

We've talked a little bit about how the day of the Lord has different meanings kind of throughout the book. It is not just a one time event. It's something that's happened in the past or something will happen again and there is also times or eschatological expectations of this day.

This morning, we were gonna talk about some of those future expectations of the day.

What the day of the Lord will look like.

We will see when we take a closer look as it is not just one thing that will happen in the future. There are different aspects of this day.

There is a future expectation of the Pentecost .

There's the future expectation negatively, and then there is the positive and our hope of the future future.

Turn with me to Joel 2:28-32

I. [Pentecost] The Day of the Lord refers to Pentecost (v. 28-29)

This passage will probably sound familiar to you.

Because this section of Joel is quoted by Peter at Pentecost.

Let us look closer at why.

Verse 1, **"and it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;"**

First let us look at the beginning phrase of when Joel says this will take place.

Because in Joel it is ambiguous.

It only says **"afterward"**

Some point after God restores what the locusts have eaten in Israel.

After that happens then there will be this miraculous pouring out of the Spirit.

This could be soon, it could be way later.

But later when Peter quotes this he says in Acts **"It shall be in the last days."**

The prophet Joel might not have know when exactly this would take place, but the apostle Peter did.

He lived it and knew they would come in the last days.

We typically think of the last days as only being Revelation and the end of the world.

But Scripturally, everything after Pentecost is the last days.

Because we are living in the last days of Scripture and waiting for the end.

But the significant thing that happens now is God promise to pour out His Spirit on all flesh.

This is new and has not always been the case.

The Holy Spirit has always been present since before creation.

But the Holy Spirit has not indwelt every Israelite or follower of God.

He appeared but only to select people.

So there are places throughout scripture where this happens, but it's almost always among particular people and it's notable that it happens.

The prophets might have the spirit

But it certainly isn't the average person that experiences this

Each instance seems to be noted in scripture.

Because it's rare.

There are other examples of this in scripture.

In Exodus 31:3 the Spirit of God filled Bezalel so he can build things for the Tabernacle.

The Spirit came upon many of the prophets like Gideon, Othniel, and Samson.

King Saul said to have the Holy Spirit come and descend upon him.

King David, and Ezekiel as well.

We see him descend on Moses.

In Numbers 11, Moses is having problems leading Israel and needs help.

So 70 elders are appointed by God.

And the Holy Spirit comes to rest on them.

And they even prophesy as proof of the Holy Spirit's presence.

There is a moment later in Numbers 11, where two men name Eldad and Medad begin to prophesy.

Joshua comes and tells Moses to stop them.

But Moses says **“would that all the LORD's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his Spirit on them.”**

This is exactly what God does at Pentecost.

There is a sense in which Joel is answering the prayers of Moses.

And Peter confirms God has said yes and amen.

You see the phrase to Joel uses is that the spirit will be poured out on all flesh.

It is not just that a little bit is taken to Moses and then gets sprinkled temporarily on a few elders.

That will give a little bit and we need to get in line.

It appears that it is being poured out in a great abundance

It is not a small trickle or a little bit of the Holy Spirit. It is a great rain.

Would you picture like a torrential downpour of rain.

That is the image that he is getting that is how much of the Holy Spirit we are getting so much that we would be full .

Verse 28, **“your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.”**

So does the young who are prophesying, dreaming dreams, and seeing visions.

All of these are things that were unique.

Not everybody was getting to have these.

Certainly not everyone is prophesying.

The people who prophesied were the prophets.

I mean, we do have other instances of prophecy happening, but it was for you and far between.

The 70 elders that Moses chose, and who were given part of the Holy Spirit actually prophesied.

King Saul was anointed and filled with the spirit he prophesied.

But those instances are the last time that they prophesy.
In the beginning to show that they are filled with the spirit and then it stops.
Because they don't get the gift of prophecy they're not gonna just continue prophesying. It just happens at the beginning.
And it's kind of a supernatural way for the world to know that the Holy Spirit has come here.
And now everything is going to change.

So the same thing is going to happen again.
It is also that they will dream dreams.
It doesn't appear to just mean any kind of dream.
But it is the supernatural dreams.
The kinds that come because of God.
It is the dream like the one that God gave to Pharaoh. That's so troubled him until he could find someone who could interpret the dream.
The dream of Jacob seeing the angels ascending and descending to heaven.
The dream God sent Abimelech to keep him from sleeping with Abraham's wife.
The dreams of Joseph seeing the future.
The dreams of Nebuchadnezzar then Daniel interprets.
Those are the dreams that will come and poured out.
They will not only be for kings in a few instances.
Now God's people will dream them.

