

f Whofoeuer 7
ioyne the fel
ues to this peo
ple,shalbe blef
sed

g God sheweth
how pröpt he
is to heare his,
when they rep
ent, and to
offer him self,
as a protectiö,
& fauegard vn
to them, as a
moſte ſufficie
fruce & profite.

They that dwell vnder his^f shadowe,shal
returne: they shal ieiue as the corne, and
flourish as the vine: the sent thereof shalbe
as the wine of Lebanön.

8 Ephraim shal say, What haue I to do anie
more with idoles? I & haue heard him, &
loked vpö him: I amlike a grene fyrrre tre:

vpon me is thy fruite found.

9 Who is ^h wife, and he shal vnderstand
these things: and prudent, & he shal knowe
them: for the wayes of the Lord are righ
teous, and the iuste shal walke in them: but
the wicked shal fall therein.

^h Signifying,
that the true
wisdome and
knowledge cö
sisteth in this,
euen to reſte
vpon God.

IOEL.

THE ARGUMENT.

The Prophet Ioél first rebuketh them of Iudáh, that being now punished with a great plague of
famine, remaine stil obstinat. Secondly he threateneth greater plagues, because they grewe daily
to a more hardenes of heart, & rebellion against God notwithstanding his punishments. Thurdly he
exhorteth them to repentance, shewing that it muste be earnest, and procede from the heart because
they had grievously offended God. And so doing, he promiseth, that God wil be merciful, & not for
get his comenat that he made with their fathers but wil send his Christ who shal gather the scat
tered shepe, and restore them to life, and libertie, though they seemed to be dead.

CHAP. I.

1 A prophesie against the Iewes: He exhorteth the
people to prayer, and fasting for the miserie that was
at hand.

THE worde of the Lord
that came to Ioél the son
ne of Pethuél.
Heare ye this, ^o Elders,
and heaken ye all inha
bitants of the land, whe
ther ^b suche a thing hathe
bene in your dayes, or yet in the dayes of
your fathers.

^a Signifying, 2
the Princes,
the Priests,
and the gover
ners.

^b He calleth
the Iewes to
the considera
tion of Gods
iudgements,
who had now
plagued the
fruces of the
grounde for
the space of
fourre yere,
which was for
their finnes, &
to call them
to repen
ce.

^c Meaning,
that the occa
sion of their
excesse and
drunkennes
was taken a
way

^d This was
another pla
gue where
with God had
punished the,
when he stir
red vp the A
syrrians againt
them

^e Mournie gris
uously as a
woman, which
hathe lost her
houfband, to
whome she ha
the bene mar
ried in her
youth

^f The tokens
of Gods wrath
did appeare in
his Temple in
so muche, as
Gods seruice was left of.

2 Tell you your children of it, and let your
children shewe to their children, and their
children to another generacion.

3 That which is left of the palmer wor
me, hathe the grasshopper eaten, and the
residue of the grasshopper hathe the can
ker worme eaten, and the residue of the
canker worme hathe the caterpillar eaten.

4 Awake ye ^c drunkardes, and wepe, and
houle all ye drinkers of wine, because of
new wine: for it shalbe pulled from your
mouth.

5 Yea, ^d a nation cometh vpon my land,
mightie, and without nomber, whose teeth
are like the teeth of a lyon, and he hathe the
iawes of a great lyon.

6 He maketh my vine waste, and pillesh of
the bark of my figge: he maketh it bare,
and casteth it downe: the branches thereof
are made white.

7 Mournie like a virgine girded with sacke
cloth for the houfband of ^e her youth.

8 The meat offering, and the drinke offering
is ^f cut of from the House of the Lord:
the Priests the Lords ministers mournie.

9 The field is wasted: the land mourneth:

for the corne is destroyed: the new wine
is dried vp, and the oyle is decayed.

10 Be ye ashamed, ^o houfbande men: houle,
^o ye vine dressers for the wheat, and for
the barley, because the haruest of the field
is perished.

11 The vine is dried vp, and the figge is
decayed: the pomegranate tre and the pal
me tre, and the apple tre, euen all the trees
of the field are withered: surely the ioy is
withered away from the sonnes of men.

12 ^h Girde your selues & lament, ye Priests:
houle ye ministers of the altar: come, and
lye all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of
my God: for the meat offering, and the
drinke offering is taken away from the
House of your God.

