

THE BOOK OF JOEL



Tomb of Joel in the town of Jish.

IMPORTANCE

The prophet Joel was buried in the town of Gush Halab, also called Gischala, in the land of Naphtali. The tomb of Joel is the only tomb of a prophet located in the former Northern Kingdom of Israel.

Jerome records that Paul's parents lived there¹. Jesus called the twelve apostles from the surrounding region. Could it be the prophecy of Joel was forefront in the minds of men from Galilee, Jesus included?

On the day of Pentecost Peter quoted five verses from the Book of Joel (Acts 2 v 17-21). The prophecy of John in Revelations contains imagery from Joel: locusts, reaping sickles, and an overflowing winepress of wrath.

If you sought priests with a legal education you would find them in Jerusalem. If you sought disciples hungering and thirsting for the Word of God, you would find them in Galilee.

If we understand Joel we gaze into the souls of fourteen holy men called by God.

DATING OF THE BOOK

We propose Joel was pre-exilic. Early in chapter 1 Joel writes "**Awake you drunkards and weep**" (v 5). Hosea described Israelites: "**Harlotry, wine, and new wine enslave the heart**" (Hosea 4 v 11). Drunkenness was a besetting sin of Israel, not of Judah. Therefore we conclude Joel addressed Israel before the Exile.

PROPHETIC TIME FRAME

Joel is a small book but its prophetic reach is across four millennia. Prophecies begin prior to the Exile, continue to the first coming of Messiah [Joel 2 prophecies quoted by Peter], and continue all the way through the Age of Grace to the Great Tribulation [Joel 3 prophecies appears in Revelations].

Joel has prophecies which are unfolding before our eyes today. Joel is worthy of our attention.

¹ Paul was of the tribe Benjamin. There were many living in Galilee, including Jesus who was born in Judah, who were transplants.

METHODOLOGY

Our study will rely on the usual exegetical tools plus more advanced methods: Gematria of words in Scripture; the meaning of Spiritual Numbers; and the prophetic witness of the Heavenly Signs: the 50 constellations.

Gematria is the [numerical value of Greek and Hebrew letters](#). This allows us to calculate the numerical value of Bible words and Bible verses. Using [Bible Numbers](#) we can [connect the numerical value of verses to Bible chapters](#) and to a unique meaning for each number.

The truth of God is revealed in the stars. Each of the Books in the Bible corresponds to one of the 50 constellations in the Heavens. Each of the chapters in the Bible maps to a constellation. The stars in each constellation map to a Bible chapter. These topics are covered in depth on our site. See our page [STARS](#).

THE THEME OF JOEL

The Book of Joel is the 29th Book of the Bible. The 29th Heavenly Sign is Cygnus, the Swan in flight. The spiritual number 29 means HOLY ONE. In Genesis 29 Jacob leaves the Promised Land and sojourns to Haran.



The Pilgrim

The Swan is in flight. The entire hope and future of God's plan of salvation is embodied in this solitary pilgrim. He has left the Promised Land. He is sojourning into territory where worship of idols is the prevalent belief. He is but a youth. His personal faith is not firmly established. Perilous trials are coming.

The Kingdom of David and Solomon were a time when the worship of Yahweh achieved international recognition and wide spread domestic adoption. In the following centuries the faith declined. By the time of Joel the nation was on the verge of extinction.

The prophecy of Joel covers the time between the end of the first Davidic Kingdom and the beginning of the second Davidic Kingdom (when Christ Returns). These times echo the sojourn of Jacob outside the Promised Land. Jesus would come, but be rejected. The early Church would appear, but be persecuted. New tribes of believers would be born, but like Jacob's sons, grow up antagonistic to one another.

For much of the prophecy of Joel true believers are strangers and aliens. They are mistrusted and abused by secular authorities. They are judged and victimized by religious authorities.