And we also see the visions .
When we think of prophets, we might mostly think about them prophesying.
But a lot of the prophetic work was insane visions.
They saw things and then told them what their visions meant and what they say.
I think Ezekiel with the wheels and eyes.
You might think of Isaiah having the vision of the throne room of God.

Think about Daniel, having the vision of the statute made of a different pieces of symbolizing the empires and nations that were to come. God says these visions will now be for all of the people. This ability from God will now go to everyone. It is poured out on all.

Verse 29, **"Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit."**

He includes even the male and female servants.

Which is meant to say that everyone who is a part of my people is going to get this gift.

Even the servants.

Even those who think that they are on the edges.

Even though you think that they're not really as much of a part of God's people as everybody else.

Even those who may be tempted to think like us today well, I don't know if I'm really as much of a Christian as everyone else I am just barely inside the kingdom.

Even to them the abundance of the spirit comes.

We see places in the book of Acts where servants and slaves are Christians.

The young woman leading the prayer when Peter escapes prison.

The slave who escapes from Philemon.

The spirit comes to the young to the old to the male into the female.

Women are not excluded from the pouring out of God spirit.

Women get to experience the exact amount of the Holy Spirit as men do.

And you get to experience the same amount of the Holy Spirit as the prophets have gone before you did.

We know that there were women who prophesied before, but it was very rare.

Isaiah's wife seems to have been a prophetess.

Anna was a prophet who was waiting for Jesus.
Miriam, Deborah, Huldah are others.
But now it seems that will be more common.
It will not just be a few select women who are really special and really full of faith.
It is now all the daughters of God have this spirit report on them.

This really is fulfilled largely at Pentecost.
When the Holy Spirit descends from heaven and hangs over the heads of those in the upper room like Tongues of Fire.
And not just the 12 apostles for the 12 disciples who were gather their male and female.
And they all go out and they preach and they speak in tongues.
They're not just babbling nonsense, but they're preaching proclaim the gospel in the languages of the other nations of peoples tongues. They don't know how to speak.
Supernaturally this has been able to happen.

It has evidence of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit.
It is not just the apostles who got the Holy Spirit it was everyone who was up there.
Not just the 12, but the 120.
And all the women who were there go and tell the nations of Christ.
And this pouring out of the Holy Spirit continues and it's one of the main ideas and themes and conflict in the book of acts.
Because God also pours out his spirit on the female servants and the male servants, and on the gentiles.

The gentiles are filled with the Holy Spirit.
Part of what happens repeatedly in the book of Acts when they filled the Holy Spirit they begin to speak in tongues.
One of the reasons they do that as a sign and a signal that the Holy Spirit truly has filled them.
They received the same thing as Peter and David and Moses.

The Holy Spirit is not for the elite or for a few it is poured out on all of us. This is a wonder and a blessing, and it is something that we can overlook and forget.

If you are a follower of Jesus, if you have put your faith in Jesus, if you have given yourself over to him and you have been baptized in water, you have also been baptized into the Holy Spirit.

He has made you alive.

He has taken out your heart of stone and given you a heart of flesh.

He is whispering to you throughout your day

It is His voice that you hear guide you as a lead you to pray.

It is His voice that you hear trying to pull you back away from temptation and sin.

The Holy Spirit who strengthen you.

Is the Holy Spirit who illuminates an open up your eyes and your heart and your ears so that I am preaching now you can actually hear it and you can listen to it and can change you.

Not because of the particular talent that I have because of the Holy Spirit is working and moving through the proclamation of God's word and the working of the Holy Spirit in your heart.

You have the Holy Spirit.

You do.

That is a profound gift.

That is something that unless you come from a Pentecostal or more charismatic background, you might overlook in much of your life.

But you shouldn't.

Because the Holy Spirit has been poured out on you.

You get to live and see fully with Joel only got a glimpse of.

And so part of the day, the Lord was in reference to this miraculous time and future, and our past when the Holy Spirit would descend and support out on God's people.

But we noticed in the next couple of verses, not everything that was promised in the future future came true on the day of Pentecost. There are some things we are still waiting for.

