

Be Disciplined

The Book of

Joel

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BibleStudyDownloads.org

Discipline

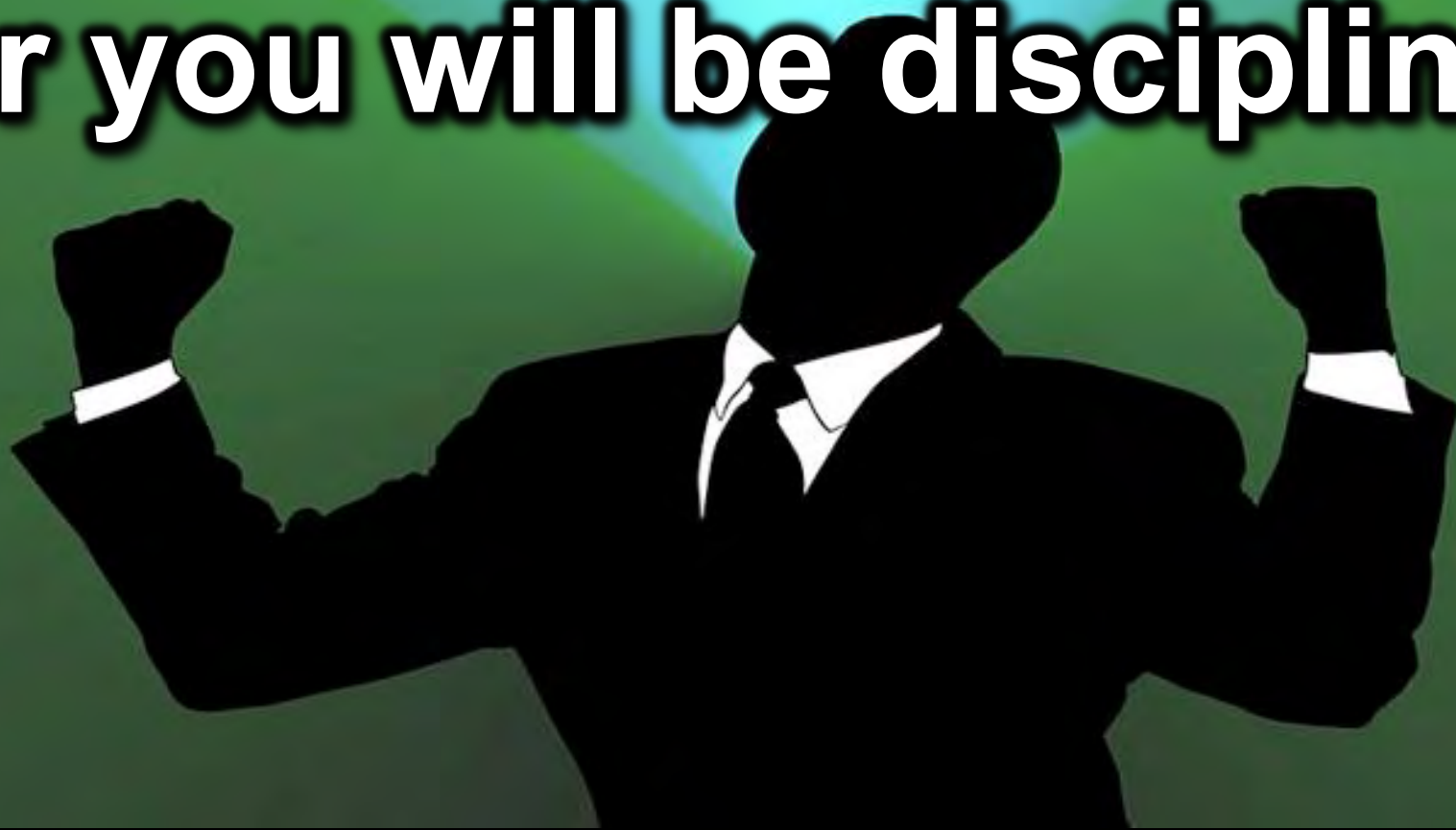


Discipline



Getty Images/monkeybusinessimages

**Be disciplined
or you will be disciplined.**





聽

tīng (listen)



The traditional Chinese character for "listen" consists of six radicals

耳

ěr (ear)

十

shí (ten)

一

yī (one)

王

wáng (king)

目

mù (eye)

心

xīn (heart)

**Wrap your ear
around the king**

**Focus on him with
10 humble eyes**

**Listen with one
undivided heart**

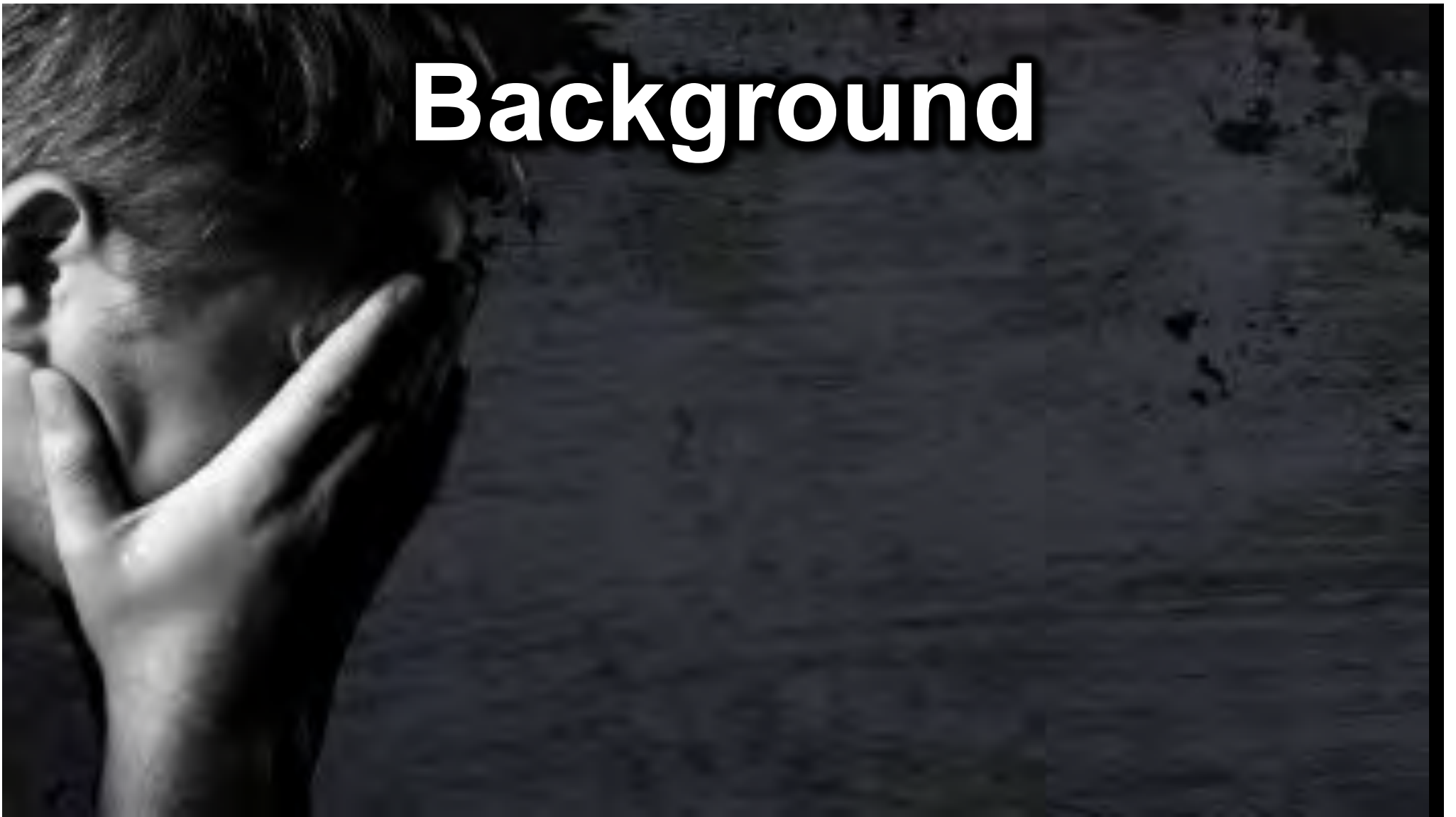
When we truly listen to someone, we treat them as a king or queen. A servant never interrupts the king, but wraps his ear around him, attending every word & facial expression with "ten eyes & one heart"

True listening gives the other person our full respect and undivided attention.

What should we do when
we are **disciplined**?



Background



Placing the Prophets

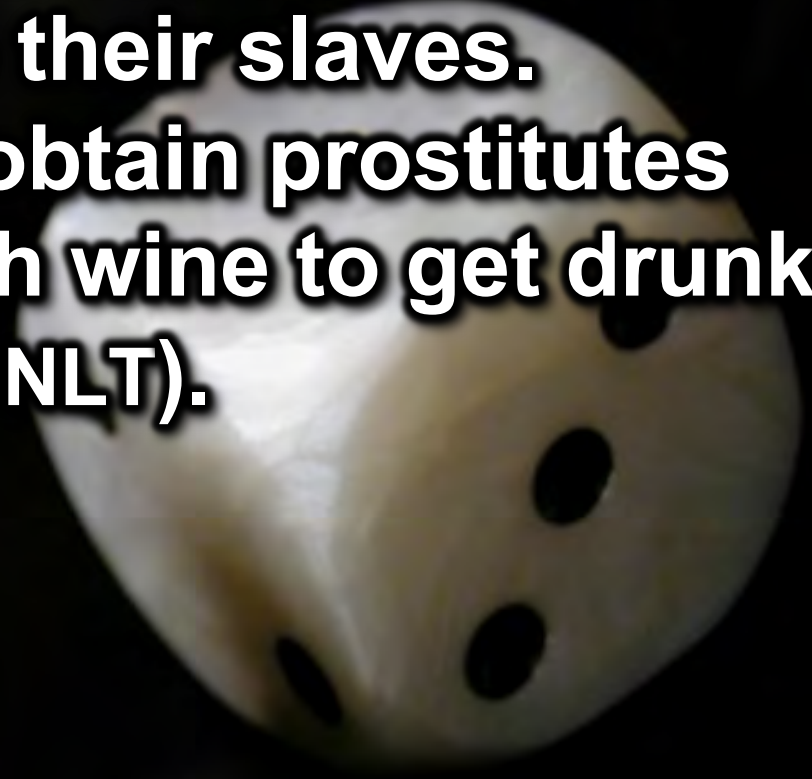
342

Key Dates



**"They threw dice to decide which of my
people would be their slaves.**

**They traded boys to obtain prostitutes
and sold girls for enough wine to get drunk"
(Joel 3:3 NLT).**



"What do you have against me, Tyre and Sidon and you cities of Philistia? Are you trying to take revenge on me? If you are, then watch out! I will strike swiftly and pay you back for everything you have done. ⁵You have taken my silver and gold and all my precious treasures, and have carried them off to your pagan temples" (Joel 3:4-5 NLT).

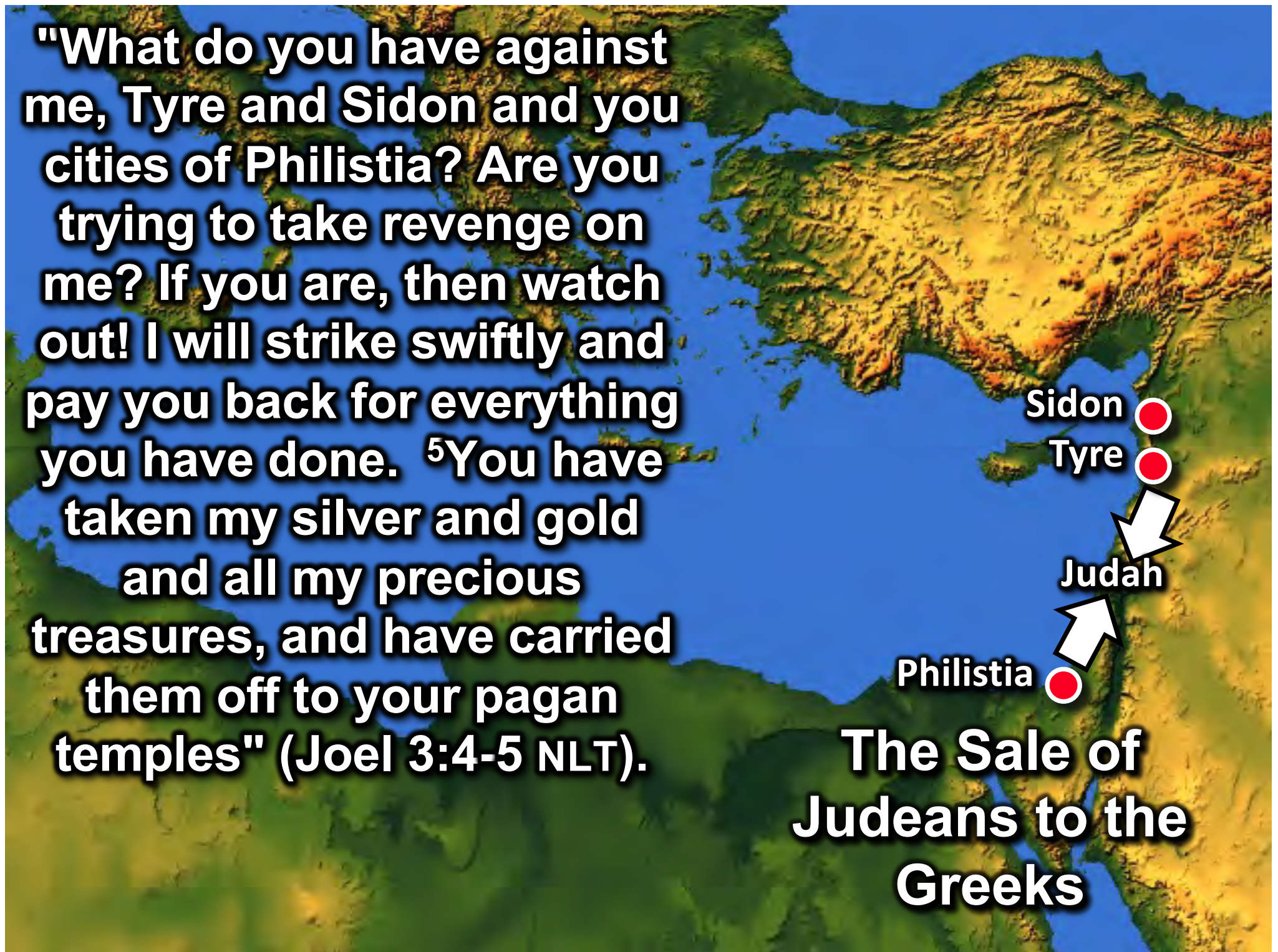
**The Sale of
Judeans to the
Greeks**

Sidon

Tyre

Judah

Philistia



"You have sold the people of Judah and Jerusalem to the Greeks, so they could take them far from their homeland" (Joel 3:6 NLT).

Greeks were not a strong power until around 600-500 BC so Joel probably has a later date

Greeks

Sidon

Tyre

Judah

Philistia

The Sale of Judeans to the Greeks



Jerusalem's Fall

232
342
560

Key Dates

627

Jeremiah

605

Daniel

597

Ezekiel

Jerusalem's
Fall

Zephaniah

630

Habakkuk

606

Joel

590

586

Lamentations

538

Joel Preached During King Nebuchadnezzar's Reign



A hand is holding a white rectangular card against a blue background. The card contains a list of two items. The first item is '1. What to do now' and the second item is '2. How this will turn out'. At the bottom of the card, it says '"TO DO" list for today'.