13 Sanctifie you a fast: call a solemne as
semble: gather the Elders, and all the in
habitants of the land into the House of
the Lord your God, and crye vnto the
Lord,

14 Alas: for the day, for the ⁱ day of the
Lord is at hand, and it cometh as a destru
ction from the Almightye.

15 Is not the meat cut of before our eyes?
and ioye, and gladnes from the House of
our God?

16 The sede is rotten vnder their cloddes:
the garnes are destroyed: the barnes are
broken downe, for the corne is withered.

17 How did the beastes mourne? the herdes
of cattel pine away, because they haue
no pasture, and the flockes of shepe are
destroyed.

18 O Lord, to thee wil I crye: for the fyre
hathe deuoured the pastures of the wil
dernes, and the flame hathe burnt vp all
the trees of the field.

19 The beastes of the field crye also vnto
thee: for the riuers of waters are dried vp,
and

^g All comfort
and substance
for nourish
ment is taken
away.

^h He sheweth
the only mea
nes to auoide
Gods wrath, &
to haue all
things resto
red is vnfa
ined repen
tance.

ⁱ We se by
these great pla
gues that vnto
destruction is
at hand.

k That is, and the fyre hath deuoured the pastures of the wildernes.

CHAP. II.

He prophesieth of the comming and crueltie of their enemies. 13 An exhortacion to moue them to conuert. 14 The loue of God towards his people.

a He sheweth the great iudgements of God which are at hand except they repent. b Of affliction and trouble

c Meaning the Assyrians.

d The enemy destroyeth our plentiful countrey wherefore he cometh.

e They shalbe pale and blacke for feare, as Nahum 2.10.

f For none shal be able to resist them.

g Read Isa. 13. 10 ezek 32. 7. chap 31 & 32. 15 math. 24. 29

h The Lord shal stirre vp the Assyrians to execute his iudgements Ierem. 30. 7. amos. 5. 18. seph 1. 5.

i Mortifie your affections and serue God w purenes of heart and not w ceremonies

k He speaketh this to stirre vp their slothfulness, and not that he doubted of Gods mercies, if they did repent How God repenteth

l read Ierem 18. 2.

1 Lowe^a the trumpet in Zi^on, & shout in mine holie Mountaine: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for y^e daie of the Lord is come: for it is at hand.

2 A^b daie of darkenes, & of blackenes, a daie of cloudes, and obscuritie, as the morning spreade vpon the mountaines, so is there a^c great people, and a mightie: there was none like it from the beginning, nether shal be anie more after it, vnto the yeres of manie generacions.

3 A fyre deuoureth before him, & behinde him a flame burneth vp: the land is as the garden of^d Eden before him, and behinde him a desolate wildernes, so that nothing shal escape him.

4 The beholding of him is like the sight of horses, and like the horse men, so shal they runne.

5 Like the noyce of charrets in the toppes of the mountaines shal they leape, like the noyce of a flame of fyre that deuoureth the stubble, and as a mightie people prepared to the battel.

6 Before his face shal the people tremble: all faces^e shal gather blackenes.

7 They shal runne like strong men, and go vp to the wall like men of warre, and euery man shal go forwarde in his waies, & they shal not staie in their paths.

8 Nether shal one^f thrust another, but euery one shal walke in his path: & when they fall vpon the swordes, they shal not be wounded.

9 They shal runne to and fro in the citie: they shal runne vpon the wall: they shal clime vp vpon the houses, & enter in at the windowes like the thief.

10 The earth shal tremble before him, the heauens shal shake, the sunne & the moone shalbe darke, and the starres shal withdrawe their shining,

11 And the Lord shal^h vtter his voyce before his hoste: for his hoste is verie great: for he is strong that doeth his worke: * for the daie of the Lord is great and very terrible, and who can abyde it!

12 Therefore also now the Lord faith, Turne you vnto me with all your heart, & with fasting, and with weping, and with mourning,

13 Andⁱ rent your heart, and not your clothes: and turne vnto the Lord your God, for he is gracious, and merciful, slowe to angre, and of great kindenes, and repenteth him of the euil.

14 Who knoweth, if he wil^k retorne and re-

pent and leaue a blessing behinde him, euen a meat offering, and a drinke offering vnto the Lord your God?

15 Blowe the trumpet in Zi^on, sanctifie a fast, call a solemne assemblie.

16 Gather the people: sanctifie the congregation, gather the Elders: assemble the children, and those that sucke the breasts: let the bridegrome go forthe of his chamber, and the bride out of her bride chamber.

