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Introduction

Global warming. It's everywhere at the moment, isn't it? More and more experts from the scientific community are warning us that unless we change our ways, unless we reduce our carbon footprint, unless we cut back on greenhouse producing gases then we have an ecological disaster just around the corner. Waiting to happen. To pounce on our children or our grand children's lives, that will change them for ever.

The atmosphere will gradually heat up. The temperatures will slowly but surely rise. The ground will become more arid and less open to crops. The ice caps will melt and that will mean the sea levels across the globe will rise and flood the lower lying regions where millions of people live. It could well be catastrophe on a global level.

Now the first voices raising the prospect of global warming was considered alarmists. Extremists even. But as scientific report after scientific report hit the headlines, it became more and more obvious, if we do nothing, something will happen. So we do need to reduce our dependence upon fossil fuels. We do need to change the ways that we are doing things. We do need to listen to the prophetic voices that are around us and use this warning as a wake up call.

And thus we find ourselves in a similar situation to the people of God in Joel's time. For last week we heard about the ecological devastation that confronted the people of Israel. But it wasn't from global warming or from war or famine, it was from locusts. The locusts had come from the north says, Joel chapter 2 and soon they would destroy everything, reduce everything to nothing.

1. Reduce. (verses 1-11)

So blow the trumpet amongst God's people, says verse 1. Look at the horizon says verse 2. Like the dawn spreading across the mountains, the locusts are coming. Like a mighty army they devour everything in its path. They move in formation like a well trained cavalry. They climb every mountain. They ford every stream. They travel every byway. And they turn each face pale.

Because every time you kill one, there are ten more to fill its place. Besides there is no place to hide, for they can come in through windows, under doors, find a way to squeeze their bodies into the silos, into the grain houses, into any nook and cranny. They are just about to take everything. Everything that you currently have to eat now. Everything that would be produced in the next crop. Even the seeds that are needed for next years crop. All will be eaten. Leaving nothing in its wake.

This is an unmitigated disaster. This is a tragedy of the highest level. This will cause death and destruction. But according to verse 1, it is also a warning. The day of the Lord is close at hand. The day when the locusts come is meant to remind us of the day when the Lord will come. For the destruction that is currently hitting the Jewish

people is just a foretaste of the destruction that will one day hit the whole world. When God says enough is enough. For justice must finally be done. And so he comes to judge the earth and to take those who have been faithful to a place where the locusts and sin and war and cancer and hatred can no longer destroy.

Thus this tragedy is a warning to God's people. Don't put your trust in food, in riches, in crops, in possessions. One day it will all fail you. Instead be ready for the Day of the Lord. Make sure your trust is fully in your Creator, your Saviour, your Lord, your God.

Jesus says something similar in the last week of his life, in Matthew 24. He says, *"You will hear of wars and rumours of wars, but see to it that you are not alarmed. Such things must happen, but the end is still to come. Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be famines and earthquakes in various places. All these are the beginning of birth pains. "Then you will be handed over to be persecuted and put to death, and you will be hated by all nations because of me.*

At that time many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved."

Both Joel and Jesus are saying that God speaks to you through the tough times, through the disaster, through the disappointments. They may reduce your joy. They may cause you untold stress and sadness. But God has not lost control. Why according to verse 11, he is actually at the head of this army of locusts. So evil is not completely running rampant. God is restraining this evil and seeking to bring out good even in the midst of tragedy.

So get ready. The day of the Lord is great. It is dreadful. No one will be able to endure it, *on their own*. So at the same time we need to prepare ourselves for global warming, we need to also ready ourselves for the Lord's second coming. And just as global warming requires a change of lifestyle, so the coming of the day of the Lord requires a change of Lord. We can no longer act as if we are the boss of this world and of our world.

This is the prophetic word for God's world, in Joel's time as well as our own. Scientists are calling out for changes due to global warming, can we be any less evangelistic and call for changes due to God's warnings? We in the Church are not just to be part of the status quo. We are to call our people and our nation back to God. To be ready. Ready for what God has promised to do next.

