1. Read the introduction in the commentary, pages 1 and 2. [From the file JoelTeethInTheWind.com that you downloaded.] Why do you think Joel was chosen as a topic of study?

Some possible answers: It is interesting to read about prophecies that apply to our time. When current events fulfil prophecy, it gives us confidence in the Bible. We are the last generation just before Jesus' return. Studying Joel can give us vision, faith, exhortation, warning and the hope of being welcomed into the coming kingdom of God. Your ideas:

2. How do we know that Joel was written at the beginning of Josiah's reign in about 630 B.C.?

A. Joel 1:14 shows that the temple hadn't yet been destroyed.



B. Because Joel makes no mention of the Northern kingdom (Israel) it is thought that it had already been carried captive by Assyria.

C. [Hint – see commentary notes regarding a clue --page 2]

3. Joel is a Hebrew compound word from what two titles of God? [page 4 in commentary]

В.____ A. _____

4. What is the difference between grasshoppers and locusts? [try google]

5. Locusts are symbolic of what in Bible prophecy? (Hint – see Rev. 9:7-9) _____

6. Khalil's father [see the commentary page 5] called the locusts "*Teeth in the Wind*". Why is this a such a good description of locusts?

Because they act like thousands of teeth flying in to attack. They sound like a modern helicopter army coming in the wind and chewing up and destroying everything in sight.

7. What are the differences between the descriptions of locusts given by the National Geographic magazine article [page 5 in commentary] and that in Joel 2:7,8?

A. Locusts struggle for room while Joel 2:8 says "neither do they thrust another".

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Fill in	
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- 8. How many Babylonian invasions of Jerusalem and Judah are noted in 2 Kings chapters 24 and 25? [commentary p. 6-7] Answer: _____.
 Could these invasions fit Joel's description in Joel 1:4 of four stages of locusts? (Yes or No) ______ (See pages 5-6.in the commentary)
- 9. What animal symbols does scripture use to describe the following empires? [p.9]
 - A. Babylon _____
 C. Grecian _____
 - B. Persian _____ D. Roman <u>Wolf, 10 horn beast</u>

JOEL Commentary SECTION 2: Please read Joel chapter 2

1. List some questions that come to mind reading Joel chapter 2.

- 2. What is meant when we say a Bible prophecy has a partial and a full fulfilment? [See pages 87-90 in the commentary.]
- 3. In Joel 2:28-32 give the verses which have been partially fulfilled in Acts 2 and then list the verses that will have a full fulfilment at Jesus' return. [See Appendix section in the commentary -- pages 87-90]

A._____ B.____

4. What is God's purpose in giving prophecies that have a partial and a full fulfilment?

5. What is the downside to partial and full fulfilment in Bible prophecy?

The downside of partial and full fulfilment is that it makes the prophecy more difficult to interpret. People's faith can be shaken when not all details are fulfilled the first time. Tyre was destroyed long before the ground was scraped off by Alexander the Great, finishing the fulfilment of the prophecy.

6. T/F The army in Joel 2:1-11 isn't the same as the "northern army" in Joel 2:20. (*Answer: True*) List five reasons that support your answer.

- A. Joel 2:3 "nothing shall escape" this army.
- **B.** Joel 2:5 _____
- C. Joel 2:8 "sword, shall not be wounded"
- **D.** Joel 2:9 _____
- E. Joel 2:9

7. Why would we care if the army in Joel 2:1-11 is an immortal army?

If this is an immortal army we could be part of it for it will be made up of Christ's saints who will be with Jesus when he confronts the nations attacking Israel in Ezekiel 38. (The Goggian confederacy)

8. Give at least two scriptures that show the saints will no longer be passive at Jesus' return.

A. 2Thessalonians 1 verse ? _____ [locate the exact verse] B. Psalms 149 verse ? _____

9. T/F Christadelphians are pacifists? _____

Look up the definition in the dictionary of "pacifist." Write it here:

JOEL Commentary SECTION 3

1. What is meant by being ''reasonably firm'' when it comes to interpreting Bible prophecy? [see page 21 in the commentary]

One has to be reasonably firm in stating the interpretation of the prophecy otherwise the prophecy provides no vision. At the same time one needs to realize there are limitations, for Bible prophecy often covers generations of time, huge areas, and many future details that come from relatively few prophecies.