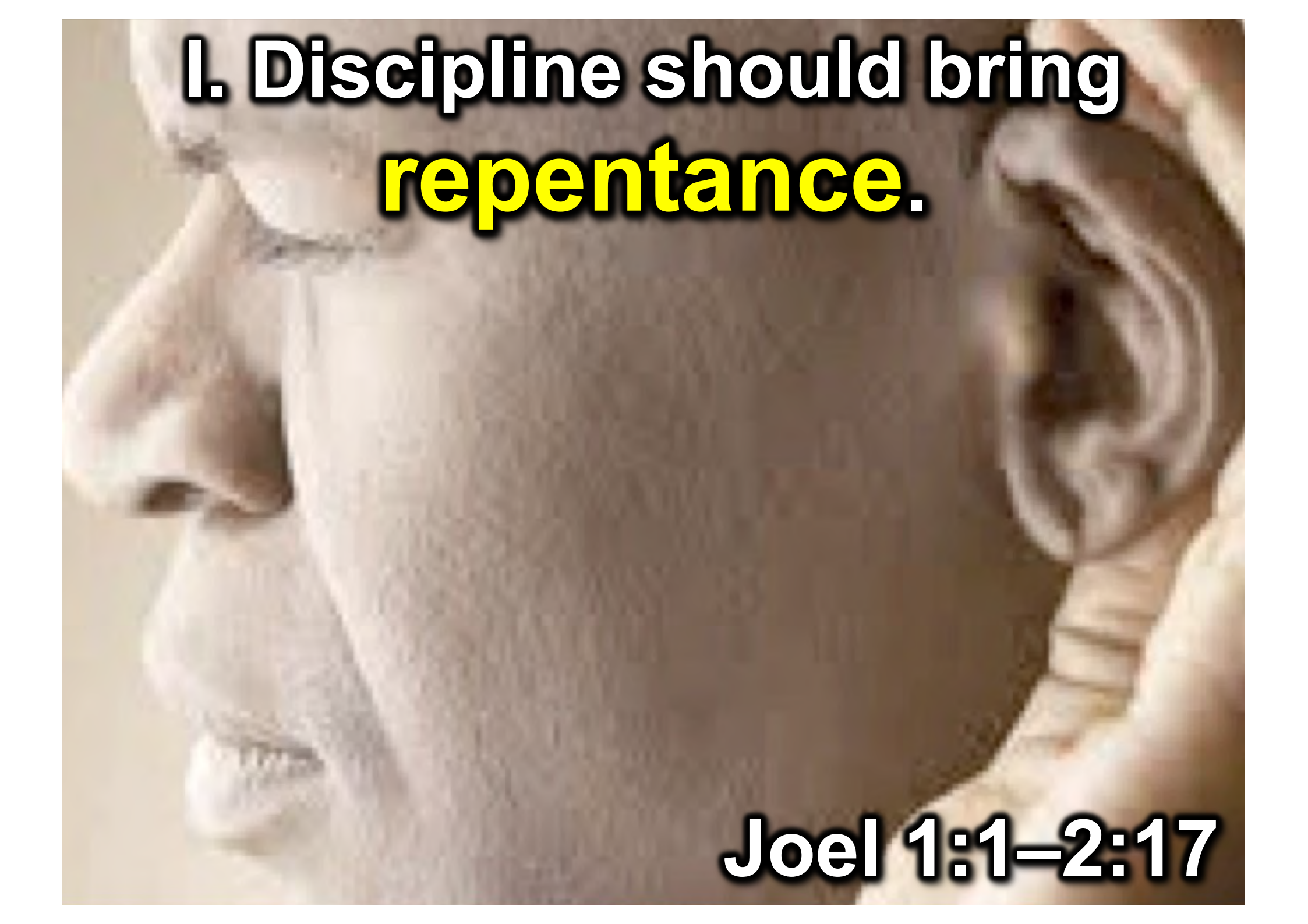
**1. What to do
now**

**2. How this will
turn out**

**"TO DO" list
for today**

What should we do when
we are **disciplined**?





**I. Discipline should bring
repentance.**

Joel 1:1–2:17

Joel

Devastation
1:1–2:17

Deliverance
2:18–3:21

Disasters 1:1-20

Invasion 2:1-17

Restoration 2:18-32

Judgment 3:1-16

Blessing 3:17-21

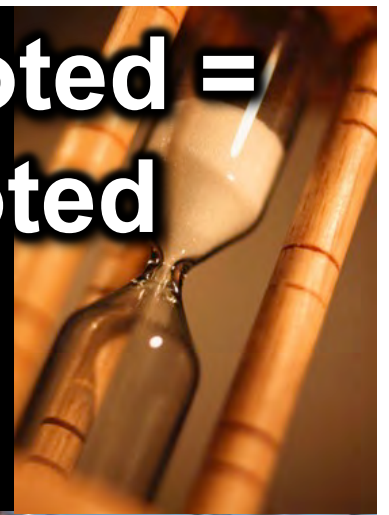
History

Prophecy

The Day of the LORD

Joel 1

No king noted =
no date noted



**"Tell them about
the locusts."**

**"The LORD gave this message
to Joel son of Pethuel"
(Joel 1:1 NLT).**

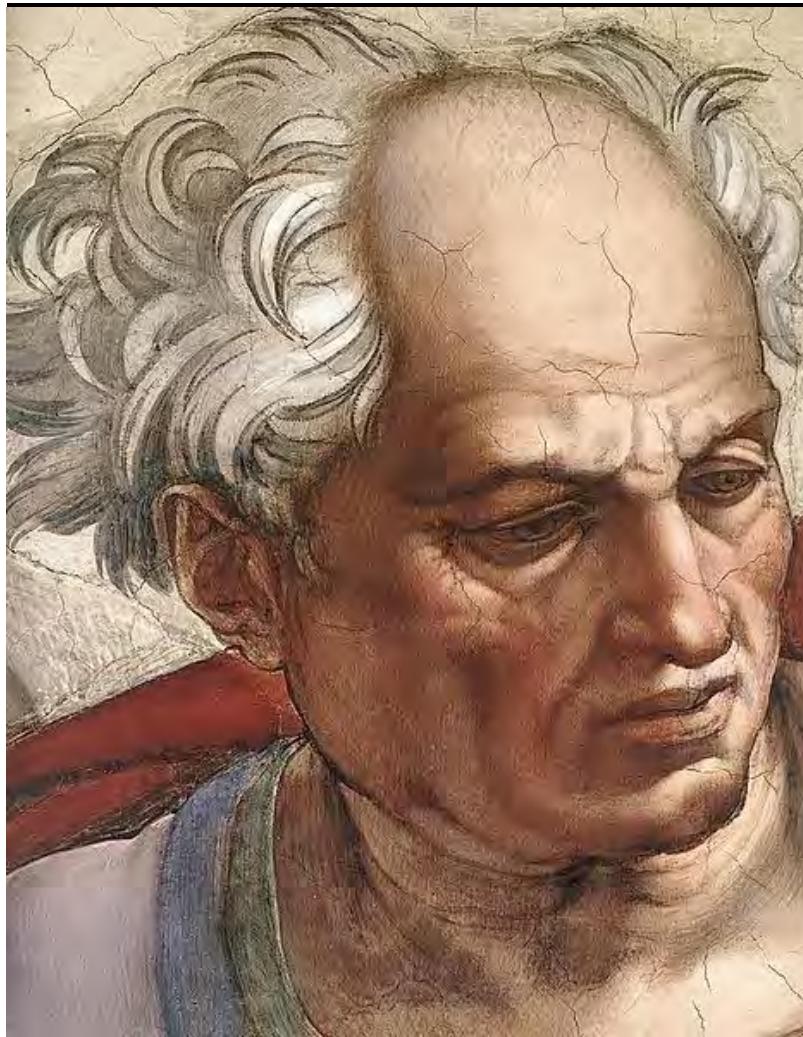
"OK."

The Name "Joel" = LORD God

"Jo" = *Jehovah* = LORD

"El" = *Elohim* = God





**"Hear this, you leaders of
the people.
Listen, all who live in the
land. In all your history,
has anything like this
happened before?
³Tell your children about it
in the years to come,
and let your children tell
their children.
Pass the story down from
generation to generation"
(Joel 1:2-3 NLT).**

Joel



- 1 **C**ry to avoid judgment
- 2 **R**eturn to God's blessing
- 3 **Y**ield to God's sovereignty

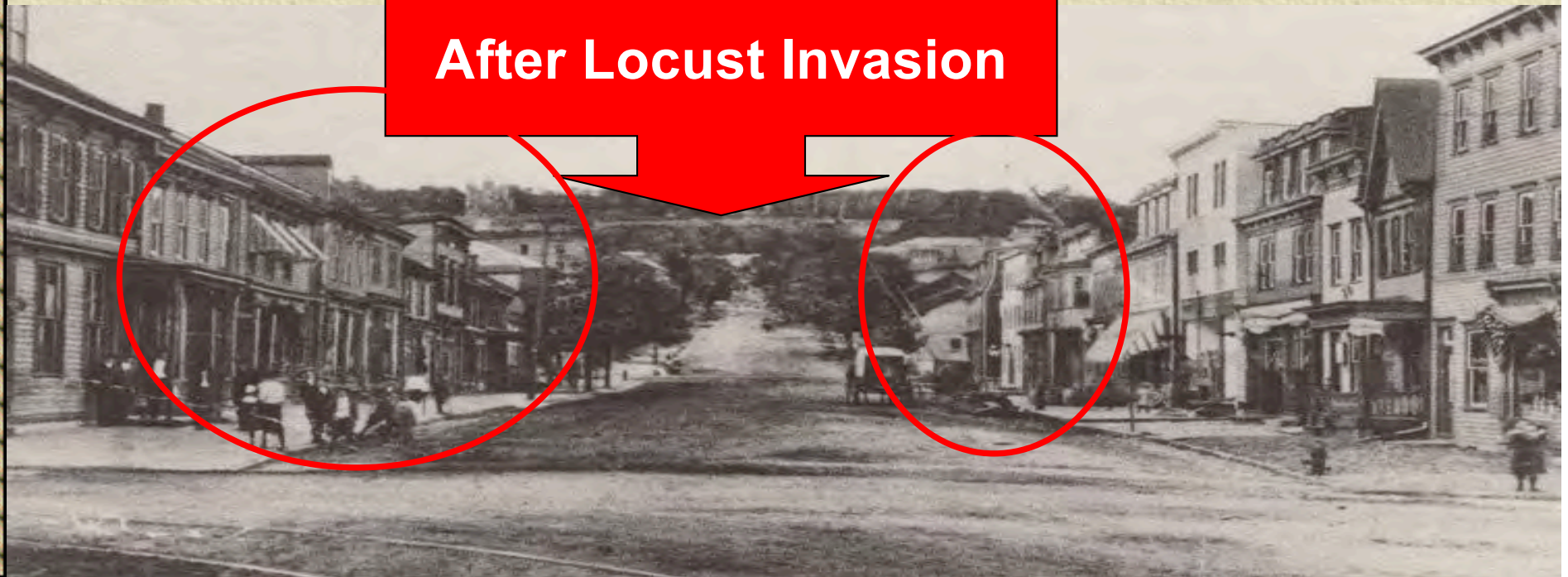
C.Date: late pre-exilic time period
(between 597 and 586 BC).

D.Recipients: people in Judah due
to many references to Zion and
the Temple (1:9, 13-14; 2:15-17,
23, 32; 3:1, 5-6, 16-17, 20-21).

A Modern Locust Invasion (Centralia, Pennsylvania, USA)



Before Locust Invasion

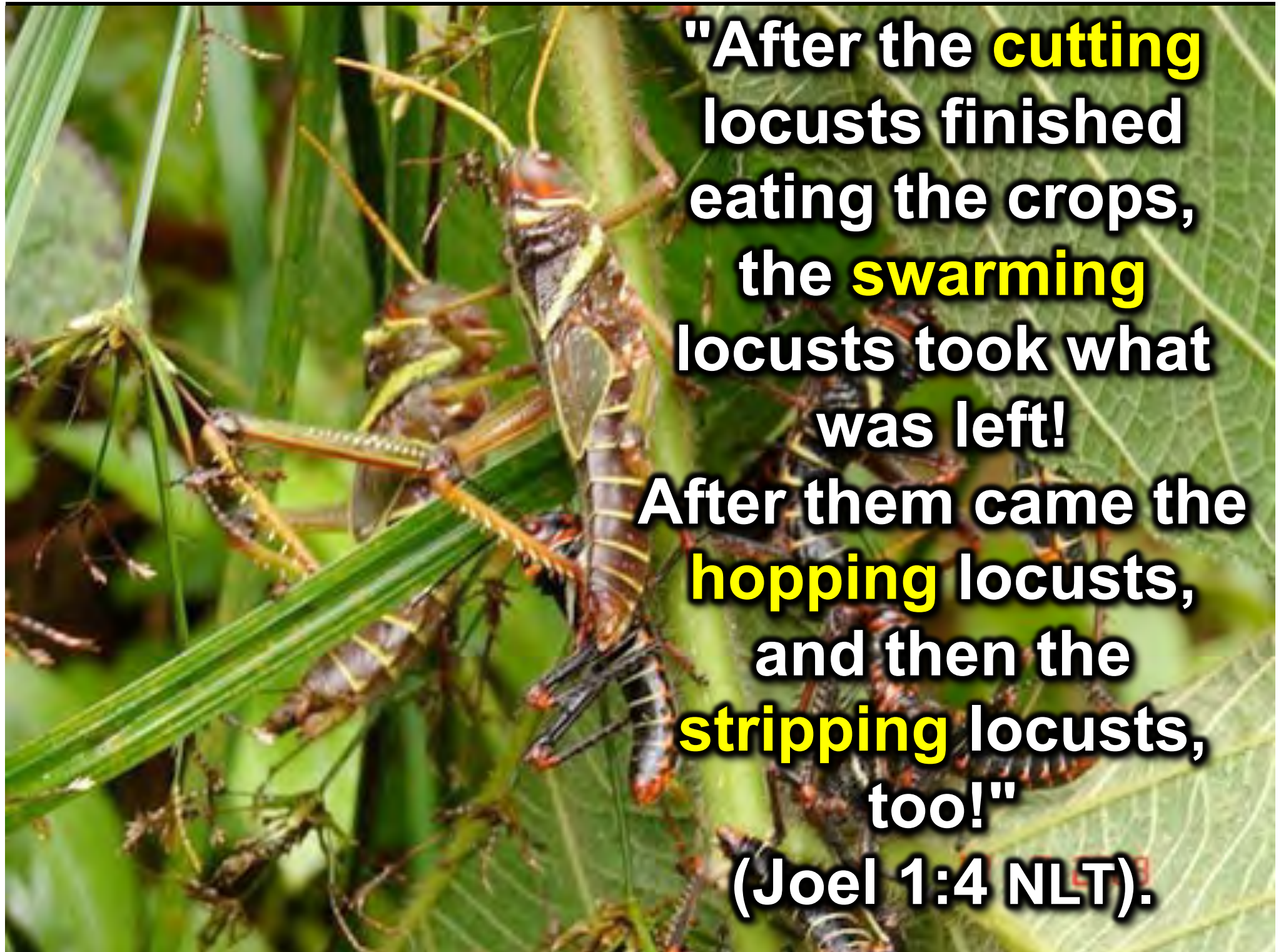


After Locust Invasion

E. Occasion

✠ A recent locust plague had invaded Judah





"After the **cutting**
locusts finished
eating the crops,
the **swarming**
locusts took what
was left!

After them came the
hopping locusts,
and then the
stripping locusts,
too!"

(Joel 1:4 NLT).

**"Wake up, you drunkards, and weep!
Wail, all you wine-drinkers!
All the grapes are ruined,
and all your sweet wine is gone"
(Joel 1:5 NLT).**





**"A vast army of
locusts has invaded
my land,
a terrible army too
numerous to count.
Its teeth are like
lions' teeth,
its fangs like those
of a lioness"
(Joel 1:6 NLT).**

**"It has destroyed
my grapevines
and ruined my fig
trees,
stripping their
bark and
destroying it,
leaving the
branches white
and bare"
(Joel 1:7 NLT).**



The Day of the LORD (Joel 1:15 NLT).