This is not just the prophets duty, it is the Church's duty. As we meet people at school, at work, at university, in our community, we are to help people understand how God is working even through the tragedies of our day, calling us to be ready. As the former president of Zambia, Kenneth Kaunda once said, *"What a nation needs is not so much a Christian ruler on the throne, but a Christian prophet in the palace."* You and I may at one time be called to be that prophet. So get ready and

2. Return (verse 12 -17)

Return to God, says Joel with all your heart. Fast, weep, mourn for your sins. Even now there is a chance that God might change the whole situation. Even now, God might put that day off so that more people are ready. Even now it is not too late.

For God is a gracious God. God is a God of compassion. God is slow to anger. God is abounding in steadfast love. God doesn't want to send calamity. God would prefer to send blessings rather than judgement. Look at your experience of God in the past says Joel. Look at God's character. Look how he made you, how he has sent prophets, priests, leaders and kings to help you to return to Him again and again and again. God doesn't give up on you. In the words of one writer he truly is the hound of heaven. So the basis of this eleventh hour hope of forgiveness is not merely human optimism, it is grounded in the wonderful character of God.

But your return has to be serious. It can't afford to be half hearted. It has to be with all your heart. So often today when we desire to return to the Lord, or give our hearts to Him, we want to keep part of our heart for ourselves. So often we make the mistake of thinking an outward show of repentance is enough, whereas God wants our heart to change, not just our outward expressions. So often we think that if we just pray the prayer of repentance, or say again the Lord's prayer, then that is all that is required.

But anything less than full repentance is not good enough. Anything less than putting God first, means putting God last. I was talking to Samuel about this recently, as we were discussing what was more important, soccer or God? And Samuel ended up by saying to me, "that's really hard Dad, to put God before soccer, isn't it?"

And it is! It's hard to put God before family, money, success, pride, friendship. But this is what Joel is telling us this morn/evening, *return to God with all your heart*.

I read this week the story of a shoplifter who wrote to a department store one day and said, "I've just become a Christian, and I can't sleep at night because I feel guilty. So here's \$100 that I owe you." "Then he signs his name, and in a little postscript at the bottom he adds, "If I still can't sleep, I'll send you the rest."

Returning to God with all your heart is better illustrated by what happened during the Ulster revival of 1920 where a man stood and confessed stealing tools from the local factory. Hearing his testimony, so many repented that day that the company had to build new sheds to house all the returned equipment. That is true revival! Repentance is a complete turn around, turning away from sin, and turning completely to God.

It also involves coming together with the rest of God's people. So verse 15 tells God's people to blow the trumpet, declare a holy fast, call a sacred assembly, gather the people together. This is so vital, so important that everyone should come. The elders should be there, even if it is difficult to walk anymore. The nursing mothers with their children on their breast, they shouldn't miss out. Not even those on their honeymoon are excused from this prayer meeting. Everyone must come.

They need to gather together as God's people. They should call upon God in prayer. They should remind God of his promises to his people. Of the fact that his reputation is linked to his people. And that for the sake of his holy name, he should not abandon

his people.

Have you ever wondered what might happen to the Church, what might happen to our nation if we did just that? If we turned to him with all our hearts? If we met together in unity, and in prayer. If no matter what our circumstances were we were to put God and His worship first? What would happen? How would God change our current circumstances? *Who knows* says Joel? But the answer that comes in the next section is that God values that sort of repentance and honesty. God would answer that sort of prayer. God would send blessing rather than calamity.

Evangelist, D. L. Moody once said, *“I believe firmly that the moment our hearts are emptied of pride and selfishness and ambition and everything that is contrary to God’s law, the Holy Spirit will fill every corner of our hearts. But if we are full of pride and conceit and ambition and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God. We must be emptied before we can be filled.”* So if we were to do that together, I think we would see a mighty filling of our hearts and minds with the love and grace of God.

Robert Farrar Capon, in the book *Between Noon and Three*, said this: *You’re worried about permissiveness—about the way the preaching of grace seems to say it’s okay to do all kinds of terrible things as long as you just walk in afterward and take the free gift of God’s forgiveness. . . While you and I may be worried about seeming to give permission, Jesus apparently wasn’t. He wasn’t afraid of giving the prodigal son a kiss instead of a lecture, a party instead of probation; and he proved that by bringing in the elder brother at the end of the story and having him raise pretty much the same objections you do. He’s angry about the party. He complains that his father is lowering standards and ignoring virtue—that music, dancing, and a fatted calf are, in effect, just so many permissions to break the law. And to that, Jesus has the father say only one thing: “Cut that out! We’re not playing good boys and bad boys any more. Your brother was dead and he’s alive again. The name of the game from now on is resurrection, not bookkeeping.”* I wonder if we really understand this today. The name of the game is not bookkeeping, its God’s grace given to us through Jesus.

