

The 12 Minor Prophets

“The Lord Saves those who Seek Him” - Joel 1-2
Sunday, September 30, 2012

INTRODUCTION

The Lord Saves those who Seek Him (Chapters 1-2)

A. Judgment Against His People (Chapter 1)

1. Locusts are just a foretaste (**vv.1-4**)
 - a) Birth pangs
 - (1) Natural disaster vs. Coming army
 - (2) Locusts destroying the crops and land...but it doesn't compare to the day of the Lord
 - b) A result of sin
 - (1) This is not always the case when tragedy befalls a people
 - (2) Sometimes it is...in this case, it is
2. Removal of blessing & provision (**vv.5-12**)
 - a) Use of food
 - b) Commerce affected
 - c) Religious practice affected
3. Judgment to capture the heart of His people (**vv.13-20**)
 - a) Call to pray
 - b) Call to lament
 - c) Call to return (personal relationship of the people with their God)

B. The Coming Day of the Lord (Chapter 2)

1. Imminent (**vv.1-11**)
 - a) “Afterward...all flesh”
 - b) Christ's Return
 - (1) It's coming
 - (2) **Mk. 13:24; Lk. 21:25; Rev. 6:12, 17; 9:2**
 - c) Apostolic Ministry
 - (1) It's begun
 - (2) **Acts 2:16-21, 33, 38-40**
 - (3) Shapes our understanding of Revelation (preterist / futurist)
2. Opportunity to Return...the Mercy of the Lord (**vv. 12-27**)
 - a) Mercy extended
 - b) God's covenant promise kept (perfect timing)
 - (1) God's justice satisfied
 - (2) God's grace extended
3. Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved (**vv.28-32**)
 - a) Whom?
 - (1) “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord”
 - (a) Everyone who calls has been called (“...whom the Lord calls.”)
 - (b) Marked by Repentance
 - (2) Jew and Gentile
 - (3) **Romans 10:12-13**
 - (4) Based on...

- (a) Justification
 - (b) **Isaiah 49:23 + Joel 2:26-27 = Romans 9:33**
 - (c) So, whom does the Lord save? He saves those who seek Him. Who are the seekers? Those who call on His name. Who are the called ones? Those whom the Lord has called to Himself in Holy love.
- b) From what?
 - (1) Enemies
 - (2) **2 Peter 1:3-4**
 - c) For what?
 - (1) Restoration
 - (2) Worship -- God calls / saves His people unto Himself
 - (3) Gives clarity to repentance
 - (4) **Joel 2:27**
 - d) What about those who do not call?
 - (1) Nations (**Chapter 3**)
 - (2) Judgment may begin with God's people, but it will not stop until God is vindicated
- 2. The seeker
 - a) Call on Him
 - b) The name of the Lord (Yahweh is the Lord)
 - c) This Lord will have a Day, and the steady thumping of natural disasters and wars reminds us of its imminence.

C. Response

- 1. The church
 - a) The Return of Christ (looking forward)
 - b) A.W. Pink: "The Christian who has stopped repenting has stopped growing."
 - (1) Pray
 - (2) Lament
 - (3) Return