

come forth from the house of Jehovah, and shall water the valley of Shittim. In Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence done to the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land. But Judah shall abide for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation. And I will cleanse their blood, that I have not cleansed: for Jehovah dwelleth in Zion" (Joel 3:18-21).

Against a literal interpretation of this passage it will not do to point to this as full of figures of speech. The 18th verse indeed contains them. However, we must bear in mind that a figure of speech is but another form of expression to indicate a fact of truth. The "dropping down of sweet wine and the abundance of milk in that day" is but another way of telling us that the material blessings of the End-time will be choice and abundant. Joel concludes his prophecy with announcing that a permanence and sanctity of Judah and Jerusalem shall eventually obtain which has not been in evidence hitherto.