3. Be ready, Return and in verses 18 to 27, Restore.

For the Lord does see their repentance. And the Lord does hear their prayer. And the Lord does take pity on his people. So he does drive the locusts out of the land. He sends a wind that drives them out to sea before the billions of insects get washed up on the coast, along with an almighty stench. He does intervene and send his people new wine, new grain, new oil, when circumstances would expect that there would be none.

He does bring them back their joy and their rejoicing. He sends the early rains to prepare the ground for planting and the late rains, to bring them to a full harvest. So soon, the pain is replace with gladness, the hunger with filled stomachs, the loss with fullness. God restores the status quo to his people, as a result of their prayers.

But do you notice that he does more than just restore the status quo. He promises to repay them for the years that the locusts have eaten. He promises to give back to them what they has lost. None of us can “turn back the clock” and reverse the errors of our

past. But God through His Son Jesus promises a new beginning. "I will restore the years the locust have devoured." That's God's promise!

Oswald Chambers says in the December 31st devotional from MY UTMOST FOR HIS HIGHEST: "Our yesterdays hold broken and irreversible things for us. It is true that we have lost opportunities that will never return, but God can transform this destructive anxiety into a constructive thoughtfulness for the future. Let the past rest, but let it rest in the sweet embrace of Christ. Leave the broken, irreversible past in His hands, and step out into the invincible future with Him."

And Spurgeon put it this way, "You cannot have back your time, but there is a strange and wonderful way in which God can give back to you the wasted blessings, the unripened fruits of years over which you mourned.. It is a pity that they should have been locust eaten by your folly and negligence, but if they have been so, be not hopeless concerning them"

God's restoration is so wonderful, that he can redeem even the wasted. He can bring good out to the bad. He can show grace where there should be just punishment. God can change anything, that is handed over fully to Him. I have personally seen, lives turned inside out with drugs, become a testimony of our God can restore ones life completely. Marriages crumbling that have had new life when people have turned to God for help. Families transformed, when just one person decides enough is enough and turns to God in repentance. God steps in and restores the years that the locusts have eaten.

What guarantees have we got that this is not just a pipe dream? What proof do you and I have that this is not just in the same character as the tooth fairy or Father Christmas? Well if you like God says I will send you a deposit, guaranteeing the rest of my promises. You see I will not just restore, I will renew your life.

4. And that's what verses 28 to 32 are all about. *Afterwards, God says I will pour out my Spirit on all people. I will treat young and old, men and women, servants and freeman, Jew and Gentile all the same. They will dream dreams, they will see visions they will receive my revelation. Because everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.*

Everyone. Not just the good guys. Not just the girls with their lives altogether. Everyone. Who returns, everyone who repents, everyone who wants restoration and renewal, can have it. If they call on the name of the Lord. If they trust me with all of their heart. If they are willing to listen to the trumpet call that I am sending them now!

And then one day, the Day of Pentecost, Jesus disciples were meeting together. It was a few weeks after the very first Easter. They had seen Jesus death on the cross, where Jesus had taken the punishment for their sins. They had seen the resurrection from the grave where Jesus had defeated death, sin and the devil. And now they were waiting under Jesus command for some direction from God.

When down came the Spirit of God. On sons, on daughters, on young, on old, on slaves, on freeman, on men and on women. These people who had called on the name of the Lord, now received the Spirit of the Lord. The presence of the Lord. The power

of the Lord. God renewed these people. He committed himself to these people. He started living inside these people And he proved to all of Joel's readers that what he promised to do, he can deliver.

Friends, this promise is available to us as well as Joel's readers. The offer of renewal and restoration and a fresh start is these right before us now in God's open hand. Take it. Return to Him. Repent with all your heart. And these promises change from a written word into a spiritual power that is available every single day of your life. Call on the name of the Lord. Trust that God is speaking to you through both the good and the bad. Return to Him with all your heart. And you too will receive God's Spirit, God's presence, God's power and hence be equipped to handle anything this world throws at you.