THE CHAPTERS OF JOEL

The table below links the chapters of Joel to their prophetic markers in the stars and in Scripture:

	Chapter Count	Number Meaning	Heavenly Sign	Bible Chapter
JOEL 1	877	Man's Possessions Devoured	27 Draco Dragon Cast Out	Gen. 27 Esau loses the Blessing of Isaac
JOEL 2	878	Hearts Filled With Glory to God	28 Delaph Holy Oil Poured Out	Gen. 28 Jacob's Dream of Ladder to Heaven
JOEL 3	879	Robbers of Phoenicia Meet God	29 Cygnus Swan in Flight	Gen. 29 Jacob arrives in Gentile lands

	Verse Count	Old Testament Bible Verse
JOEL 1	877	Gen. 31 v 3 Then the LORD said to Jacob, 'Go back to the land of your fathers and to your relatives, and I will be with you'.
JOEL 2	878	Gen. 31 v 4 So Jacob sent word to Rachel and Leah to come out to the fields where his flocks were.
JOEL 3	879	Gen. 31 v 5 He said to them 'I see that your father's attitude towards me is not what it was before, but the God of my father has been with me.'

Joel 1 covers the prophetic period from before the Exile to before the arrival of Romans. This period includes the Exile, the Return, the 2nd Temple, Alexander's conquest, Seleucid dominion of the Holy Land, Hellenization, the Maccabees, the kingdom of Judah restored. During this period the Babylonians come and the Greeks come. Like [Draco](#), none of the dragons can keep a grip on the Promised Land and are cast out.

Joel 2 covers the prophetic period from the arrival of the Romans to almost the end of the Age of Grace. This period includes the birth, ministry, death and resurrection of Christ, the birth of the early church, the fall of Jerusalem, the persecution of believers, the spread of Christianity across the West. [Delaph](#), pictures Holy Oil Poured Out. Christ came full of the Holy Spirit. God poured out His Spirit out on the Day of Pentecost and 3,000 were saved. Hearts were filled with glory to God from these events.

Joel 3 starts at the return of the Jews to the Holy Land and the creation of the modern state of Israel in 1948. It continues to the end of the Age of Grace and the Great Tribulation. [Cygnus](#) is in flight: this is the Age in which Christians are raptured! Jacob finds himself living among Syrians. It becomes apparent to him how culturally and spiritually different they are. Jacob can see the sheep are thirsty. The Syrian shepherds tell him: '**It is not time to feed the sheep**'. In the last days of the Age of Grace Christians will be strangers in their own land. It will be hot like mid-day [global warming]. The sheep will be thirsty.

JOEL CH. 1 VERSES 1-5

Joel 1 compares Israel to a man who has passed out drunk.

There are 20 verses in Joel 1. Since 5 is the largest prime factor of 20, to gain deeper insight we divide the verses of Joel 1 into four sections of 5 verses each for Gematria Analysis².

“The word of the Lord that came to Joel the son of Pethuel. Hear this, old men, and give ear, all you inhabitants of the land. Has this been in your days, or even in the days of your fathers? Tell your children of it, and let your children tell their children, and their children another generation. That which the palmerworm has left has the locust eaten; and that which the locust has left has the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm has left has the caterpillar eaten. Awake, drunkards, and weep; and howl, all drinkers of wine, because of the new wine; for it is cut off from your mouth.” (Joel 1 v 1-5)

The total Gematria of all the Hebrew words in Joel 1 v 1-5 is 19,555. $19,555 = 16 \times 1189 + 531$. There are 1189 chapters in the Bible so if we started counting from Genesis 1 we would have to count 16 times through the whole Bible before the count ended at the 531st chapter, which is Psalm 53.

Joel is writing before the Exile. As a local resident he could see faith was not being exercised in Israel. The people were given over to godless carnality. Psalm 53 describes the situation:

“The fool has said in his heart ‘There is no God’. They are corrupt and have done abominable iniquity. There is no one that does good.” (v 1) “God looks down from Heaven upon the children of men to see if there are any who understand, who seek God” (v 2) “Every one of them has turned aside. They have together become corrupt. There is no one that does good. No, not one” (v 3)

The crisis is summed up by this: there is no ‘new wine’ – no spiritual fruit. Jesus says Israel is like a vineyard. The Father in Heaven owns the Vineyard. He sends His servants to see if the vineyard is fruitful. Joel reports back: ‘The vineyard is run down, decrepit and unfruitful. There are no new grapes. There is no new wine.’

What will the Owner do to the negligent renters of His Vineyard? **“He will destroy those wicked men”** (Matt. 21 v 41). Israel was attacked by Assyria, its people were taken captive, and led away to distant lands.