II. The day of the Lord refers to eschatological judgment (v. 30-31).

This is where we finally get the idea that the day of the Lord is a day of judgment.

It certainly seems to appear to an eschatological and times awesome day.

Now we use awesome just a ton in our everyday language.

And I'm not gonna complain about that or try to get everybody to change the way we talk because that's just a fruitless thing.

Most of the things that we describe pale in comparison to those that truly leave us shaking in awe.

But this is a day that will be filled with awe.

Verse 30, **"And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke."**

Look at the way described and verse 30

There will be wonders on the heavens and in the earth.

No, we've already been talking about wonders and miraculous things with the prophecy and dreams and visions.

But this kind of wonder is a whole other category.

This is the kind of wonder that happens over all of the earth.

These are the wonders in the heaven, and that are undeniable.

The word for wonder is used and two other places in the Old Testament, particularly.

One of them is an exodus chapter 11

When God says Pharaoh won't let you go so that my wonders shall be multiplied over Egypt.

The wonders of the plagues.

The wonders of the incredible hailstorm.

The wonder of the land being covered in total darkness, not for a little bit during an eclipse, but for days.

The wonder of the red sea being split so God's people escape, but pharaoh army is crushed and drowned.

The wonder of God's people being guided by a cloud of fire.

It's also used second Chronicles to describe the wonder that was done for Hezekiah.

And the prophet Isaiah asked Hezekiah what you wanted for a sign.

So the wonder that God performed sent the Sun backwards and changed the orbits of the cosmos for a few moments.

The wonders that are to be expected in this awesome day the Lord are unbelievable wonders.

They are wonders in the heavens on the Earth and blood and fire and columns of smoke.

Wonders like the Nile running red with blood.

Wonders like the cloud of fire.

Wonders like the fire that Elijah called down from heaven to light the sacrifice.

They are wonders like the thunder and lightning surrounding Mount Sinai Moses ascended to talk to the Lord.

These are the wonders we should expect to see again.

Verse 31, **"The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes."**

It describes two incredible things the sun being turned into darkness, and the moon being turned to blood.

We talk about blood moons for a minute.

Every now and then I see some preacher or some Internet prophet start talking about blood moons because it means about to get a little red.

Each lunar eclipse they have a new idea of prophecy.

They will come and they will point to the scripture and see this is a sign of the end.

And they usually have some idea interpretation of exactly what this means.

He knows it's predicting the war in Ukraine.

It's predicting something that's happening in Israel.
Maybe means the rapture and it's coming tomorrow.

Personally, I don't put much stock in any of those kinds of predictions.
If you come up to me and you start trying to talk to me about blood moons and what do you think it's gonna mean honestly I'm gonna stop listening.

I don't I don't take anyone who tries to chase too much.

What do you notice about what Joel says and how he describes these things.

Because Joel is not clear explicit about what these particular signs are.

OK, I don't think it means the sun will get dark a little bit.

We just had a crazy eclipse not that long ago.

I don't think that was the sign Joel was talking about.

We've had the moon look a little red. I don't think that's what Joel was talking about either.

The kind of signs that Joel is about.

The kind of signs that will proceed God intervening and coming into the world for the awesome and final day of the Lord are going to be clear.

This is one of the traps and problems that we can fall into when it comes to talking about eschatology or talking about the end times or what to come.

There are different valid interpretations, and different valid ideas about what will look like and how it will look.

I think that when God fulfill his word.

When the prophecies come to pass, whether it is the messianic prophecies with Joel's prophecies that we've been reading about this morning. The prophecies of the prophets.

When it happens, it's usually an unexpected way and it's undeniable.

It is undeniable, and it is obvious to everyone who sees it.

I don't think you need to keep up with NASA to see what the moon is doing.

I don't think you need to go buy some books or listen to some preacher on YouTube to listen to what you have to know so you can be ready when that comes.

This will be awesome and you will miss not be able to it.

It seems to be clear so you won't have to be warned or you're not gonna have to know that you're gonna be able to look your eyes and see it now.

And because you have the Holy Spirit living inside of you Jesus will allow you to understand that this one is it.

He will illuminate our hearts and eyes and help us know when the true end is coming.

There are always a few Christians over here that are always loud and telling us this is it this is the end.

When that day comes, I all believers will be on the same page.