**"The day of the
LORD is near,
the day when
destruction comes
from the Almighty.
How terrible that day
will be!"**



NATIONAL DISASTERS IN JOEL 1

**Two serious
plagues razed
Judah:**

**Locusts
(Joel 1:4)**



**Drought
(Joel 1:20)**





**Mature
adults
copulating**

5 9:09 AM


Locust Grave Yard, Salt Lake, Utah



Key Word



Locust



**So what does the
Torah say about
locusts?**

Deut. 28 Blessings & Curses

577

154

220

**Your towns and your fields
will be blessed (3)**

**Your children and your crops
will be blessed (4)**

**Your fruit baskets and bread-
boards will be blessed (5)**

**Wherever you go and whatever
you do, you will be blessed (6)**

**Your enemies will attack you from
one direction, but they will scatter
from you in seven! (7)**

**You will lend to many nations, but
you will never need to borrow
from them (12)**

**Your towns and your fields
will be cursed (16)**

**Your children and your crops
will be cursed (17)**

**Your fruit baskets and bread-
boards will be cursed (18)**

**Wherever you go and whatever
you do, you will be cursed (19)**

**You will attack your enemies from
one direction, but you will scatter
from them in seven! (25)**

**They will lend to money to you,
but you will not lend to them
(44)**



Prophetic Curses

577
154
220

Why?

Deut. 28

Exile

What Did a Locust Plague Mean?

- **NLT Deuteronomy 28:38**
"You will plant much but harvest little, for **locusts will eat your crops.**"

Joel 2



**"Sound the alarm in
Jerusalem!**

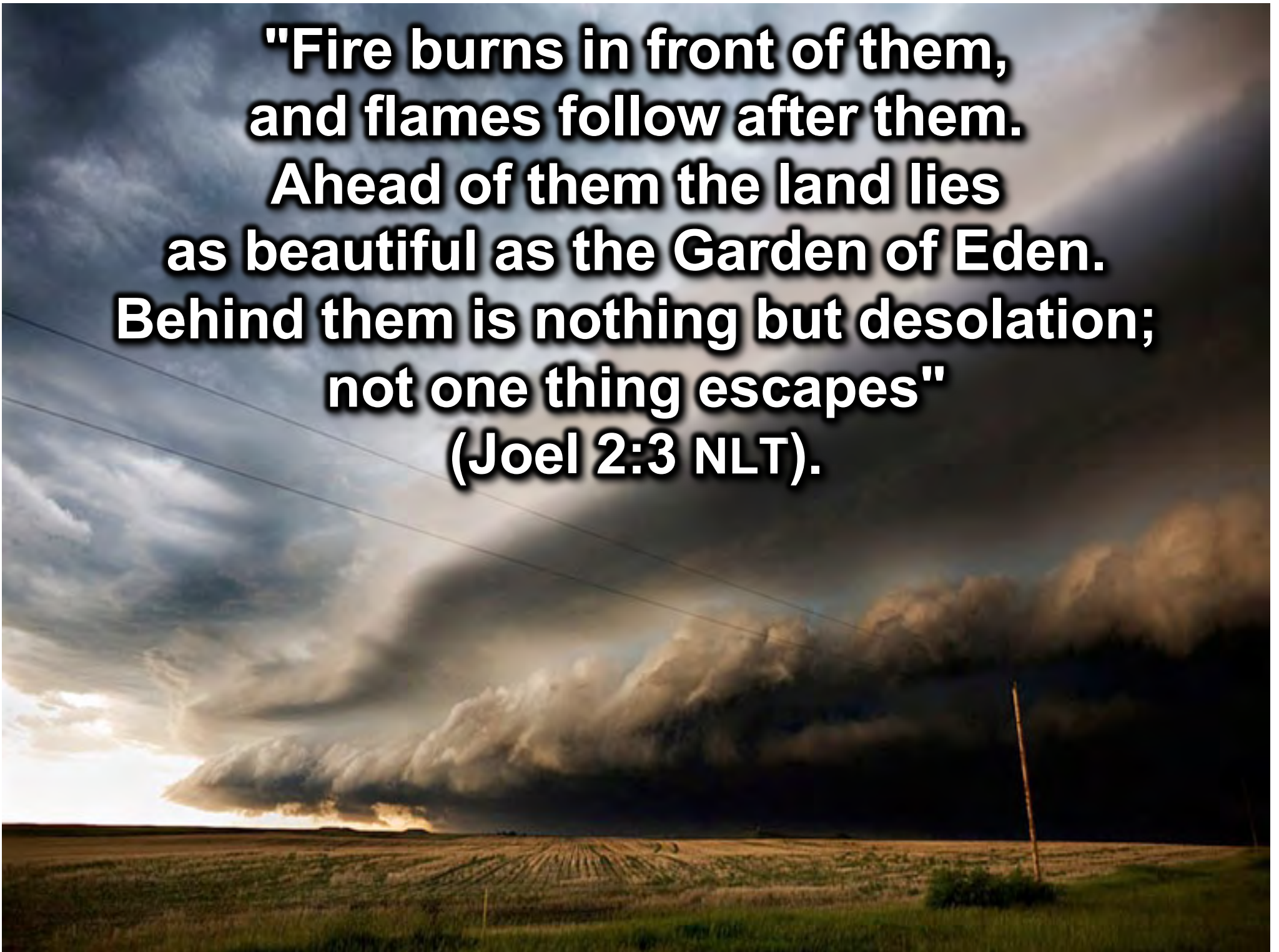
**Raise the battle cry on my
holy mountain!**

**Let everyone tremble in fear
because the day of the LORD
is upon us" (Joel 2:1 NLT).**



**"[The day of the LORD]...
is a **day** of darkness and
gloom,
a **day** of thick clouds and
deep blackness.
Suddenly, like dawn
spreading across the
mountains,
a great and mighty army
appears.
Nothing like it has been
seen before
or will ever be seen
again"
(Joel 2:2 NLT).**

**"Fire burns in front of them,
and flames follow after them.
Ahead of them the land lies
as beautiful as the Garden of Eden.
Behind them is nothing but desolation;
not one thing escapes"
(Joel 2:3 NLT).**



**"They look like
horses;
they charge forward
like war horses"
(Joel 2:4 NLT).**




**"Look at them as they leap along the mountaintops. Listen to the noise they make—like the rumbling of chariots, like the roar of fire sweeping across a field of stubble, or like a mighty army moving into battle"
(Joel 2:5 NLT).**



Key Verse

575



✠ "... The day of the LORD is great; it is dreadful. Who can endure it? 'Even now,' declares the LORD, 'return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning'" (Joel 2:11b-12)

What are the "locusts" of Joel 2:1-11?

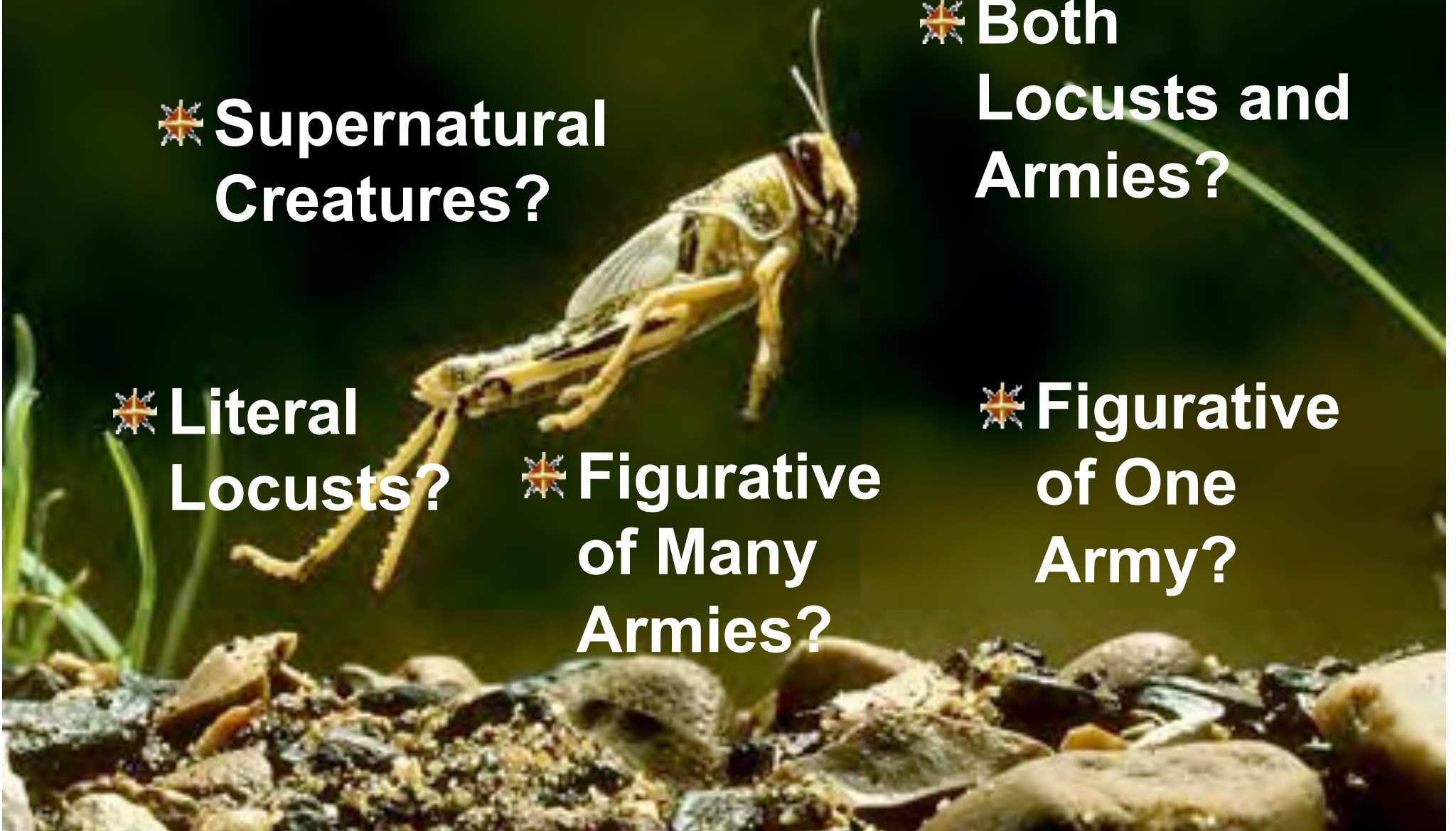
✧ Supernatural
Creatures?

✧ Both
Locusts and
Armies?

✧ Literal
Locusts?

✧ Figurative
of Many
Armies?

✧ Figurative
of One
Army?



Joel

Devastation
1:1–2:17

Deliverance
2:18–3:21

Disasters 1:1-20

Invasion 2:1-17

Restoration 2:18-32

Judgment 3:1-16

Blessing 3:17-21

History

Prophecy

The Day of the LORD

Why Future?

578

**1. Imagery heightened:
earthquake, signs in skies
(Joel 2:10, 30-31; Matt. 24:29)**



Why Future?

578

1. Imagery heightened:
earthquake, signs in skies
(Joel 2:10, 30-31; Matt. 24:29)



2. "Army" (Joel 2:2, 11)

Why Future?

578

1. Imagery heightened:
earthquake, signs in skies
(Joel 2:10, 30-31; Matt. 24:29)

2. "Army" (Joel 2:2, 11)

3. Locusts never invade from
the north like this "army"
(Joel 2:20)

4. The "northern one" (Joel 2:20)
matches eschatological
enemies invading from the
north (Zech. 6:8, etc.)



The Day of the LORD

638-639

Judgment +

Blessing

Tribulation

Millennium

Rev. 6–19

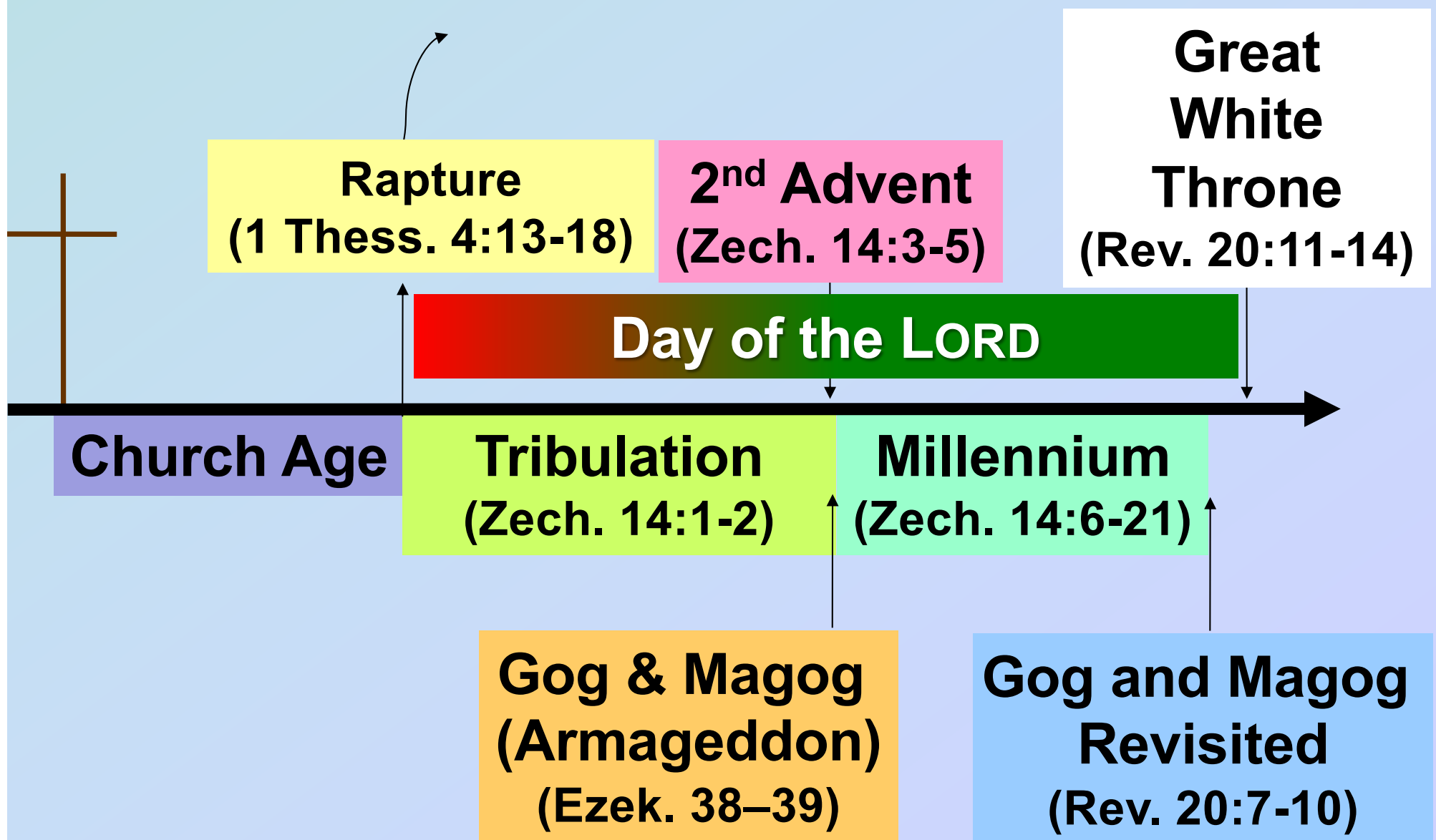
Rev. 20

7 years

1000 years

A Dispensational Timeline

437



What to do?