² For a word by word, verse by verse Gematria Analysis of Joel 1 see our paper: [click here](#). (pdf)

JOEL CH. 1 VERSES 6-10

Babylon lays siege and captures Jerusalem. Captives are led out of the Holy Land into exile.

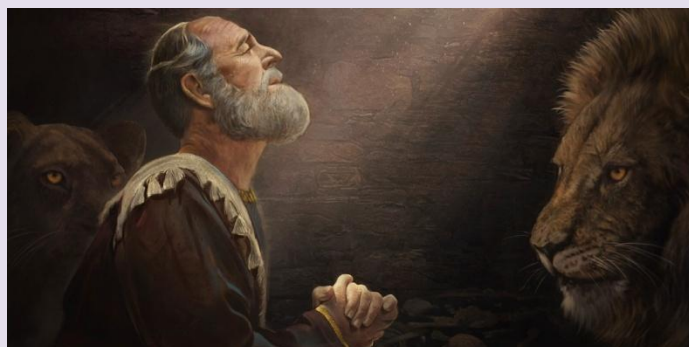
“For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a lion, and he has the cheek teeth of a great lion. (v.6) He has laid my vine waste, and barked my fig tree: he has made it clean bare, and cast it away; the branches thereof are made white. (v.7) Lament like a virgin girded with sackcloth for the husband of her youth. (v.8) The meat offering and the drink offering is cut off from the house of the Lord; the priests, the Lord's ministers, mourn. (v.9) The field is wasted, the land mourns; for the corn is wasted: the new wine is dried up, the oil languishes. (v.10)” (Joel 1)

The Gematria of Joel 1 v 6-10 is 18,944. $18,944 = 15 \times 1189 + 1,109$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 15 times through the whole Bible and end at the 1,109th chapter, which is Colossians 2.

Babylon invades. How do we know? (1) The lion is the ancient symbol for Babylon. It featured prominently on the Ishtar Gate at the entrance to the city; (2) Solomon's Temple is destroyed (v.9). When the Assyrians invaded they attacked Israel not Judah. They laid siege to Samaria. It had a temple but without ministers to the Lord; (3) The Gematria of v.6 is 4,391 remainder 824 (Eze. 22). Eze. 22 lists the sins of Judah not Israel; (4) The Gematria of v.7 is 5,573 remainder 817 (Eze. 17). Eze. 17 v 12 explicitly says: “**Indeed the King of Babylon went to Jerusalem and took its kings and princes and led them back with him to Babylon.**”

Why does the land mourn? By Joel 1 v 10 the chosen people are in Exile. The “**land mourns**” because there is no one to tend and care for it. There is a crop, but there is no one to harvest it so the “**corn is wasted**”. The new wine sits stagnant in the jars because there is no one to drink: so it “**dries up**”.

Note: The Book of Ezekiel was written during the captivity long after Joel wrote his letter. Joel could not possibly have designed his letter to be a prophetic pointer the way we use Gematria in this paper. Joel is the author but his words were 100% inspired by God. Only God knew there would be 1,189 chapters in the Bible.

JOEL CH. 1 VERSES 11-15

Daniel confesses 'O Lord, we have sinned' during the Babylonian captivity

"Be ye ashamed, O ye husbandmen; howl, O ye vinedressers, for the wheat and for the barley; because the harvest of the field is perished. (v.11) The vine is dried up, and the fig tree languishes; the pomegranate tree, the palm tree also, and the apple tree, even all the trees of the field, are withered: because joy is withered away from the sons of men. (v.12) Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar: come, lie all night in sackcloth, ye ministers of my God: for the meat offering and the drink offering is withheld from the house of your God. (v.13) Consecrate a fast, call a solemn assembly, gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land into the house of the Lord your God, and cry to the Lord. (v.14) Alas for the day! For the day of the Lord is at hand, and as destruction from the Almighty shall it come. (v.15)" (Joel 1)

The Gematria of Joel 1 v 11-15 is 26,225. $26,225 = 22 \times 1189 + 67$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 22 times through the whole Bible and end at the 67th chapter, which is Exodus 17.