2. List at least three reasons why it is not wise to predict the date of Jesus' return.

A._____

B. Dan. 2:21 says that God changes the times and seasons.

C.____

3. What do you think it means in Joel 2:13 that people should "rend hearts and not garments"?

4. What will it take today for people to rend their heart as the "day of the LORD" approaches?

It will take a king, greater than king Josiah, namely the Lord Jesus Christ. Even then, to convince the world, this king must come with power and signs -- "the day of the LORD" in Joel 2:31.

5. T/F Joel 2:19-23 takes place when the millennial kingdom of God comes upon earth.

Answer: False – Now state the reason: Hint Joel 2:31.

6. What are the Hebrew words for "palmerworm", "locust", "cankerworm" and "caterpillar"? [commentary p. 26]

A. Palmerworm – _____ C. Cankerworm – _____

B. Locust – _____ **D.** Caterpillar – _____

7. List the numerical value of the consonant letters that make up the following Hebrew words. [commentary p. 26]

A. palmerworm _____ C. cankerworm _____

B. locust _____208____ D. caterpillar _____

8. How does Dr. Thomas translate Joel 2:23 and why the difference? [p. 28]

The difference is that Dr. Thomas sees not only the literal meaning of v.23 but the spiritual meaning as well.

9. How should we modify our behaviour today based on what we have learned from Dr. Thomas' translation of Joel 2:23?

JOEL Commentary SECTION 4

1. Three keys are listed which help establish the sequence of events from Jesus' return as a thief to the millennial age. What is the middle key? [commentary p. 30]

A. Fitting in how Jesus' return is described both as a "thief" and as "lightning".

B._____

C. *Knowing the difference between the: "marriage of the Lamb", "marriage supper" and the "supper of the Great God".*

2. (T/F) The New Testament in total warns three times that Jesus returns as a thief. *Answer:* ______. *If false, how many times?* _____ [Hint: look up "thief" in the concordance]

3. What is the Hebrew meaning of Armageddon and which harvest does it correspond to? [commentary p. 31 – near the bottom of the page, or see p. 45]

Armageddon means _____

Sheaves are grain and this judgment corresponds to the "grain" harvest as compared to the grape harvest which comes later.

4. Both Ezekiel chapter 39:17-18 and Revelation 19:17-18 describe the "Supper of the Great God". What does this supper involve and when will it take place?

[commentary p. 35] *Hint: ("fowls" symbolizes nations)*

5. For each item A. through D. below, state whether the event takes place before or after Jesus returns as a thief. [commentary pp. 36-37]

A. The rebirth of the Israeli nation. Answer: We now know this takes place <u>before</u> Jesus' return for Israel became a nation in 1948.

B. Israel possessing territory in Lebanon up to Zarephath. Answer: Israel in 1982 did control Southern Lebanon but they have since withdrawn from this area. We therefore <u>can't say</u> if the full fulfilment of this prophecy is before or after Jesus returns as a thief.

C. Isaiah chapter 19.

D. Isaiah chapter 17.

6. How do these scriptures support there is a 50 year period from Jesus' return as a "thief" and the beginning of the kingdom age. [commentary p. 39]

A. Leviticus 25:8-11

B. *Micah* 7:14-16

7. Today there are different ideas as to where Mt. Sinai is located. First show why it makes a difference and then support where you think it is located.

First it makes a difference since scriptures suggest that the judgment seat will take place in this area.

[See appendix #2 p.91 in the commentary, "Joel, Teeth in the Wind"]

8. Joel 2:28-29 speaks of God's blessings being poured out throughout the world. In our suggested sequence, give one major event that precedes these blessings and one that which follows. [commentary p. 48]

9. Joel 3:8 solves the Palestinian problem. In our suggested sequence, give the major event that precedes Joel 3:8 and that which follows. [refer to commentary p. 49]

JOEL Commentary SECTION 5

1. Who is in "the midst of Israel" in Joel 2:27? Who are the people who will no more be "ashamed"? Does this happen before the millennial kingdom age begins? [p. 56]