**"'Even now,' declares the LORD,
'return to me with all your heart, with
fasting and weeping and mourning.'
Rend your heart and not your garments.
Return to the LORD your God, for he is
gracious and compassionate, slow to
anger and abounding in love, and he
relents from sending calamity"
(Joel 2:12-13 NIV).**

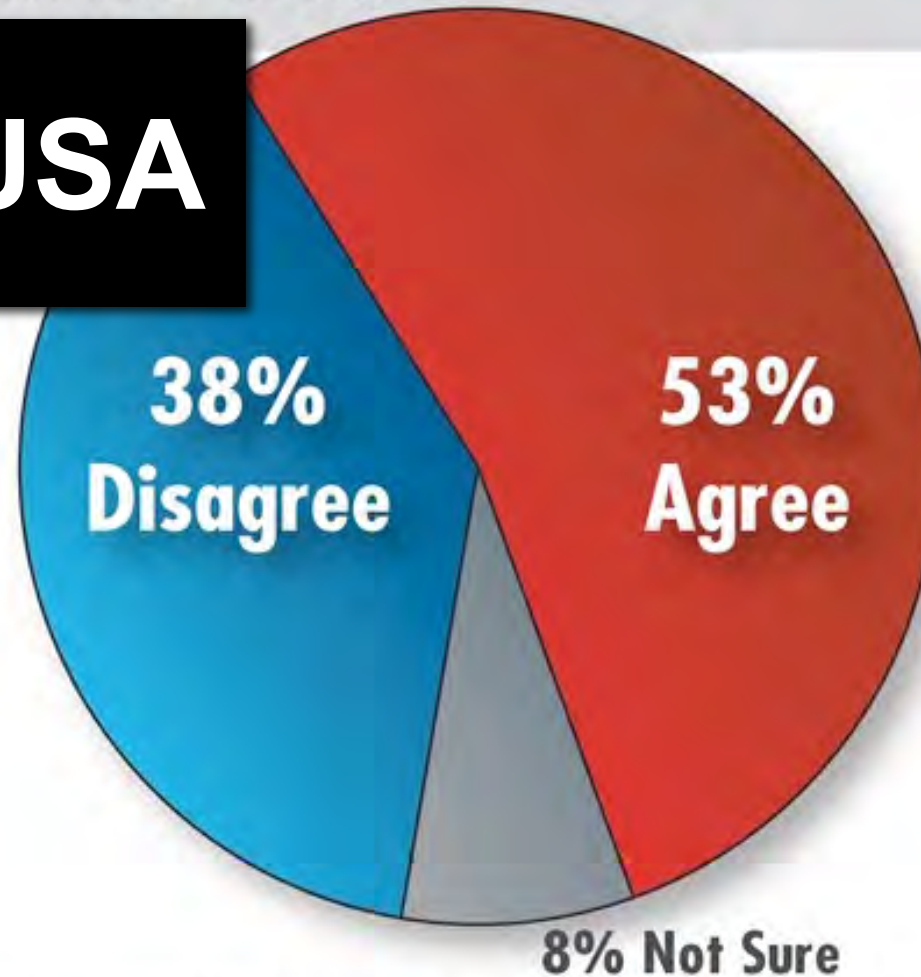
Do you reject God's discipline?



AMONG AMERICANS:

**"God has a special relationship
with the USA."**

God & the USA



Note: Totals do not equal 100% due to rounding.

God's Discipline of the USA



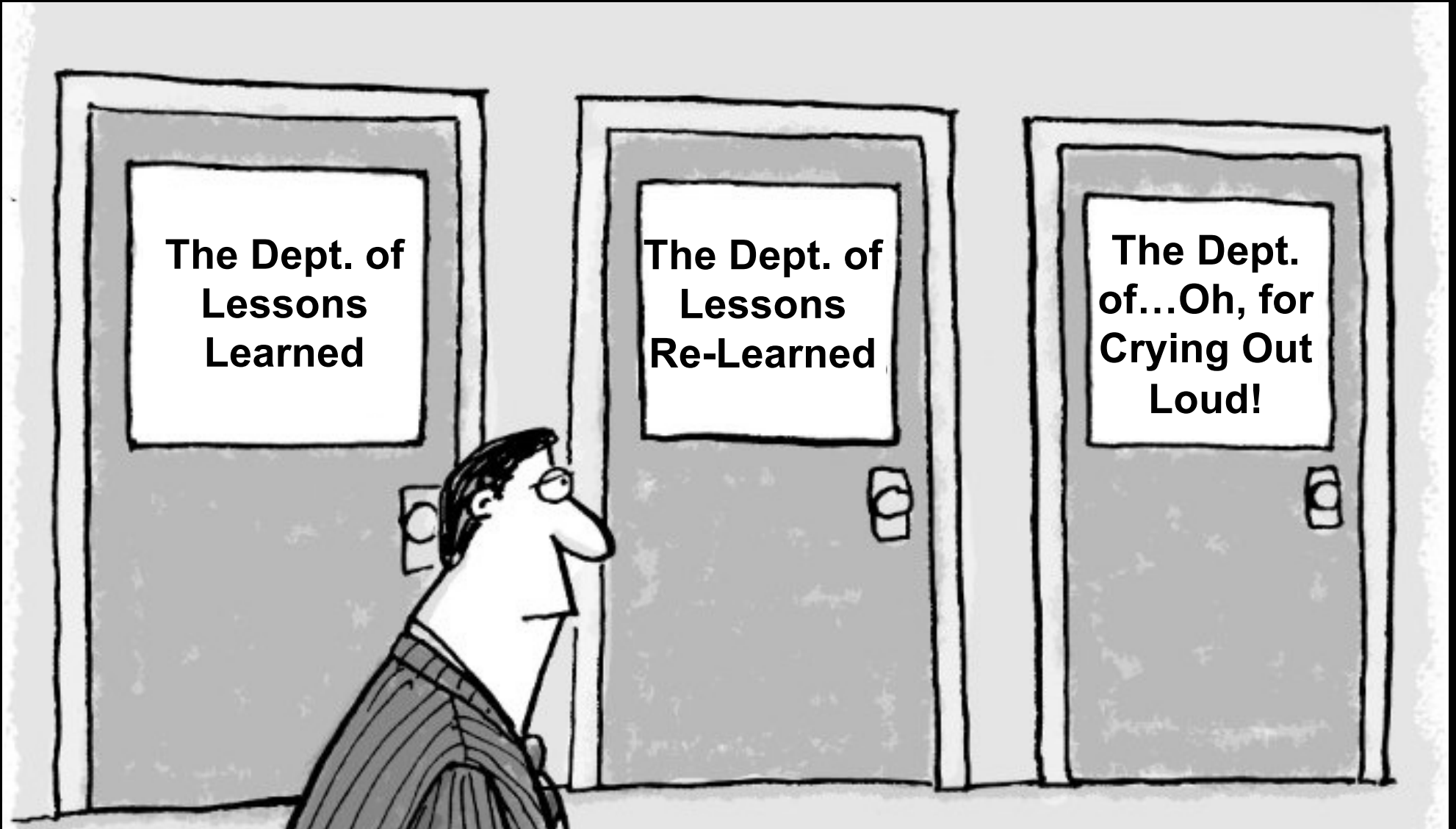
God's Discipline of the USA

**THE PROBLEM IS NOT
GUNS!**

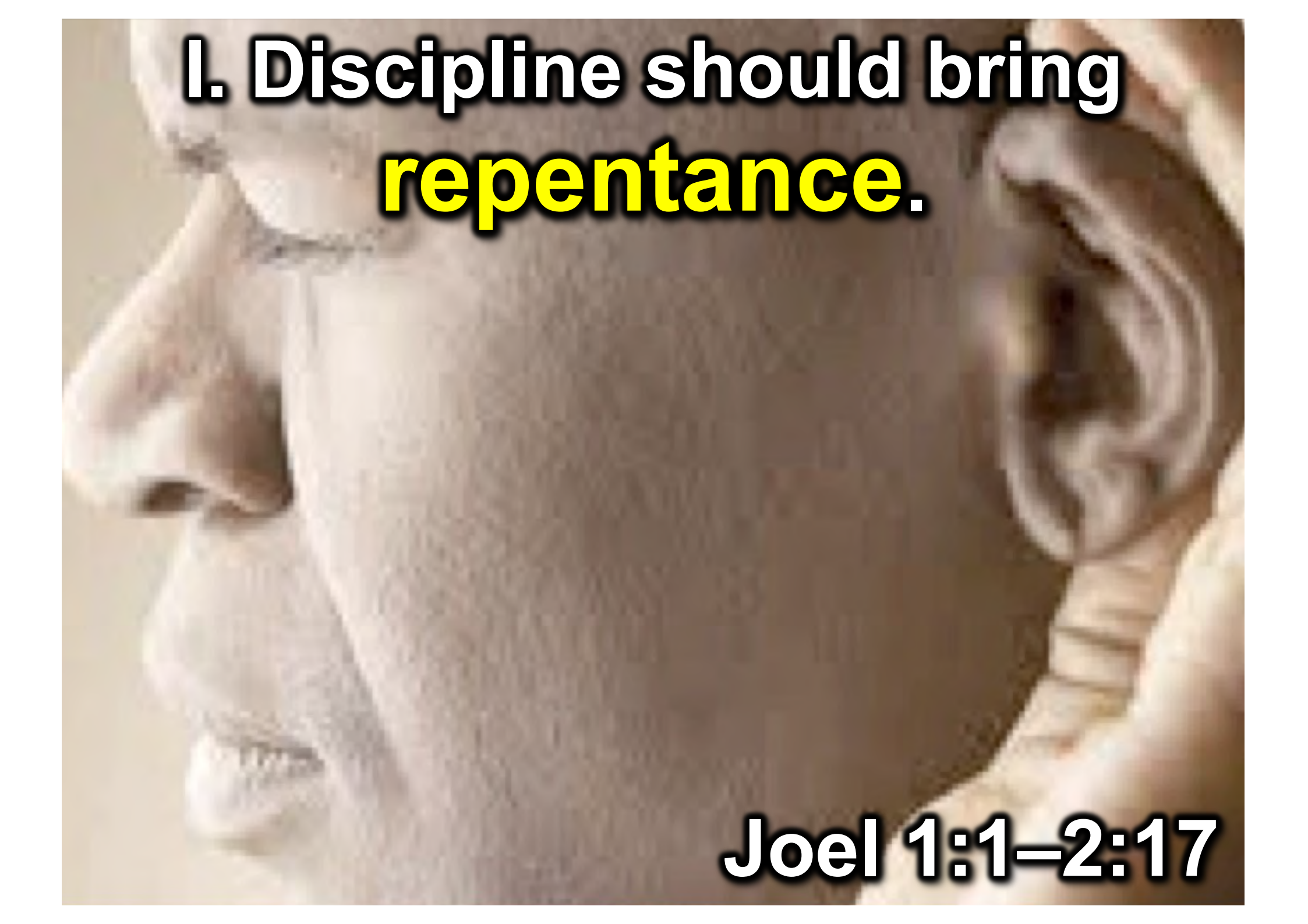
**It is hearts without God,
homes without discipline,
schools without prayer, and
courts without justice.**



Discipline of Individuals



**I DON'T
MAKE EXCUSES
I MAKE
RESULTS**



**I. Discipline should bring
repentance.**

Joel 1:1–2:17

A close-up photograph of two hands. The left hand is open, palm up, holding a small, glowing, translucent object. The right hand is closed, fingers curled, also holding the object. The object has a bright, white, star-like glow in the center, with a soft, yellowish-orange aura around it. The background is dark and out of focus.

**II. Repentance will bring
restoration.**

Joel 2:18–3:21

Joel

Devastation
1:1–2:17

Deliverance
2:18–3:21

Disasters 1:1-20

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Judgment 3:1-16

Blessing 3:17-21

History

Prophecy

The Day of the LORD

**Israel's repentance will bring
forgiveness, deliverance and restoration
(Joel 2:18–3:21).**



**"Then the LORD will pity his people and
jealously guard the honor of his land.
19The LORD will reply, 'Look! I am sending
you grain and new wine and olive oil,
enough to satisfy your needs. You will
no longer be an object of mockery
among the surrounding nations'"**
(Joel 2:18-19 NLT).



**"I will drive away these
armies from the north. I
will send them into the
parched wastelands.
Those in the front will be
driven into the Dead
Sea, and those at the
rear into the
Mediterranean.
The stench of their
rotting bodies will rise
over the land.'
Surely the Lord has
done great things!"
(Joel 2:20 NLT).**

The North

Israel

**God's Future
Protection of Israel**



Land Contrasts in Joel 2:21-27

582

Mourned

**"...The land mourns..."
(Joel 1:10 NAU).**



Will be glad

**"Do not fear, O land,
rejoice and be glad,
For the LORD has done
great things" (Joel 2:21
NAU).**



Animal Contrasts in Joel 2:21-27

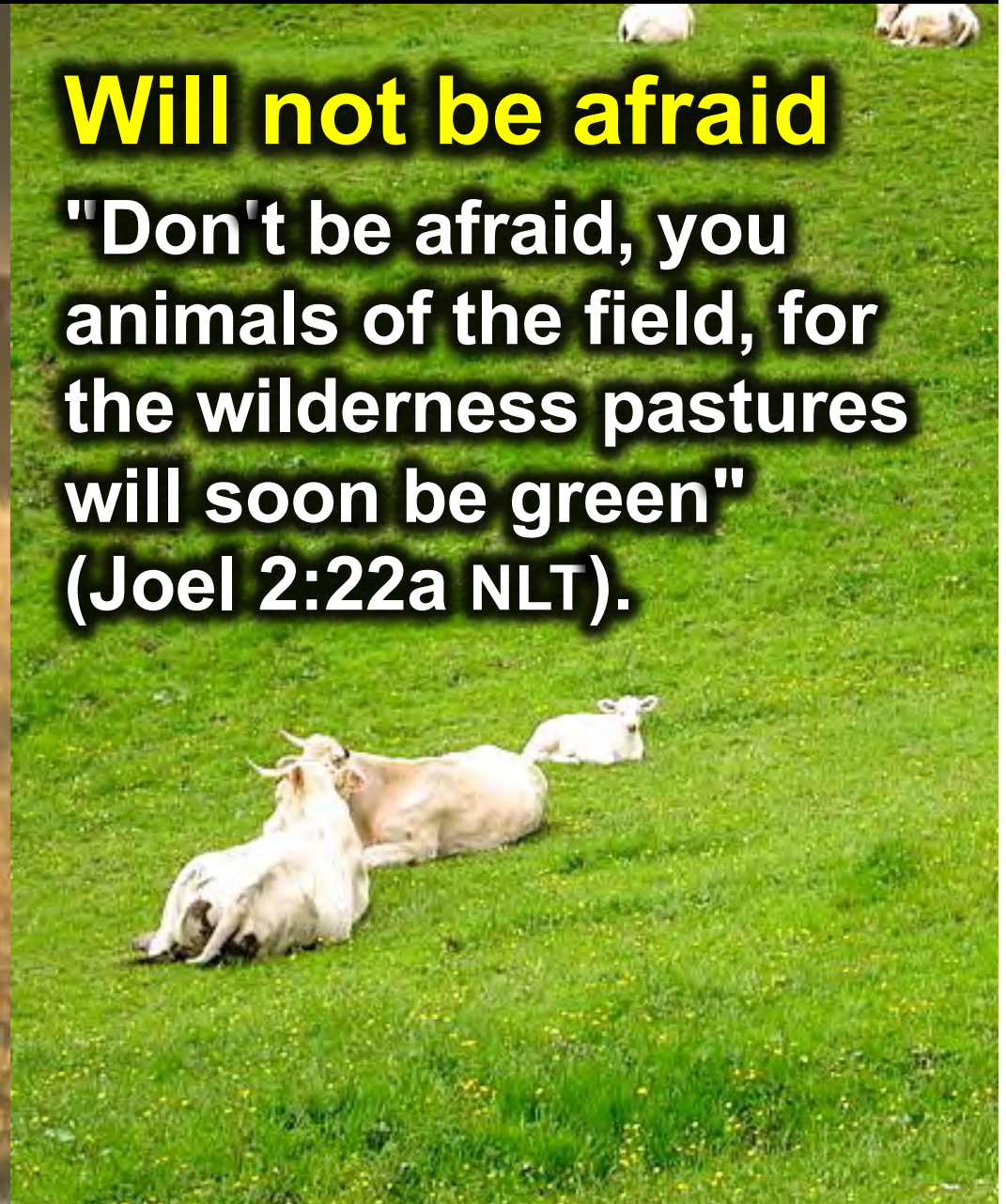
582

**Groaned,
wandered, hungry**

"How the animals moan with hunger! The herds of cattle wander about confused, because they have no pasture. The flocks of sheep and goats bleat in misery" (Joel 1:18 NLT).