This is the awesome day of the Lord.

What we are meant to see here though, is that the Day of the Lord is not always great news.

Even for the believer it should be a little worrying.

The reformer John Calvin said that God isn't intending to threaten us here, but he's trying to warn us less we deceive ourselves with empty dreams were expect what is never to be that is to enjoy a happy rest in this world."

What means is that we are to understand and to know that the day of the Lord will be awesome and will be terrifying.

There is hardship still ahead of us in this life.

I just love the ending of verse 31

"Before the great day and awesome of the Lord comes"

Before the day of our salvation.

Before the time that Jesus will return, there will be horrible things that will come.

There will be horrible things in the world.
There will be much worse than the horrors that we have seen with hurricanes, tornados, or crazy weather events.
These are only a taste of the wonders to come.
But the day of the Lord will be awesome.
Be ready and be expectant.

III. The day of the lord refers to redemption (v. 32).

The Lord is about our redemption.
This is one of the beauties of her passage and one of the beauties of God's word.
The day that God shows up and moves mightily is usually two things.
There is justice and judgment towards sinners, and the reserve redemption and salvation for God's people for those who put their faith in him.

Verse 32, **"And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls."**

Everyone who calls on God will be saved
Everyone
This really is the gospel.
Anyone who calls on Jesus. Anyone who is looking to Jesus.
Anyone who is counting on Jesus and Jesus alone for their salvation.

Because calling isn't just like ringing up in your phone.
Is desperate cry out of help help save me, Jesus.
Everyone who cries after Jesus will be safe

How can we endure? How can we be safe when these great things come against us when these wonders and an awesome day of the Lord comes.
How can we be safe when death looms over us waiting to eat us?

We can be safe of the Lord
Whoever calls shall be saved
Or salvation depends on us.
Our salvation does not depend on our works on our holiness or on our awesomeness
Our salvation depends on our faith.
Your salvation depends on if we will call in the name of Jesus or not

The second half of 32 seems to be referring to those Jerusalem.
Remember Joel and part of this is probably about a terrible fate that is creating and coming towards them.
Israel is like someone tied to a railroad track and the train is coming.
The judgment is hurling towards them, and he is going to decimate them.
But God is promising that any who call out and who are asking for mercy and coming in faith will find salvation.
And they will get to escape.
The punished nation may go to exile, and the nation of Israel may be decimated, but there will be a remnant.

So we should call on the Lord!
How can we do this?
You call on the Lord by praying and asking Him for forgiveness for your sins.
You call by asking Him to pour out the Holy Spirit on you.
You call by asking for new life and redemption.
You call by believing He alone is the one who can save you from sins and death.
And only those who call on Christ will be saved.

"Among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls."

There will be the Lord calls.
Is this dueling idea.
We call upon the Lord for salvation. He also calls us to come to be His.
We can only call because He calls us first.

This is a repeated my idea of the idea of a remnant and some were left.
The nation of Israel may be sinful and may be unrepentant and may face judgment, but there will be some who are facial.
There will be some hold fast and stand firm, and God will protect them.

We should take comfort in that as we live in Babylon.
We do not live in God's country.
And that final judgment will come it'll come on our own nation and will come among the whole world.
And if we want to endure, then we need to call upon the name of the Lord.

This number is not always big.
The number of those who are in the church and who are in the people of God, it's not always a big number.
The way to death and destruction is wide and many go on it but the path to salvation is narrow and only comes through Christ.

We should be on the narrow path.
If we take nothing else from this passage.
We should take that we need to call upon the name of the Lord to be saved.
We need to call him to be saved from the judgment of hell and punishment.

We also should call Him to be safe from whatever judgment may becoming towards us.
We would we would look and say, even if those people who don't call Jesus.
Even if those people who are not walking with Jesus, and they profess the name of Jesus, don't want to repent.
Even if it is the unpopular thing to do, even if everyone thinks that I am a total fool

We will be among the Jesus.

There is a lot of disappointment in this life.

Those who call up on Jesus Jesus will never be disappointed in the end.

Ever.

All those all up on God will be saved.

Call upon Him.

CONCLUSION:

Where have we been this morning?

The day of the Lord refers to Pentecost, eschatological judgment, and coming redemption.

The redemption of Jesus has already come.

And the consumption of it is coming soon.

If you want to receive it, call upon the name of the Lord.

For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.