Let me end with a story, a true story. In 1973 Gary Kildall wrote the first popular operating system for personal computers, named CP/M. Apparently in 1980, IBM approached Kildall about developing the operating system for IBM PCs. But Kildall snubbed IBM officials at a crucial meeting. The day IBM came calling, he chose to fly his new airplane.

So the frustrated IBM executives turned instead to Bill Gates, founder of a small software company called Microsoft, and his operating system named MS-DOS. Fourteen years later Bill Gates was worth eight billion dollars. And now Gates is the richest man in the world with a net worth of 52 Billion.

Of Kildall, who has since died, author Paul Carroll says, "He was a smart guy who didn't realize how big the operating system market would become." Someone came knocking and he didn't realise the magnitude of the offer.

Well God is knocking on our heart today. I wonder how we are going to respond? Our response can be as Kildall, or Gates. So what are we going to do? Are we going to listen and respond to god's warnings or keep our head in the sand and pretend nothing is going to happen?

*****b

Samuel - its hard to put God first isn't it?

Jemma - but its hard to be good Daddy.

*****c

D. L. Moody said, "I believe firmly that the moment our hearts are emptied of pride and selfishness and ambition and everything that is contrary to God's law, the Holy Spirit will fill every corner of our hearts.

But if we are full of pride and conceit and ambition and the world, there is no room for the Spirit of God. We must be emptied before we can be filled."

*****d

Car that Wouldn't Start

In a seminary mission's class, Herbert Jackson told how, as a new missionary, he was assigned a car that would not start without a push. After pondering his problem, he devised a plan. He went to the school near his home, got permission to take some children out of class, and had them push his car off. As he made his rounds, he could either park on a hill or leave the engine running. He used this ingenious procedure for two years. Ill health forced the Jackson family to leave, and a new missionary came to that station.

When Jackson proudly began to explain his arrangement for getting the car started, the new man began looking under the hood. Before the explanation was complete, the new missionary interrupted, "Why, Dr. Jackson, I believe the only trouble is this loose cable." He gave the cable a twist, stepped into the car, pushed the switch, and to Jackson's astonishment, the engine roared to life.

For two years needless trouble had become routine. The power was there all the time. Only a loose connection kept Jackson from putting that power to work.

J. B. Phillips paraphrases Ephesians 1:19-20, "How tremendous is the power available to us who believe in God." When we make firm our connection with God, his life and power flow through us.

*****e

A. J. Gordon, one of the founders of Gordon Conwell Divinity School, told of being out walking and looking across a field at a house. There beside the house was what looked like a man pumping furiously at one of those hand pumps. As Gordon watched, the man continued to pump at a tremendous rate; he seemed absolutely tireless, pumping on and on, up and down, without ever slowing in the slightest, much less stopping.

Truly it was a remarkable sight, so Gordon started to walk toward it. As he got closer, he could see it was not a man at the pump, but a wooden figure painted to look like a man. The arm that was pumping so rapidly was hinged at the elbow and the hand was wired to the pump handle. The water was pouring forth, but not because the figure was pumping it. You see, it was an artesian well, and the water was pumping the man!

When you see a man who is at work for God and producing results, recognize that it is the Holy Spirit working through him, not the man's efforts that are giving results. All he has to do—and all you have to do is keep your hand on the handle.

*****g

In his book titled *Why Revival Tarries*, Leonard Ravenhill makes the statement: "People who are not praying are straying; and preachers who are not praying are playing... We have many organizers, but few agonizers; many players and payers, few pray-ers; many singers, few clingers, lots of pastors, few wrestlers; many fears, few tears; much fashion, little passion; many interferers, few intercessors; many writers,

but few fighters. Failing here, we fail everywhere.”

