

Why didn't Amos say in the year 73- 723 BC . Well, I'm afraid that he wasn't used to that method of dating at that time. As a ~~fa~~ matter of fact, they didn't ~~a~~ start dating until AD or BC until about 450 AD and before that time it was ~~esse~~ customary to date according to great events or according to the reigns of particular kings. So back of 450 ~~x~~ AD we have a complicated problem to determine exact dates, but here Amos tells us ~~W she~~ who was the king in Judah, who was the king in Israel , so we can date it very closely , and if we knew the great events in that ~~perid- pere~~ period , we could date it nearly because he says two years before the great earthquake , but Joel says nothing of the kind. The word of ~~Joes--Joel-~~ the Lord that came to Joel, the son of Pethuel. So we have no proof ~~eth~~ that Joel was written rather early or quite late . I think we are safe in making a pretty safe guess that it was early because the Minor Prophets are arranged ~~in-the~~ generally in the order of writing. The last ~~centur~~ three of them were written after the return ~~from~~ the exile, and the first and third are dated some time ~~f~~ before the exile, so we are quite ~~justifée-~~ justified in saying that this is a rather early book , the book of Jonah. But as we start the book we find that it is giving us the words that Joel gave to the people and it is only ~~real~~ reasonable to ~~x~~ say that when he describes the situation he is talking about something that is right ~~ter~~ there then . He says in verse 2, "Hear this, ye old men, and give ear, all ye inhabitants of the land, Hath this been in your days , or even in the days of your fathers? Tell ye your children of it, and let your children tell their children , and their children another generation. That which the palmerworm hath left hath the locust ~~eath~~ eaten ; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten. " In other words, Joel is saying to the ~~x~~ people , Hath you ever heard from your fathers or grand-fathers of any situation as bad as you face ~~xx~~ here. And, you remember to pass on to ~~xx~~ your children that it is very unlikely ~~jt~~ that