Will not be afraid

"Don't be afraid, you animals of the field, for the wilderness pastures will soon be green" (Joel 2:22a NLT).



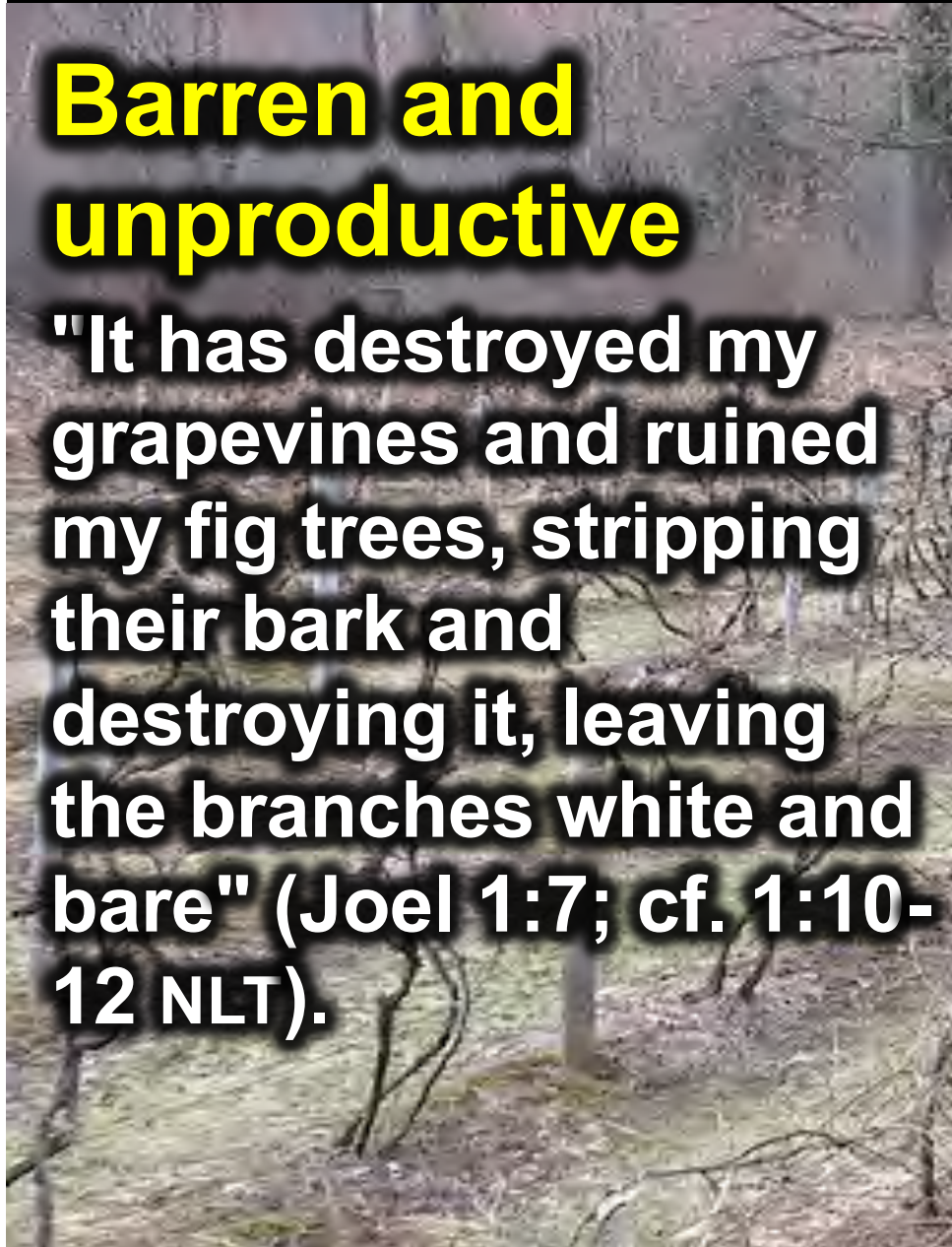
Fields Contrasts in Joel 2:21-27

Barren and unproductive

"It has destroyed my grapevines and ruined my fig trees, stripping their bark and destroying it, leaving the branches white and bare" (Joel 1:7; cf. 1:10-12 NLT).

Will grow...fruitful and productive

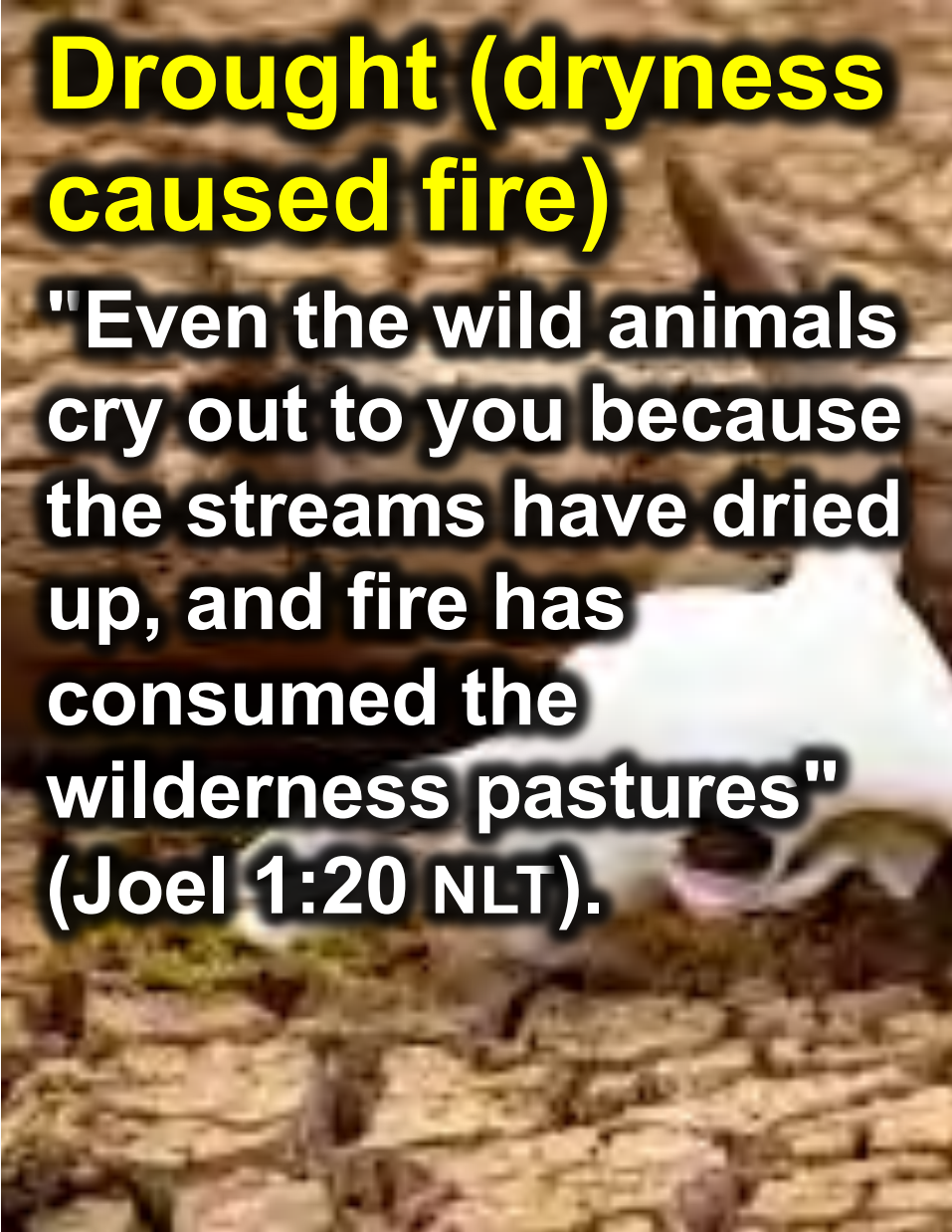
"The trees will again be filled with fruit; fig trees and grapevines will be loaded down once more" (Joel 2:22b NLT).



Rain Contrasts in Joel 2:21-27

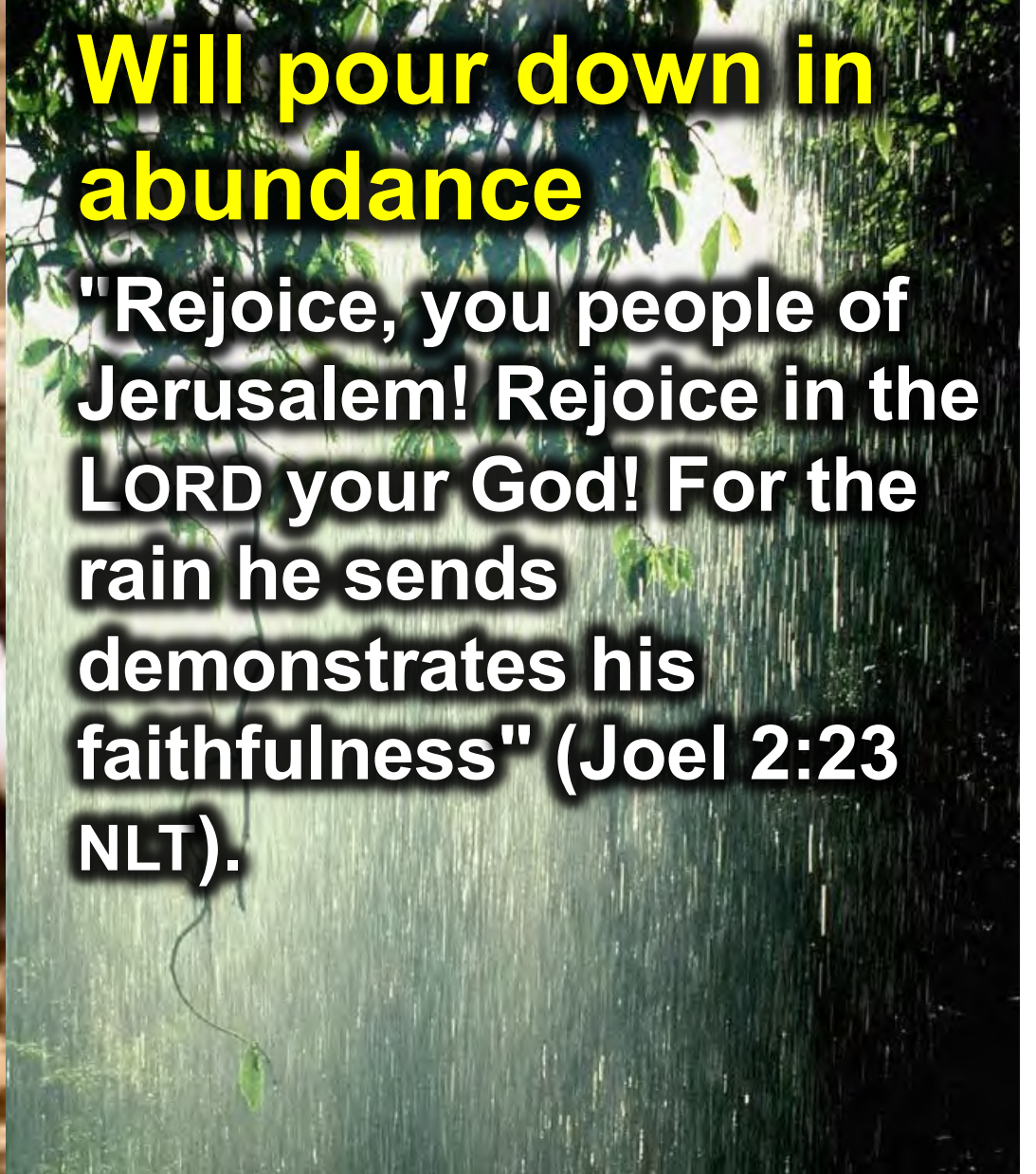
**Drought (dryness
caused fire)**

**"Even the wild animals
cry out to you because
the streams have dried
up, and fire has
consumed the
wilderness pastures"
(Joel 1:20 NLT).**



**Will pour down in
abundance**

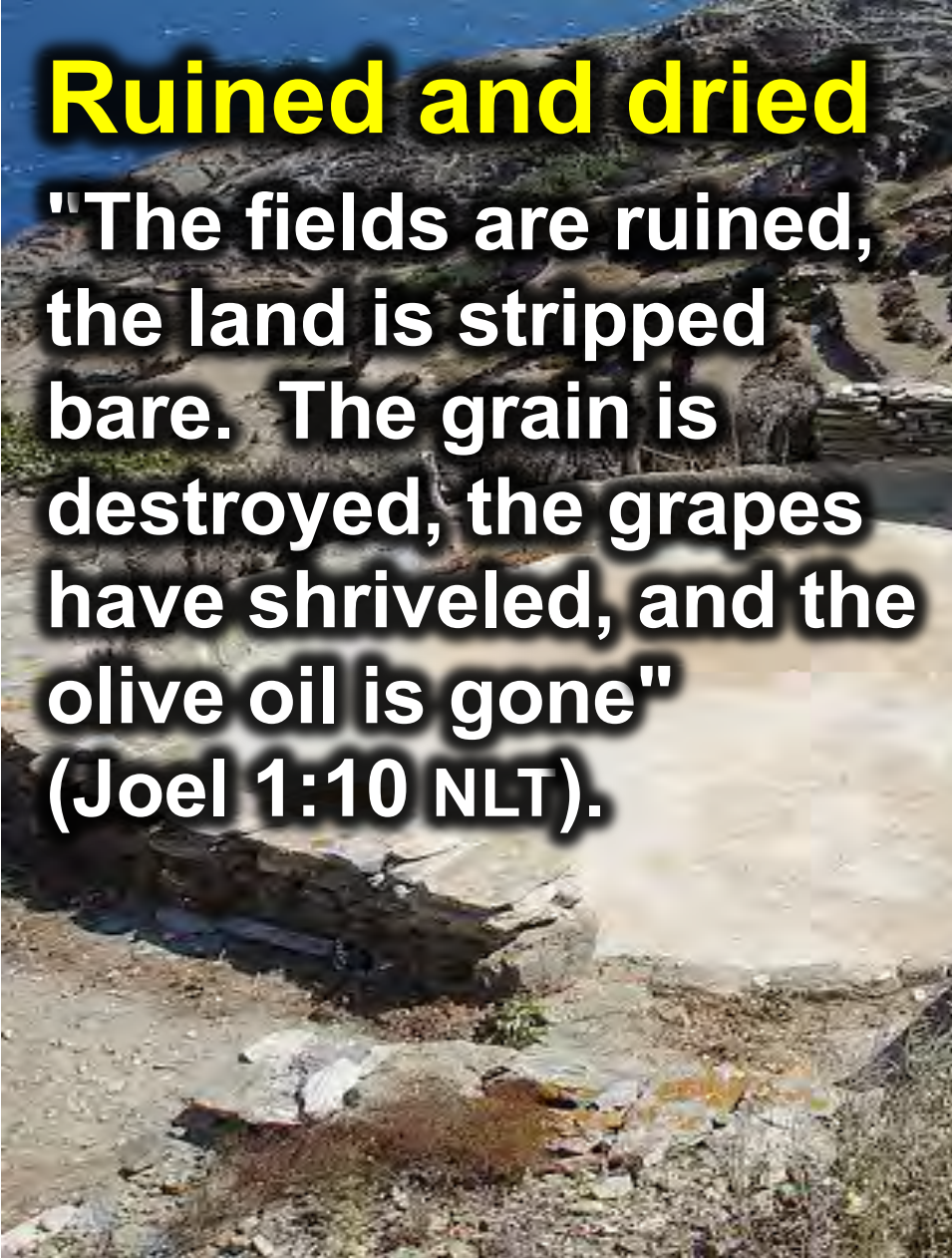
**"Rejoice, you people of
Jerusalem! Rejoice in the
LORD your God! For the
rain he sends
demonstrates his
faithfulness" (Joel 2:23
NLT).**



Grain, Wine & Oil in Joel 2:21-27


Ruined and dried

"The fields are ruined, the land is stripped bare. The grain is destroyed, the grapes have shriveled, and the olive oil is gone" (Joel 1:10 NLT).



