

BOOK OF THE PROPHET JOEL

As Jonah may be represented as a type of the personality of the Prophet, so the book of Joel is characteristic of the content of the message. And that message is common to all the messages of the Prophets. They were all commissioned to testify for the claims of Jehovah, to call men unto repentance, to announce judgment on unrepentant sinners. They spake of the historical course of world events; of the rejection of Israel; of the calling of the Gentiles; of the final mercy to Israel and the blessedness of the Latter Day theocracy. Shot in between these messages, mention is made now and then of the Messiah who is to be the Redeemer from sin and the Ruler in the new Kingdom of Righteousness and Peace.

Scofield well remarks in his issue of the Bible: "It is remarkable that Joel, coming at the very beginning of written prophecy, gives the fullest view of the consummation of all written prophecy. Scofield then gives the order of events as follows:

" (1) The invasion of Palestine from the North by Gentile World powers, headed up under the Beast and False Prophet (Joel 2:1-10; 'Armageddon', Rev. 16:14);

" (2) The Lord's army and destruction of the invaders (Joel 2:11; Rev. 19:11-21);

" (3) The repentance of Judah in the land (Joel 2:2:12-17: Deut. 30:1-9, note);

" (4) The answer of Jehovah (Joel 2:18-27);

" (5) The effusion of the Spirit in the (Jewish) 'last days' (Joel 2:28,29);

" (6) The return of the Lord in glory and the setting up of the kingdom (Joel 2:30-32; Acts 15:15-170) by the regathering of the nations and the judgment of the nations (Joel 3:1-16).