*****h

Once there was a pastor who was such a golf addict that one Sunday he called in sick and went golfing instead. Two angels were above him on the golf course, discussing the situation. One angel said, “You just wait. I’m gonna punish him good for this.” The other angel just floated back to see what would happen. The pastor stepped up to the first tee where he promptly whacked the ball 300 yards straight down the middle of the fairway. Since he had never driven the ball more than 200 yards, he couldn’t believe it. Yet, there it was. And his luck continued. Long drives on every hole, perfect putting. By the ninth hole he was six under par and was playing near-perfect golf. The fellow was walking on air. He wound up with an amazing 61, about 30 strokes under his usual game. The one angel looked at the other and said, “Wait a minute. I thought you were going to punish him.” The other angel smiled and said, “That is punishment. I mean, who’s he gonna tell?”

Ah, heavenly punishment. If only it were all as pleasant as this. Today we will take a look at a fairly uncomfortable topic – God’s punishment. And I hope through it all that we will get a fresh glimpse of God’s mercy too. Turn with me to the book of Joel.

*****I

Robert Farrar Capon, in the book *Between Noon and Three*, said this: You’re worried about permissiveness—about the way the preaching of grace seems to say it’s okay to do all kinds of terrible things as long as you just walk in afterward and take the free gift of God’s forgiveness. . . While you and I may be worried about seeming to give permission, Jesus apparently wasn’t. He wasn’t afraid of giving the prodigal son a kiss instead of a lecture, a party instead of probation; and he proved that by bringing in the elder brother at the end of the story and having him raise pretty much the same objections you do. He’s angry about the party. He complains that his father is lowering standards and ignoring virtue—that music, dancing, and a fatted calf are, in effect, just so many permissions to break the law. And to that, Jesus has the father say only one thing: “Cut that out! We’re not playing good boys and bad boys any more. Your brother was dead and he’s alive again. The name of the game from now on is resurrection, not bookkeeping.”

*****j

INTRO: Since 1947, the *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* has depicted on its cover a Doomsday Clock

-The clock registers how close the world is to nuclear apocalypse, in the opinion of the editors

-They estimate it by placing the hands of the clock in relation to midnight

-On June 11, 1998 when India and Pakistan were menacing each other with nuclear tests, and the rest of the world failed to stop the spread of the weapons, the clock was moved forward 5 minutes, making it 9 minutes until 12.

-Only once since 1968 had the clock been moved so many minutes at once.

-There have been many books, movies, and TV shows that deal with the end of the world

-During the time that my parents were growing up, along with fire drills at school, they had to practice what they would do in the event of a nuclear attack from the Soviet Union.

-At different times, such as September 11th, or the recent Tsunamis we have worried about our physical safety, and the threat of destruction.

-These threats are possibilities that might or might not happen in our lifetime, and might or might not happen at all.

-As Christians, though, we should be much more concerned about a day that God has promised is coming. It's not a matter of "If", it's a matter of "when".

*****k

C.S. Lewis Chronicles of Narnia... great series of fantasy books... full of deep Christian imagery. In "The Silver Chair" Lewis depicts exactly the struggle we're talking about. In Narnia, there is a great lion named Aslan who Lewis portrays in the role of Jesus in Narnia.

-A girl named Jill bursts into an opening in the forest. She is very thirsty, and she sees a running stream close by. Even though she's dying of thirst, she doesn't rush into the stream and put her face in its refreshing current. Instead, she stands there in fear, because there is a large lion sitting on the ground just this side of the stream. It speaks to her:

"Are you not thirsty?" said the Lion.

"I'm Dying of thirst" said Jill.

"Then drink" said the lion.

"May I—Could I—would you mind going away while I do?" said Jill.

The Lion answered this only by a look and a very low growl. And as Jill gazed at its motionless bulk, she realized that she might as well have asked the whole mountain to move aside for her convenience. The delicious rippling noise of the stream was driving her nearly frantic.

"Will you promise not to—do anything to me, if I do come?" said Jill.

"I make no promise," said the Lion.

Jill was so thirsty now, that she had come a step closer without noticing it.

"Do you eat girls?" she said.

"I have swallowed up girls and boys, women and men, kings and emperors, cities and realms," said the Lion. It didn't say this as if it were boasting, not as if it were sorry, nor as if it were hungry. It just said it.

"I dare not come and drink," said Jill.

"Then you will die of thirst," said the Lion.

"Oh dear!" said Jill, coming another step nearer. "I suppose I must go and look for another stream then."