Will be plentiful

"The threshing floors will again be piled high with grain, and the presses will overflow with new wine and olive oil" (Joel 2:24 NLT).



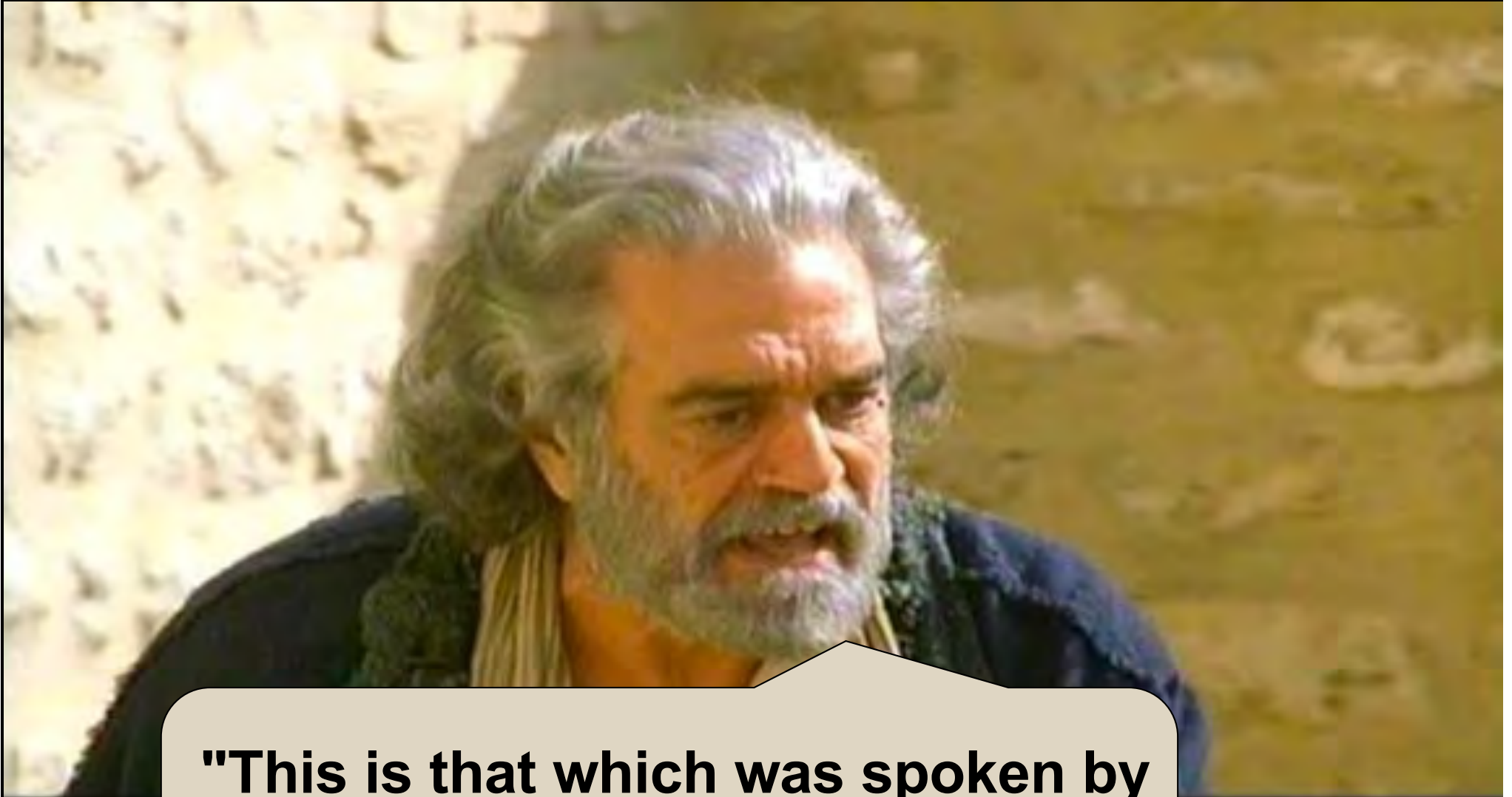
Crop Contrasts in Joel 2:21-27

Damaged by locusts

"After the cutting locusts finished eating the crops, the swarming locusts took what was left! After them came the hopping locusts, and then the stripping locusts, too!" (Joel 1:4 NLT).

Productive

"The LORD says, 'I will give you back what you lost to the swarming locusts, the hopping locusts, the stripping locusts, and the cutting locusts. It was I who sent this great destroying army against you...' (Joel 2:25-26 NLT).




**"This is that which was spoken by
the prophet Joel..."
(Acts 2:16)**

**"Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions.
29In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on servants—men and women alike."**

Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:17-18 NLT




Joel 2:28-29 in the NT (cf. Acts 2)



✦ Some say this means
"All the LORD's people
would be prophets"—
but is this what Joel
said?

✦ No, he said only many
types of prophets
would exist.



"And I will cause wonders in the heavens and on the earth—**blood and fire** and columns of smoke.

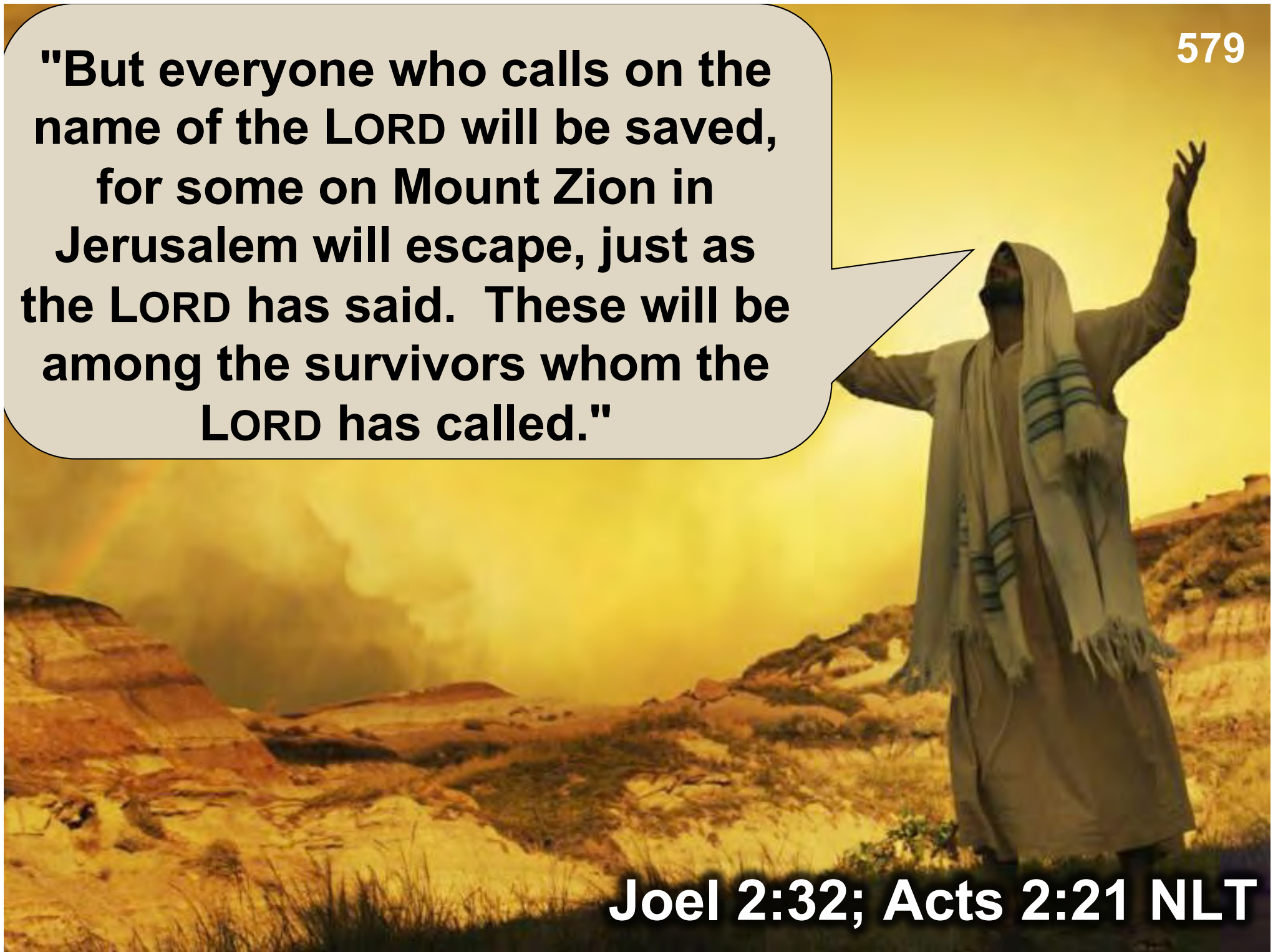
³¹**The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red** before that great and terrible day of the LORD arrives."



Joel 2:30-31; Acts 2:19-20 NLT

"But everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved, for some on Mount Zion in Jerusalem will escape, just as the LORD has said. These will be among the survivors whom the LORD has called."

Joel 2:32; Acts 2:21 NLT



Joel 3



"At the time of those events,' says the LORD, 'when I restore the prosperity of Judah and Jerusalem, ²I will gather the armies of the world into the valley of Jehoshaphat'" (Joel 3:1-2a NLT).

**"There I will judge
them for harming
my people, my
special
possession,
for scattering my
people among the
nations, and for
dividing up my
land"
(Joel 3:2b NLT).**





**"Israel is the only
place in the
Middle East where
Christians are free
to practice their
faith."**

**Benjamin
Netanyahu**

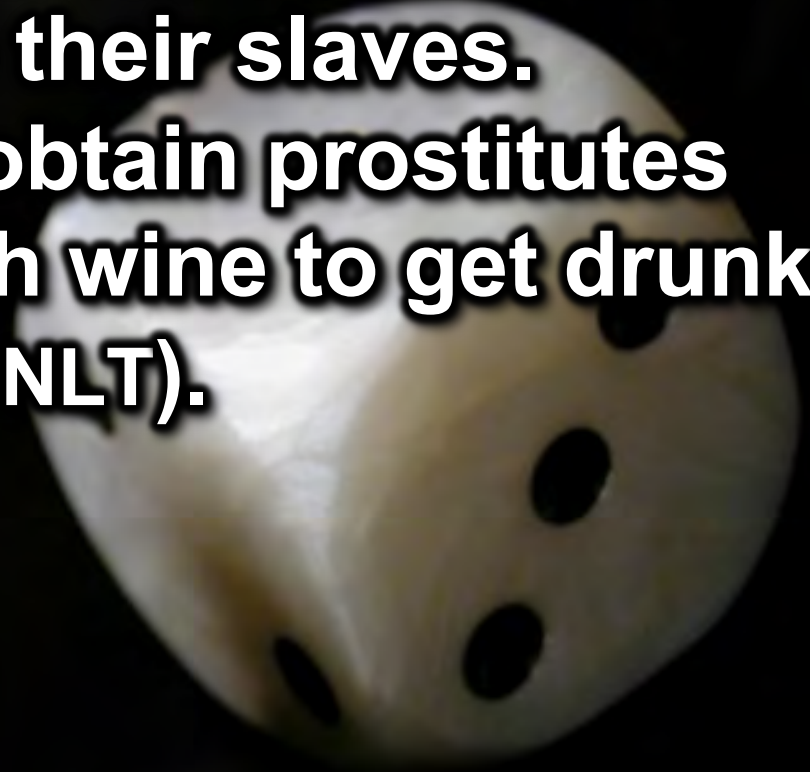
**"IF THE ARABS PUT
DOWN THEIR WEAPONS
TODAY, THERE WOULD
BE NO MORE VIOLENCE.
IF THE JEWS PUT DOWN
THEIR WEAPONS
TODAY, THERE WOULD
BE NO MORE ISRAEL."**

BENJAMIN NETANYAHU



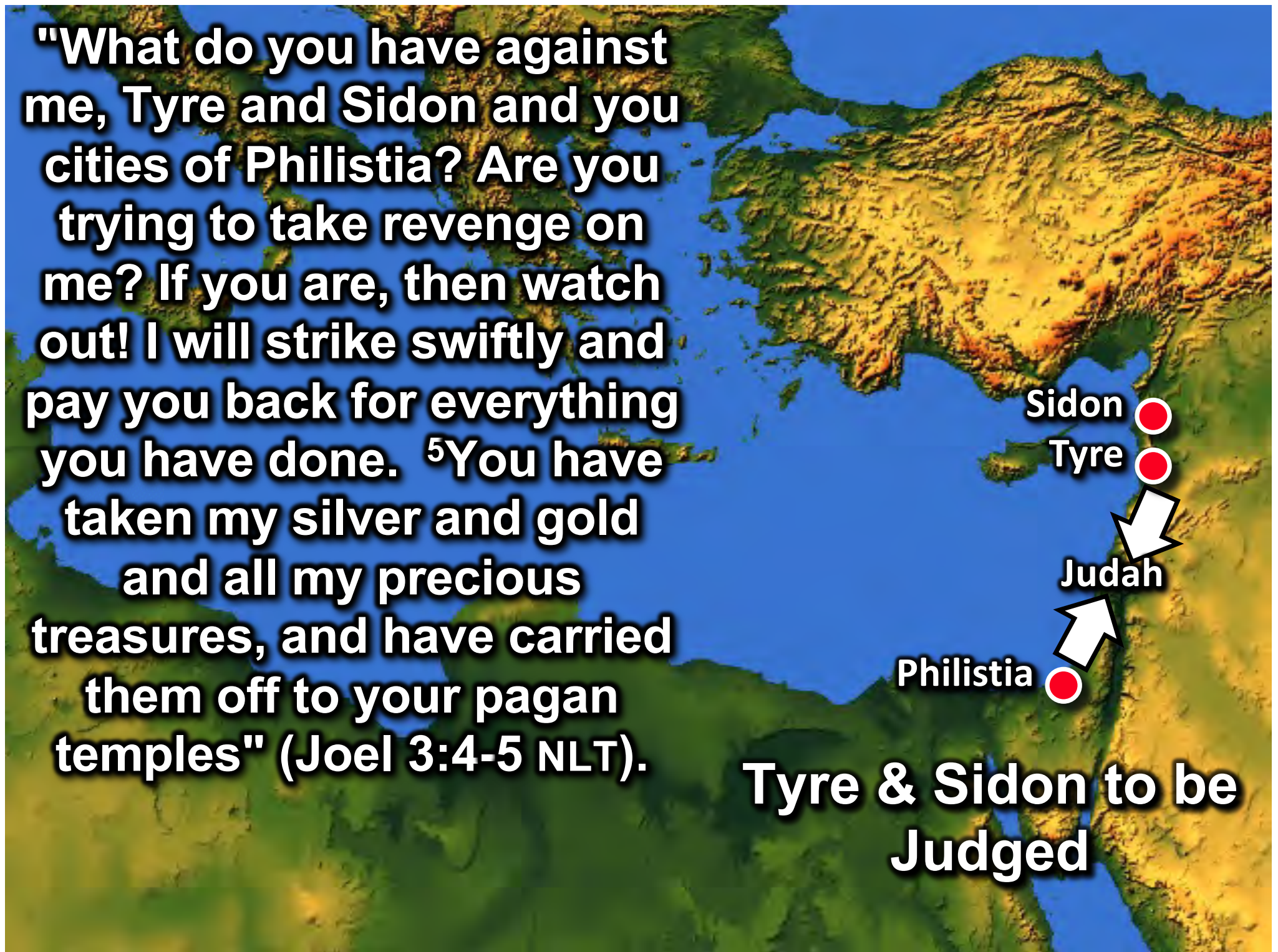
**"They threw dice to decide which of my
people would be their slaves.**

**They traded boys to obtain prostitutes
and sold girls for enough wine to get drunk"
(Joel 3:3 NLT).**



"What do you have against me, Tyre and Sidon and you cities of Philistia? Are you trying to take revenge on me? If you are, then watch out! I will strike swiftly and pay you back for everything you have done. ⁵You have taken my silver and gold and all my precious treasures, and have carried them off to your pagan temples" (Joel 3:4-5 NLT).