17 Let the Priests, the ministers of the Lord wepe betwene y^e porche & the altar, and let the say, Spare thy people, o Lord, and giue not thine heritage into reproche that the heathen shulde rule ouer them.

* Wherefore shulde they saie among the people, Where is their God?

18 Then wil the Lord be^m ielouse ouer his land and spare his people.

19 Yea, the Lord wil answer and saie vnto his people, Beholde, I wil send you corne, and wine, and oyle, & you shalbe satisfied therewith: and I wil nomore make you a reproche among the heathen,

20 But I wil remoue farre of from you theⁿ Northen armie, and I wil driue him into a land, barren and desolate with his face toward the^o East sea, and his end to y^e vtmost sea, and his stinke shal come vp, & his corruption shal ascend, because he hath exalted him self to do this:

21 Feare not, o land, but be glad and reioyce: for the Lord wil do great things.

22 Be not afraied, ye beastes of the field: for y^e pastures of the wildernes are grene: for the tre beareth her fruite: the figre and the vine do giue their force.

23 Be glad the, ye children of Zi^on, and reioyce in the Lord your God: for he hath giuen you the rayne of righteousness, * and he wil cause to come downe for you the raine, euen the first raine, and the late raine in the first moneth.

24 And the barnes shalbe ful of wheat, and the presses shal abounde with wine and oyle.

25 And I wil render you the yeres that the grasshopper hath eaten, the canker worme and the caterpillar and the palmer worme, my great hoste which I sent among you.

26 So you shal eat and be satisfied & praise the Name of the Lord your God, that hath delt marueilously with you: and my people shal neuer be ashamed.

27 Ye shal also knowe, that I am in the middes of Israél, and that I am the Lord your God and none other, and my people shal neuer be ashamed.

28 And afterwarde wil I power^q out my Spirit vpon all flesh: and your sonnes and your daughters shal prophesie: your olde

l That is all haue sinned, so all maie the we forthe signes of their repentance, that men being the children, which are now fre from Gods wrath, might be the more liuely touched with the consideration of their owne sinnes Psal 79. 10. m If they repent, he sheweth that God wil preferre & defende them with a most ardent affection.

n That is, the Assyrians your enemies o Called the salt sea, or Persian sea: meaning y^e though his armie were so great, y^e it filled all fro this sea to the sea called mediterraneum, yet he wolde scatter them.

p That is, such as shal come by iuste measure & as was wont to be sent whē God was recciled with the. Leu. 26. 4. deub. 11. 14.

q That is, in greater abundance and more generally then in time past: and this was fulfilled vnder Christ, when as Gods graces, and his Spirit vnder the Gospel was abundantly giuen to y^e Church, Isa. 44. 3. 48. 2. 17. ioh. 7. 38.

The day of the Lord.

Ioél. The haruest ripe.

^r As they had visions, and dreames in old time, so shal they now haue clearer reuelations
^f He warneth faithful what terrible things shulde come, to the intent that they shulde not loke for continual quietnes in this worlde, & yet in all these troubles he wolde preferre them.
^t The order of nature shal seme to be charged for y^e horrible afflictions that shal be in the worlde, Isa. 13, 10 ezek 32, 7. chap 3, 15. mat 24, 29 u Gods iudgements are for the destruction of the infidels, and to moue the godlie to call vpon the Name of God, who wil giue them saluation. x Meaning hereby the Gentiles, Rom 10, 13

men shal di come & dreames, & your yong men shal se visions,
 29 And also vpon the seruants, and vpon the maides in those daies wil I powre my Spirit.
 30 And I wil shewe wonders in the heauens and in the earth: blood and fyre, and pillars of smoke.
 31 The sunne shalbe turned into darknes, & the moone into blood, before the great and terrible daie of the Lord come.
 32 But whosoever shal call vpon the Name of the Lord, shal be sauéd: for in mount Ziön, and in Ierusalém shal be deliuerance, as the Lord hathe said, and in the remnant, whome the Lord shal call.

CHAP. III.

Of the iudgements of God against the enemies of his people.