"There is no other stream." Said the Lion.

There are people who spend days and months and years of their lives absolutely dying to have the mercy of God; to drink at the stream of his love, the only place where there is real healing, but what holds them back is a great fear of what will happen.

-What guarantees do I have that repenting and turning to God is going to be to my advantage?

*****l

None of us can "turn back the clock" and reverse the errors of our past. I so appreciate what Nicky Gumbel's observation in one of his awesome Alpha talks. He reminds us that we all wish we could have a dress rehearsal for life. In a dress rehearsal you can make all the mistakes possible, but you then have the opportunity to "get it all right" in the actual performance. Nicky says, "Unfortunately that is not possible; from the moment we are born, we are all on stage." We can not reverse the mistakes of our

past, but Jesus promises us a new beginning, “I will restore the years the locust have devoured.”

*****m

I don't know if you've ever read through the 95 Theses, remember that document that Martin Luther nailed to the church door, containing those points that he made about what Christianity was really about. The first of those theses reads, “When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, “Repent,” he willed the entire life of believers to be one of repentance.” Sincere repentance is a process that is repeated over and over throughout your life.

*****n

Perhaps the most famous trials in history were known as the Nuremberg Trials, the trials of the Nazi war criminals of World War II. One of the masterminds of probably the worst of all concentration camps---Auschwitz---was Rudolf Hess. His trial was broadcast all over the world. During the trial witness after witness came forward to the stand to relive the worst atrocities known to mankind. Witness after witness told of the brutality, the killings, the fear, the gas chambers, the crematorium, and of Hess in the middle of it all.

As the trial came to a close, the day

of justice had come. On the day of the reading of the verdict, Rudolf Hess entered the room, awaiting his fate. The crowd and the media grew silent. The verdict came: GUILTY! As the verdict was read, weeping could be heard from different locations in the room. Some were silently crying, others openly weeping and wailing.

As the courtroom emptied, a reporter stopped one of the witnesses. He asked, "I can understand the emotion you must be feeling at this moment. Is it because justice has finally been served? Is it because now there is finally an end to the horror and the pain? Why is it that you are filled with such emotion?" The man stopped and looked long into the eyes of the reporter, and as he wiped his face he replied, "it has nothing to do with any of those. I weep because as I stood there looking into his eyes, I saw myself."

*****o

Now a Jewish person would read this and say “Wait a minute! This is the same thing that God did to the Egyptians in Exodus chapter ten! The locusts devoured everything in the country until there was nothing left in the land of Egypt!”

And God is saying “that's exactly what I'm going to do to you because of your sin! I'm sending my army of locusts to wake you up! You are experiencing the judgment of the Lord!”

*****p

In 2 Chronicles chapter 7, Solomon has just finished dedicating the new temple to the Lord. And in verse 13, listen to what the Lord tells him: ““When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, 14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land.” In other words, “as long as you have breath in your lungs and blood running through your veins, it's not too late to get forgiveness. It's not too late to get right with the Lord.” Turn to the Lord so that His gracious blessing can be restored.

*****q

It is also possible for people to try to repent in part rather than to repent completely. "The story is told of a shoplifter who writes to a department store and says, "I've just become a Christian, and I can't sleep at night because I feel guilty. So here's \$100 that I owe you."

"Then he signs his name, and in a little postscript at the bottom he adds, "If I still can't sleep, I'll send you the rest."

*****r

Repent of Sins—v.13—for there to be a true revival there must be Change, a returning to God. I read about the Ulster revival of 1920 where a man stood and confessed stealing tools from the local factory. So many repented in those services the company had to build new sheds to house all the returned equipment. That is true revival, repentance is a complete turn around, turning away from sin, and turning completely to God.

*****s

In most lives there are periods, which, as far as productive labor, happiness in our hearts, or worth to the kingdom of God are lost years. Joel cries out against these lost years in the life of his nation. He calls them, the years that the locust have eaten. Joel's message was called forth by a national calamity. Locust had stripped the land bare, nothing green was left untouched, all of the crops were destroyed. Famine, poverty, and misery quickly set up house keeping amidst the chaos that ensued. Such a time called for some sure word from the Lord, and Joel would be God's spokesman during this day.

*****t