Tyre & Sidon to be Judged



**"You have sold the
people of Judah
and Jerusalem to
the Greeks, so
they could take
them far from their
homeland"
(Joel 3:6 NLT).**

Greeks

Sidon

Tyre

Judah

Philistia

**The Sale of
Judeans to the
Greeks**



"But I will bring them back from all the places to which you sold them, and I will pay you back for everything you have done. ⁸I will sell your sons and daughters to the people of Judah, and they will sell them to the people of Arabia, a nation far away. I, the LORD, have spoken!" (Joel 3:7-8 NLT).

The Restoration of Judah

Greeks

Sidon

Tyre

Judah

Arabia





**"Say to the nations far
and wide:**

**'Get ready for war!
Call out your best
warriors.**

**Let all your fighting men
advance for the attack.**

**¹⁰Hammer your plowshares into swords
and your pruning hooks into spears.**

Train even your weaklings to be warriors.

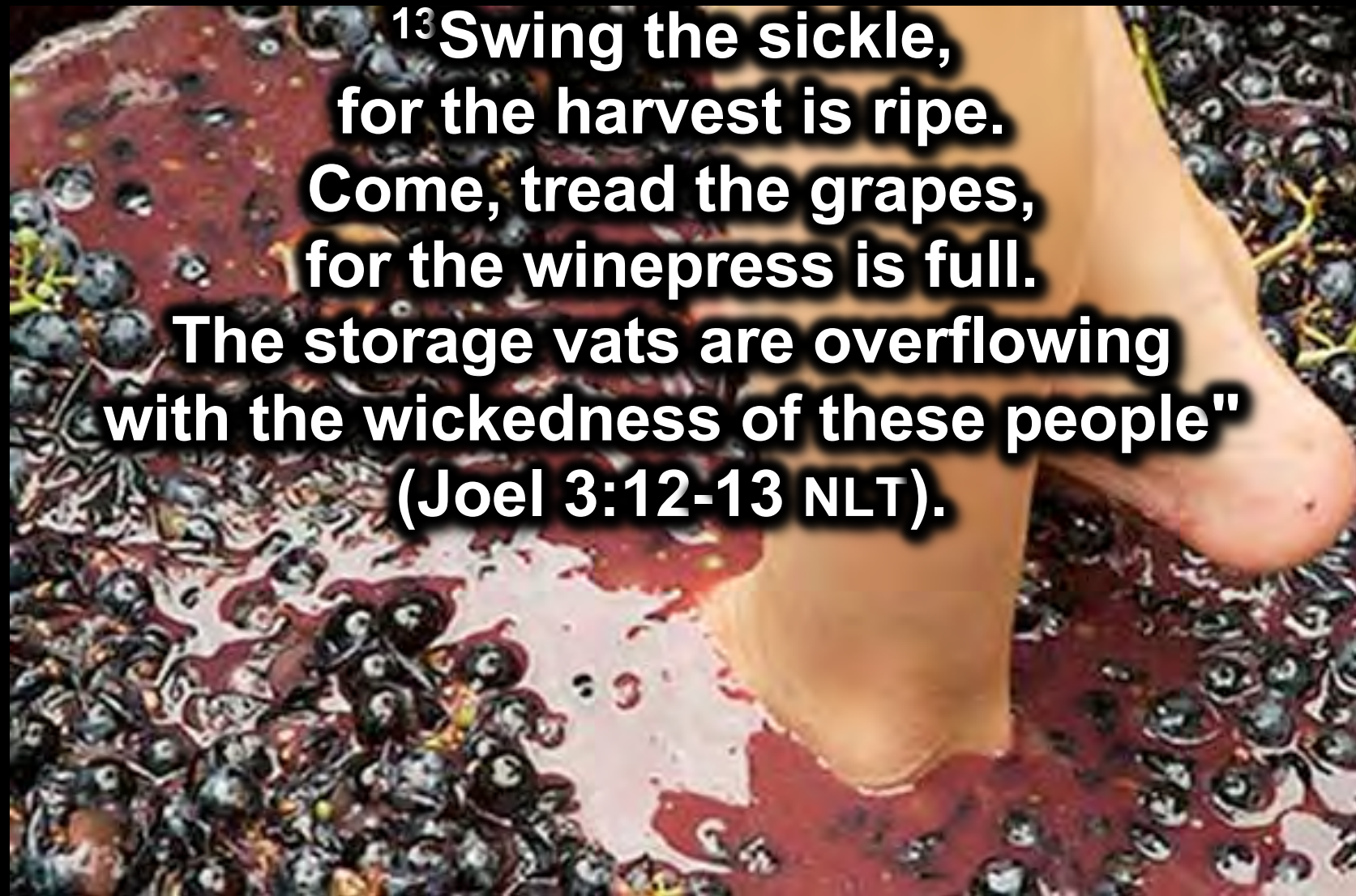
¹¹Come quickly, all you nations everywhere.

Gather together in the valley.'

And now, O LORD, call out your warriors!"

(Joel 3:9-11 NLT).

**"Let the nations be called to arms.
Let them march to the valley of Jehoshaphat.
There I, the LORD, will sit
to pronounce judgment on them all.**



**¹³Swing the sickle,
for the harvest is ripe.
Come, tread the grapes,
for the winepress is full.
The storage vats are overflowing
with the wickedness of these people"
(Joel 3:12-13 NLT).**

**"Thousands upon thousands are waiting in the
valley of decision.**

There the day of the LORD will soon arrive.

**¹⁵The sun and moon will grow dark,
and the stars will no longer shine"
(Joel 3:14-15 NLT).**



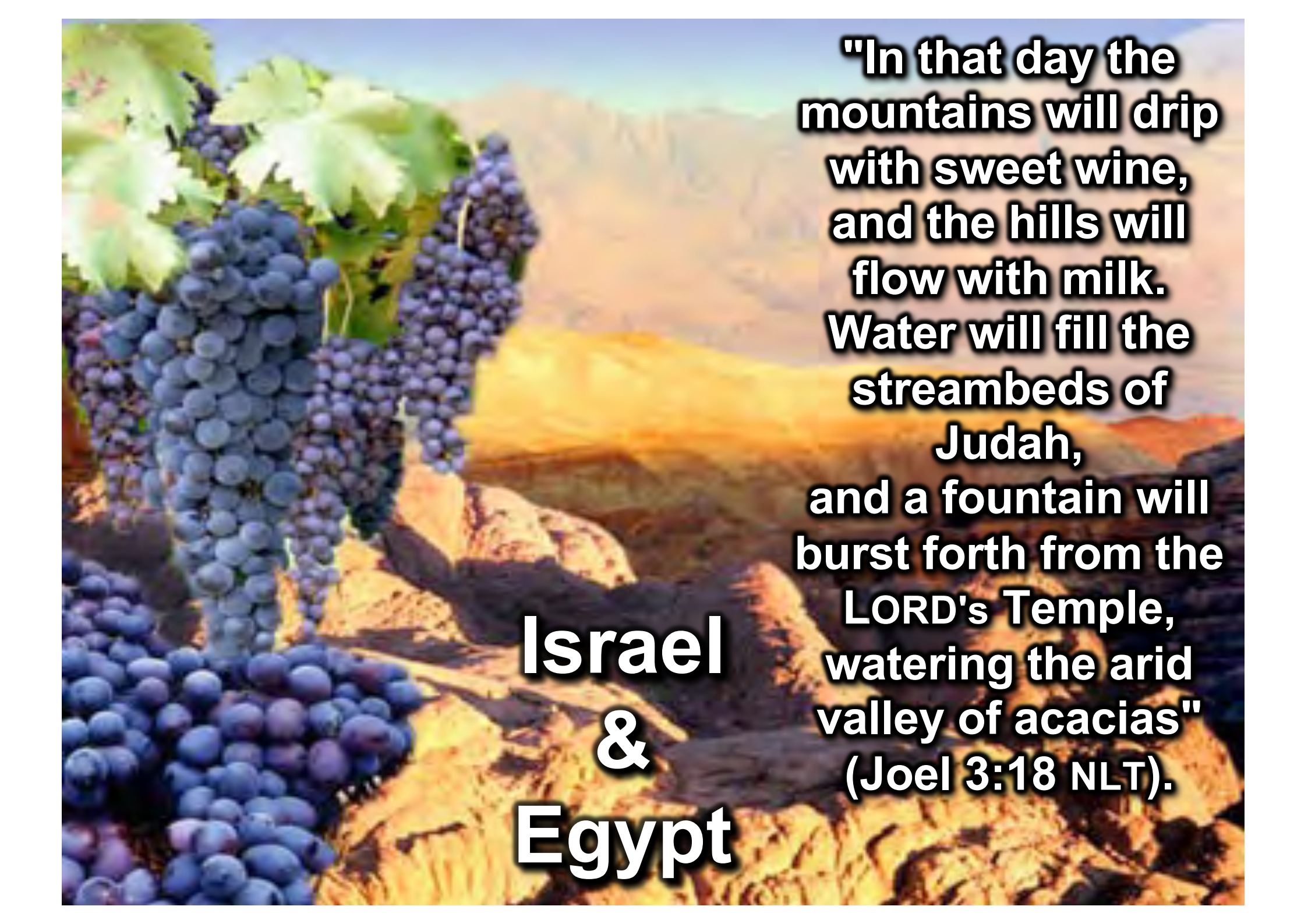
**"The LORD's voice
will roar from
Zion
and thunder from
Jerusalem,
and the heavens
and the earth will
shake.**

**But the LORD will
be a refuge for his
people,
a strong fortress
for the people of
Israel"
(Joel 3:16 NLT).**



**"Then you will know that I, the LORD your God,
live in Zion, my holy mountain.
Jerusalem will be holy forever,
and foreign armies will never conquer her again"
(Joel 3:17 NLT).**





**"In that day the
mountains will drip
with sweet wine,
and the hills will
flow with milk.
Water will fill the
streambeds of
Judah,
and a fountain will
burst forth from the
LORD's Temple,
watering the arid
valley of acacias"
(Joel 3:18 NLT).**

**Israel
&
Egypt**



Israel

Egypt

Edom

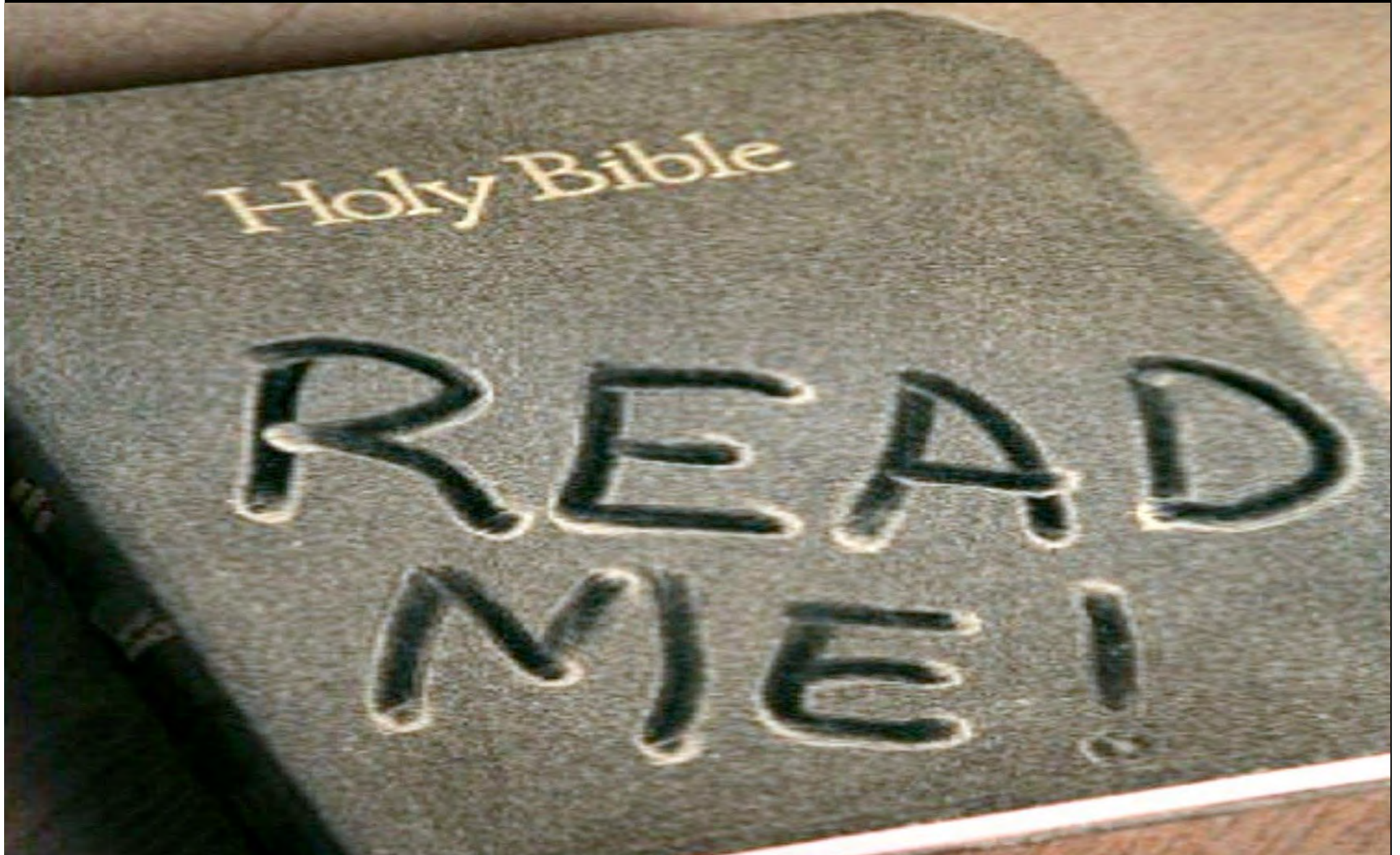
**"But Egypt will
become a wasteland
and Edom will
become a wilderness,
because they attacked
the people of Judah
and killed innocent
people in their land"
(Joel 3:19 NLT).**

**Israel's
Neighbors**

**"But Judah will be filled with people forever,
and Jerusalem will endure through all generations.
21I will pardon my people's crimes,
which I have not yet pardoned;
and I, the LORD, will make my home
in Jerusalem with my people" (Joel 3:20-21 NLT).**