A._____

B. *The Jews who have come through the Goggian invasion are the people who no more shall be "ashamed".*

C._____

2. Why is it so important to make the millennial kingdom age vision as real as possible?

Hint: Proverbs 29:18

3. List five things you are looking forward to doing in the Millennial Kingdom Age.

Answers will vary. Possibilities:

- A. Having a body full of energy able to carry out great ideas.
- **B.** Being able to say the right thing at the right time and being perfectly understood. **C.**
- D._____

E. Being able to change the behaviour of the lion so that a little child can lead and ride it.

4. Why will God allow Gog and Magog to again attain political power at the end of the Millennial Age?

God's plan is designed to give mankind a choice. God's will, will be done but by humans who of their own will, love and trust in Him. To accomplish this, there must be a choice and this again is provided on a political level towards the end of the Millennial Age.

5. T/F The "great and terrible day of the LORD" in Joel 2:31 is the "great and dreadful day of the LORD" in Mal. 4:5 and this day follows "the day of LORD" in Joel 2:1.

6. Provide the "C" and "D" reasons that will cause many nations to oppose Jesus when he sits upon the throne of his father David. [commentary p. 61]

A. *A* "strong delusion" that Jesus is the Antichrist.

- **B.** The pouring out of the holy spirit gifts will be seen as the power of Satan.
- С._____

D. Hint: *Psalm* 2:6 ______.

7. How did the Catholic Church counter the claim that they were "Babylon the Great"?

They had their Jesuit priests give a future interpretation of the Revelation which included a future Antichrist, the incarnation of Satan, who would rule the world from Jerusalem.

8. What was the pen name that the Jesuit priest Lacunza used for his book entitled: "<u>The Coming of Messiah in Glory and Majesty</u>" and why did he use this name? [commentary p. 62]

9. In the "part-truth creates a strong delusion" sequence diagram, list the three major differences which show the Antichrist theory is incorrect. [See chart p.63 commentary]

A. Item 4, Christ's capital will be Jerusalem. There is no scripture showing that the Antichrist's capital will be Jerusalem.

B._____ C.____

JOEL Commentary SECTION 6

1. What are the seven "thunders" and when do they take place?

The seven thunders in Rev. 10:3 are God's judgments coming upon the earth. They will happen after Jesus' return and the gospel being preached throughout the world. After this many nations will take council against Jesus seeing him as the Antichrist. The seven thunders then are poured out over a 30 year period and after this the millennial kingdom of God begins.

2. When are "those days" when I shall bring again the captivity of Judah and Jerusalem in Joel 3:1? (First give the usual answer and then support <u>your</u> answer with scripture.)

Joel 3:1 is usually interpreted as the days when "the captivity of Judah" became a nation in 1948 and when all of Jerusalem was captured by Israel in 1967.

This however doesn't fit with the context because of: [commentary p. 67]

3. What is meant by the term the valley of Jehoshaphat? [commentary p. 68]

4. T/F The valley of Jehoshaphat and the Hebrew meaning for Armageddon (heap of sheaves in the <u>valley</u> of judgment) both describe a <u>narrow</u> valley where God rains upon the nations overflowing rain, and great hailstones, fire and brimstone as described in Ezekiel 38:22.

Show why this answer is false: [commentary p. 68, 69]

5. T/F The nations will not like the solution to the Palestinian problem in Joel 3:8 and will take crafty counsel against Israel and the saints. [commentary p. 77]

6. The "press" and "fats" in Joel 3:13 indicate which judgment vial in Revelation chapter 16? [commentary p. 79]

7. What is the meaning of the ''sun'' and ''moon'' being darkened in Joel 3:15? [pp. 79-80]

8. How does Joel **3:16** establish the timing of Joel chapter **3**? Why is this important to see?

For Jesus to roar out of Zion, he must be set up in Zion. This means verse 16 takes place after his return and when he is in Jerusalem with great authority, ready to shake the whole political order of the world.

This is important to see because _____

9. T/F Joel 3:17-20 describe the millennial kingdom age when Eden will be restored and Jesus and his saints will rule a world that is at peace with the nations worshipping in Jerusalem.

Answer: _____ May it be our blessing to be kings and priests in this new and wonderful world to come.