



Joel

How to React to Tragedy & Suffering

Joel 2:12-17

Even now— this is the LORD's declaration—
turn to Me with all your heart, with fasting,
weeping, and mourning. Tear your hearts,
not just your clothes, and return to the LORD
your God. For He is gracious and
compassionate, slow to anger, rich in faithful
love, and He relents from sending disaster.
Who knows? He may turn and relent and leave

a blessing behind Him, so you can offer grain
and wine to the LORD your God. Blow the horn
in Zion! Announce a sacred fast; proclaim an
assembly. Gather the people; sanctify the
congregation; assemble the aged; gather the
children, even those nursing at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his bedroom, and the
bride her honeymoon chamber.

Let the priests, the LORD's ministers, weep
between the portico and the altar. Let them
say: "Have pity on Your people, LORD, and do
not make Your inheritance a disgrace, an
object of scorn among the nations. Why should
it be said among the peoples, 'Where is their
God?'"

Hope

Even when all is falling apart, God is waiting (v.12)

Half-hearted measures will not get things done (v.12)

Changing the inside will create a lasting change on the
outside (v.13)

The character of God (v.13)

The possibilities of hope (v.14) “Who knows?”

Grace & blessing may yet happen (v.14)

The Trumpet

A call to national repentant prayer in
seeking God (v.15)

The Role of the People

All life comes to a halt for a country to return to God
(v.16)

The small & great are called to gather (v.16)

Celebration comes to an end in order for repentance
to priority (v.16)

The priest is to stand between the people & God
begging for pity (v.17)

The promise of Abraham's inheritance (v.17)
Where is their God? (v.17)

What About You?

Are you turning to God?

Are you calling others to return to God?