

# Eschatology: Studies Concerning Future Events

5/20/2018

## Lesson 3. The Day of the Lord as Described in Joel and Zephaniah

- The Day of the Lord begins with the tribulation and includes the return of Jesus and His kingdom reign. It speaks of desolation followed by deliverance and blessing.

### I. Signs Preceding the Day (Joel 2:30-32)

- A. Wonders in the sky and on earth
- B. Blood, fire, smoke, sun darkened, moon turned to blood

### II. Description of Desolation and Destruction

- A. A destruction from the Almighty (Joel 1:15-20)  
(famine, fire devours pastures and trees, drought)
- B. Darkness and gloom, clouds and thick darkness (Joel 2:1-2)  
(sun, moon, and stars darkened; heaven and earth trembles – Joel 3:15-16)s
- C. A great and awesome day... who can endure it? (Joel 2:11)
- D. A day of wrath (Zephaniah 1:15)  
(trouble and distress, destruction and desolation; darkness and gloom, clouds and thick darkness)

### III. Judgment upon the nations (Joel 3:1-17, especially :14; Zephaniah 1:14-18)

- A. War! (Joel 3:10 contrast Micah 4:3)  
Trumpet and battle (Zephaniah 1:16)
- B. Physical punishment of mankind (Zephaniah 1:17 because they have sinned!)
- C. Judgment of all the nations (Zephaniah 3:8)  
At the valley of Jehoshaphat (Joel 3:2)
- D. The whole earth devoured (Zephaniah 1:18)

### IV. Exhortation for Repentance, Righteousness, and Humility (Zephaniah 2:1-3)

### V. Restoration of God's People

- A. The Lord is a refuge for His people (Joel 3:16).
- B. Jerusalem is holy (Joel 3:17).
- C. Regathered and restored people (Zephaniah 3:18-20)
- D. A purified people (Zephaniah 3:12-13)

### VI. Description of Blessing

- A. Enemies removed (Zephaniah 3:15); opposing army removed (Joel 2:20)
- B. Land renewed
  - grain, new wine, and oil (Joel 2:18, 24)
  - land, vegetation, and animals restored (Joel 2:21-22)
- C. Prosperity and physical blessing (Joel 3:18)

- D. Fortunes restored to Judah and Jerusalem (Joel 3:1)
- E. People rejoice and praise God (Joel 2:21, 23, 26)
  - satisfied (Joel 2:19, 26)      - no longer a reproach (2:19)
- F. God's Spirit poured out... prophesy, dreams, and visions (Joel 2:28-29)

## **VII. The King will reign!**


"The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst" (Zephaniah 3:15, 17)

The Lord dwells in Zion (Joel 3:17)


God is in the midst of His people. (Joel 2:27; 3:17)

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## **The Day of the Lord in the New Testament**

 1 Thessalonians 5:2

The day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night. Peace and safety will turn into destruction.

 2 Thessalonians 2:2-9 "the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ," "the day of the Lord"

Apostasy precedes the Day of the Lord

 2 Peter 3:10

The Day of the Lord will come like a thief. Heavens and earth will pass away. There will be a new heaven and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

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### **Other names to consider:**

**The time of Jacob's trouble**

**Abomination of desolation**

**Daniel's 70<sup>th</sup> week**

**The Great Tribulation**