^a When I shal deliuer my Church, & stablish the Jewes, and of the Gentiles.
^b It appeareth that he assurde to that great victorie of Iehoshaphat, when as God without mans helpe destroyed the enemies, 2 Kin 20, 26 also he hath resp^d to this worde, Iehoshaphat, which signifieth pleading or iudgement, because God wolde iudge the enemies of his Church as he did there.
^c That which serueth as a gate for the sale of my people, he bestowed it vpon harlots and drinke.
^d He taketh cause of his Church in had against y^e enemy, as though the iniurie were done to himselfe.
^e Haue I done you wrong, that ye wil render me the like?

For beholde, in those daies and in y^e time, whē I shal bring againe the captiuitie of Iudáh and Ierusalém,
 2 I wil also gather all nations, and wil bring them downe into the vallei of Iehoshaphat, and wil plead with hē there for my people, and for mine heritage I sraél, whome thei haue scattered among the nations, and parted my land.
 3 And thei haue cast lottes for my people, & haue giuen the childe for the harlot, & sold the girle for wine, that they might drinke.
 4 Yea, & what haue you to do with me, o Tyrus & Zidon and all the coastes of Palestina? wil ye render me a recompense? and if ye recompense me, swiftly & speedely, wil I render your recompense vpon your head:
 5 For ye haue taken my siluer and my gold, and haue caryed into your temples my goodlie & pleasant things.
 6 The children also of Iudáh and the children of Ierusalém haue you sold vnto y^e Grecians, that ye might send them farre from their border.
 7 Beholde, I wil raise them out of the place where ye haue sold them, and wil render your rewarde vpon your owne head,
 8 And I wil sell your sonnes and your daughters into the hand of the children

of Iudáh, and thei shal sell them to the Sabians, to a people faire of: for the Lord himselfe hathe spoken it.

10 Publish this among the Gentiles: prepare warre, wake vp the mightie men: let all the men of warre drawe nere & come vp.
 11 Breake your plowshares into swordes, and your sickles into speares: let the weakes saie, I am strong.
 12 Assemble your selues, and come all ye heathen and gather your selues together rounde about: there shal y^e Lord cast downe thy mightie men.
 13 Let the heathen be wakened, and come vp to the vallei of Iehoshaphat: for there wil I sit to iudge all the heathen rounde about.
 14 Put in your sickles, for the haruest is ripe: come, get you downe, for y^e winepresse is full: yea, the winepresses runne ouer, for their wickednes is great.
 15 O multitude, o multitude, come into the vallei of threshing: for the daie of the Lord is nere in the vallei of threshing.
 16 The sunne and moone shalbe darkened, and the starres shal withdrawe their light.
 17 The Lord also shal roare out of Ziön, and vtter his voice from Ierusalém, & the heauens, and the earth shal shake, but the Lord wil be the hope of his people, and y^e strength of the children of I sraél.
 18 So shal ye knowe that I am y^e Lord your God dwelling in Ziön, mine holie Mountaine: then shal Ierusalém be holy, & thei shal no strangers goe thowen her any more.
 19 And in that daie shal the mountaines droppe downe newe wine, and the hilles shal flowe with milke, and all the riuers of Iudáh shal runne with waters, and a fountaine shal come forth of the House of the Lord, and shal watter the valley of Shittim.
 20 Egypt shalbe waste, and Edóm shalbe a desolate wildernes, for the iniuries of the children of Iudáh, because thei haue shed innocent blood in their land.
 21 But Iudáh shal dwell for euer, and Ierusalém from generacion to generacion.
 22 For I wil cleanse their blood, that I haue not cleansed, and the Lord wil dwell in Ziön.

^f For afterwards God sold the by Nebuchad-nazzar, and Alexander the great, for the louche bare to his people, and thereby they were comforted as though y^e price had bene theirs.
^g Whē I shal execute my iudgements against mine enemies, I wil cause euery one to be ready, and to prepare their weapons to destroy one another, for my Church sake.
^h This he shal encourage the enemies, when their wickednes is full ripe to destroy one another, which he calleth the valley of Gods iudgement.
ⁱ God assureth his against all troubles, that when he destroyeth his enemies, his children shalbe deliuered.
^k The strangers shal no more destroy his Church: if thei do, it is the people by their finnes make the breach for the enemy.
^l He promyseth to his Church abundance of graces, read Ezech 47, 1 which shulde watter and comfort y^e moste barren places, Amos. 9, 13.
^m The malicious enemies shal haue no parte of this grace.
ⁿ He had suffred his Church in her to lye in their filchines, but now he promyseth to cleanse them and to make them pure vnto him.