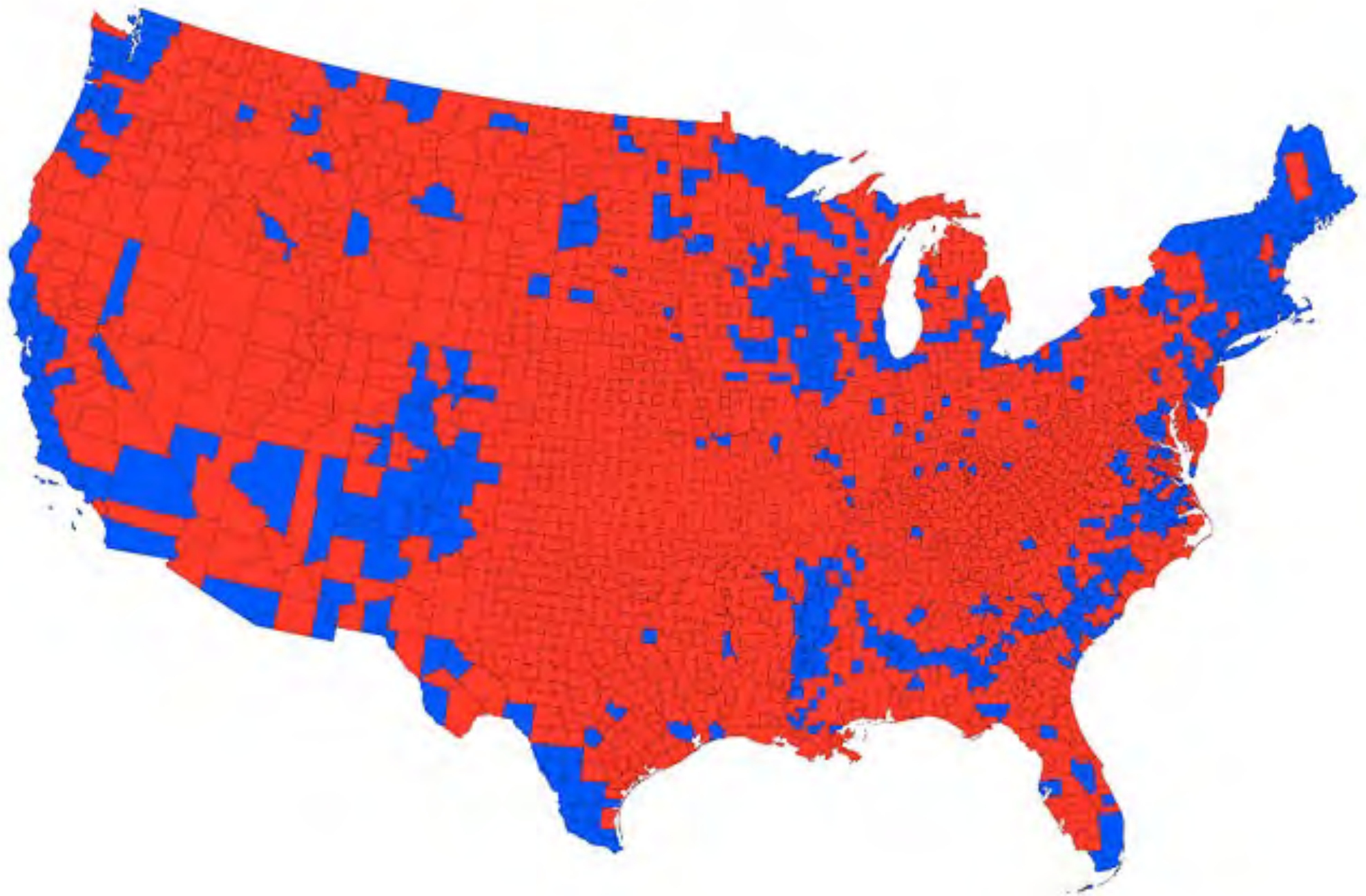


**Your trust in the Lord alone will bring his
blessing**



God's Restoration of the USA





US Counties: Red Conservative + Blue Liberal

**Neil
Gorsuch**



Our Vision



Love the Nations

Love the Church

**Love
God**

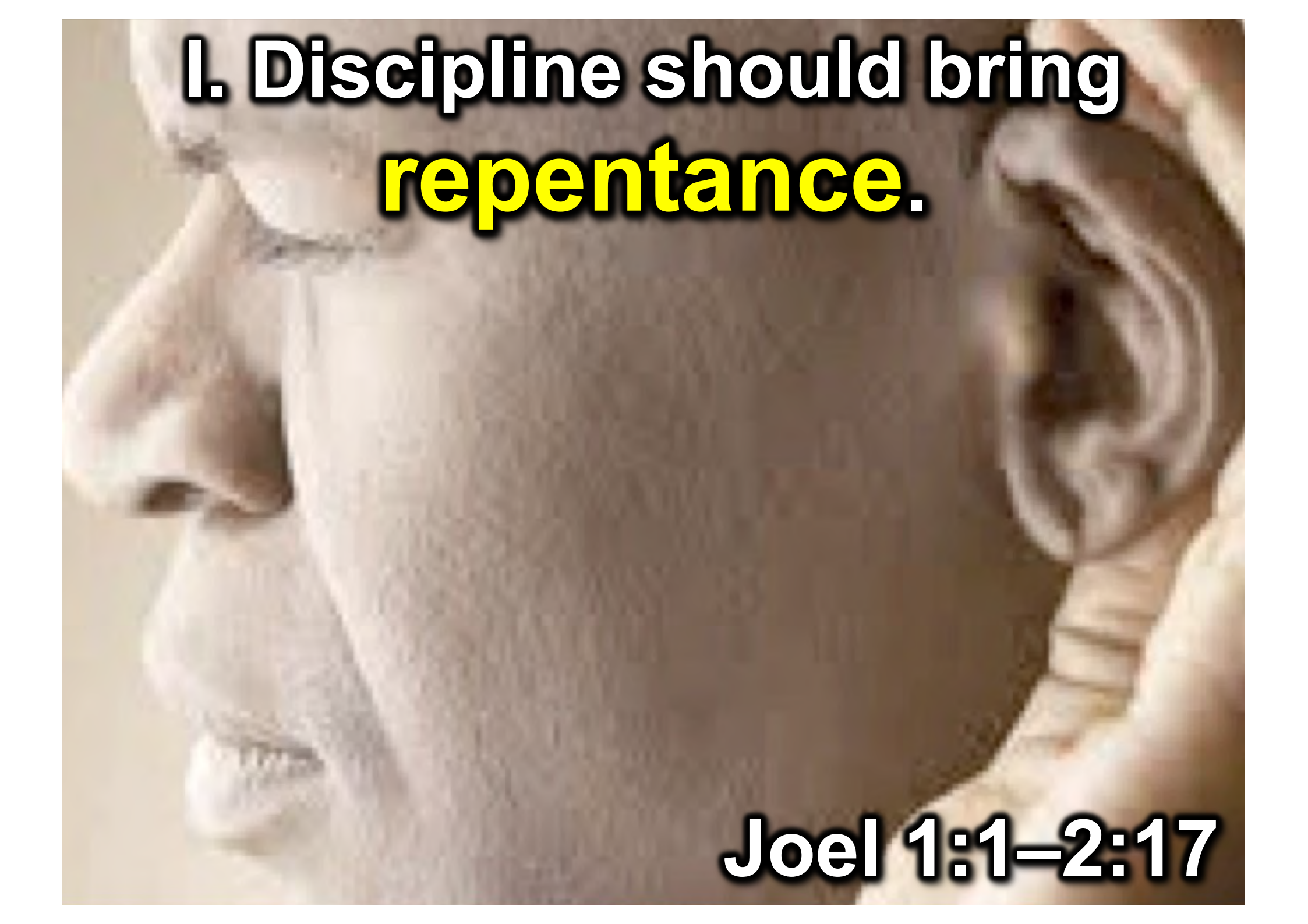
What should we do when
we are **disciplined**?



Main Idea of Joel



**Let discipline bring repentance
and repentance bring restoration.**



**I. Discipline should bring
repentance.**

Joel 1:1–2:17

A close-up photograph of two hands. The left hand is open, palm up, holding a small, glowing, translucent object. The right hand is closed, fingers curled, resting on the left hand. The object is a small, glowing, translucent sphere or cube, possibly a piece of glass or a small light source. The background is dark and out of focus.

**II. Repentance will bring
restoration.**

Joel 2:18–3:21

RICHARD J. FOSTER



CELEBRATION OF DISCIPLINE

The Path to Spiritual Growth

MORE THAN 1 MILLION COPIES SOLD

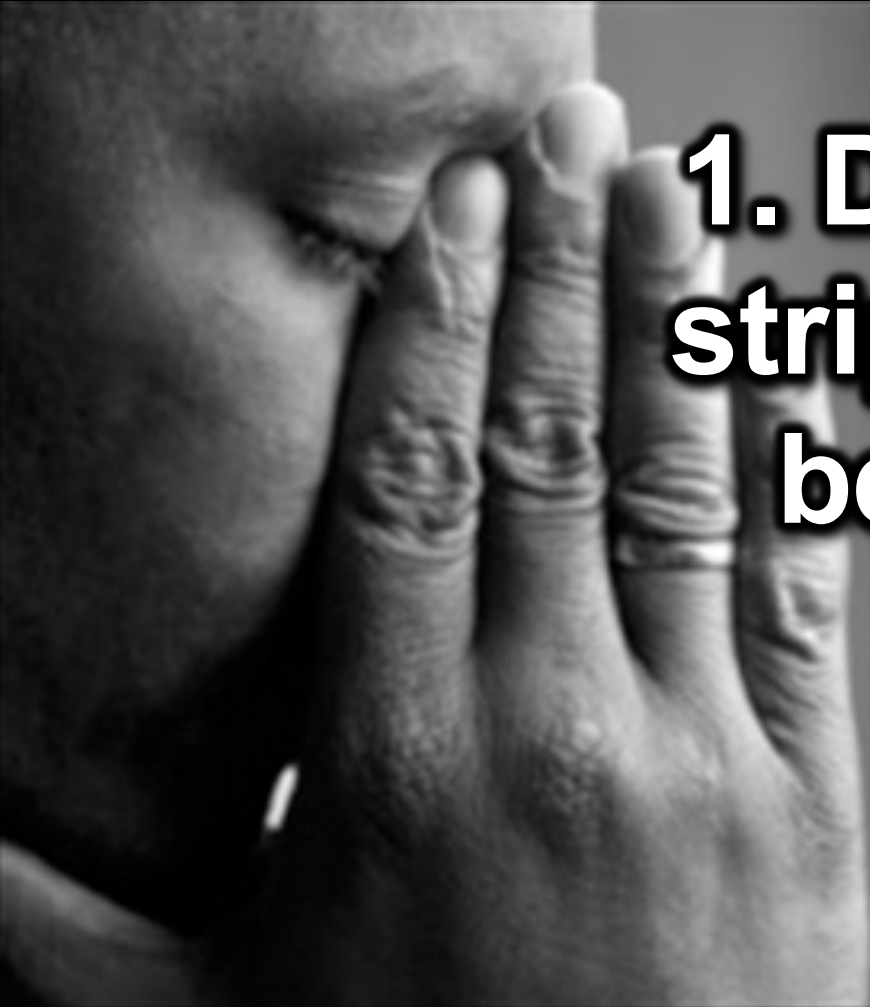
Be disciplined
or you will be
disciplined.

**My son, do
not despise
the LORD's
discipline
and do not
resent his
rebuke,
because
the LORD
disciplines
those he
loves, as a
father the
son he
delights in.**

Proverbs 3:11-12




Questions to Consider




**1. Do you need God to
strip you of everything
before you repent?
(Huang Sabin)**

Questions to Consider

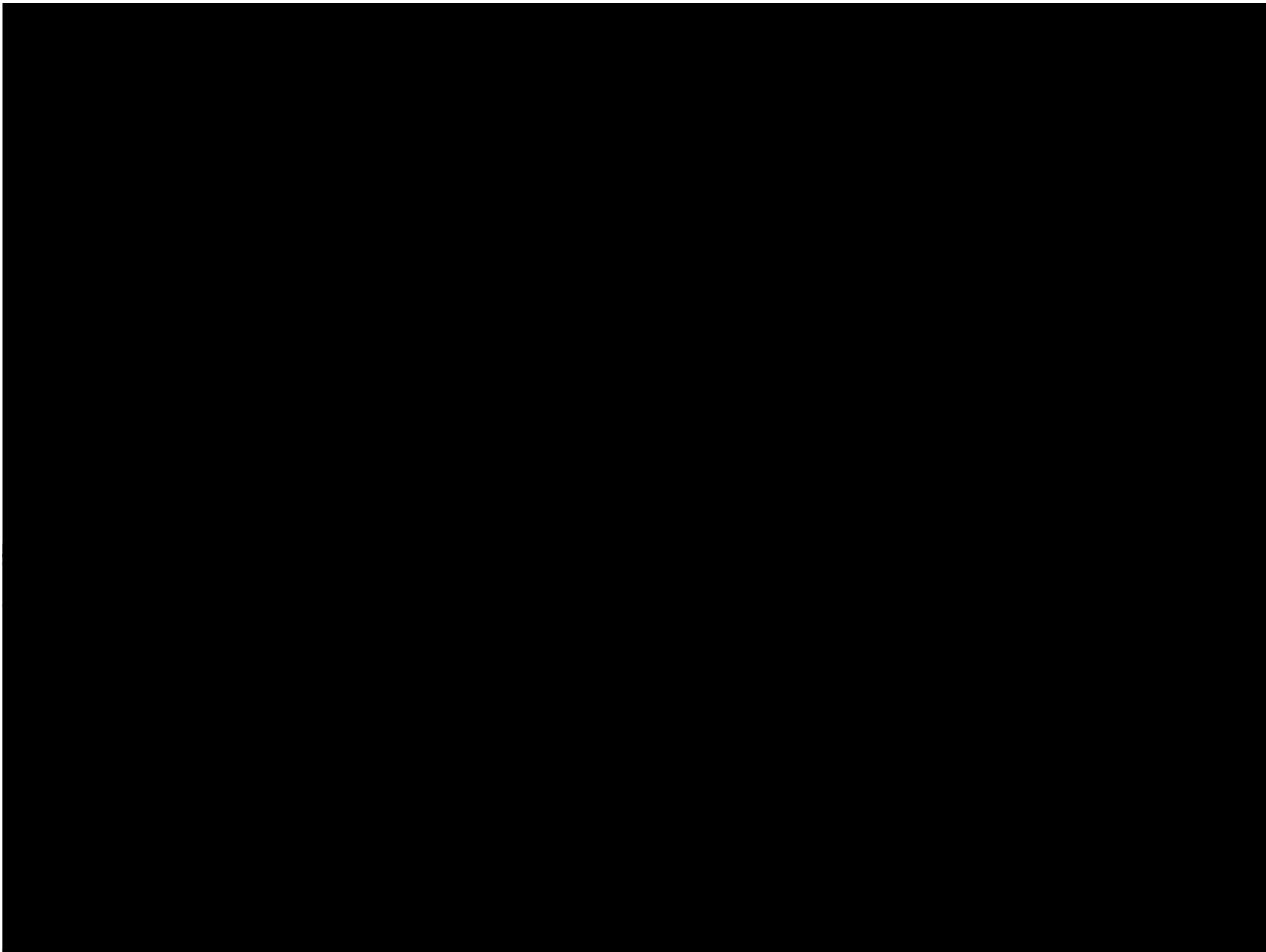


**2. Is God disciplining
you to get your
attention on him once
again?**

Questions to Consider




3. Have you considered fasting (1:14; 2:12) or do you think fasting isn't for our modern age? Why wouldn't it be?



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A large background image for the main banner showing a pair of hands holding an open, small, black leather-bound book with yellowed pages. A semi-transparent dark grey box with white text is overlaid on the lower left of the image.

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