The return of Jews to the Holy Land began with a deep reflection and repentance of the exiled leadership class: husbandsmen (v.11), priests (v.12), ministers of my God (v.12). Daniel expressed anguish of soul for how those tasked with caring for the nation failed in their duty: **"O Lord, to us belongs confusion of face, to our kings, to our princes, and to our fathers, because we have sinned against thee."** (Daniel 9 v 8)

The Israelites deported by Assyria never returned. Being unspiritual and carnal there was no way for them to be convicted of their sin. No urge to confess and seek restoration with a Holy God. Not so with Judah.

God heard Daniel's prayer and the Jews returned to Jerusalem thanks to the good graces of King Cyrus of Persia. Joel called for a solemn assembly in **"the house of the Lord your God"** (v14): The second temple was constructed. Joel writes **"Cry unto the Lord"** (v 14): The repentance widened and deepened. This was fulfilled in the ministry of Ezra the Scribe. Informed of the sins of Jews in Jerusalem he tore his robes. With others he continued the confession of sin: **"O my God, I am humiliated to lift my face to You"** (Ezra 9 v 6) etc.

Exodus 17 is the account of Aaron [priesthood] and Hur [fathers] holding up the arms of Moses [leader in prayer posture]. When spiritual men humbled themselves Joshua was able to defeat Amalek at Rephidim.

JOEL CH. 1 VERSES 16-20

Coin of Antiochus IV Epiphanes: [In Greek] 'Victorious God Manifest King Antiochus'

"Is not the meat cut off before our eyes, yea, joy and gladness from the house of our God? (v.16) The seed is rotten under their clods, the garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down; for the corn is withered. (v.17) How the beasts groan! The herds of cattle are perplexed, because they have no pasture; yea, the flocks of sheep are made desolate. (v.18) O Lord, to thee will I cry: for the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and the flame has burned all the trees of the field. (v.19) The beasts of the field cry also to thee: for the rivers of waters are dried up, and the fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness. (v.20)" (Joel 1)

The Gematria of Joel 1 v 16-20 is 20,514. $20,514 = 17 \times 1189 + 301$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 17 times through the whole Bible and end at the 301st chapter, which is 1 Kings 10.

The cloister of Yahweh worshipping monotheism was a flickering candle in a raging storm. Judah was a minor province at the cross-roads of three powerful Ancient Empires: Egypt, Greece, and Persia who were forever marching armies against each other. All of them practiced versions of polytheism.

As Daniel predicted the Greeks subdued their rivals. After Alexander died his Empire was partitioned. In spite of their common heritage the four successors were unable to resist conflict. Initially Judah was permitted cultural and religious freedoms. However Judah became perceived as hostile and rebellious. Desiring to snuff out this thorn in their side the Greeks tried to impose their culture and religion by force.³

Hellenization was devastating: (1) Temple practice was restricted: 'Is not the meat [offering] cut off?' [v 16]; (2) Governors were under the thumb of Greece: 'The seed [royal line of Judah] is rotten under the clods' [v 17a]; (3) Torah teachers were banned from Jerusalem: 'garners are laid desolate, the barns are broken down' [v 17b]; (4) Greek altars and offerings to Greek gods were mandated: 'The herds [believers]... are perplexed... they have no pasture' [v 18a]; (5) Circumcision was banned: 'flocks of sheep are made desolate' [v 18b]; (6) Resistance to Hellenization was put down by the army: 'fire has devoured the pastures... flame has burned the trees of the field' [v 19]; (6) Practice of Judaism became limited to villages in the hinterlands: 'The beasts of the field [those outside the reach of the government] cry... to thee..' [v 20]

³ For a detailed history of this period see our paper: [Seven Years in the Hands of Midian](#) (pdf)

PREAMBLE TO JOEL 2



Sunrise over the Sea of Galilee

Isaiah said it best: **“The people that walked in darkness have seen a Great Light: they that dwell in the land of the Shadow of Death, upon them a light has dawned.”** (9 v 2)

Joel 1 was the Dark Ages for the Jews. They lost their kingdom, their capital, their Temple. Their best and brightest were taken captive. When they achieved success in foreign lands they were thrown to the lions. Their return to the Holy Land was marked by setbacks and further humiliations and repressions.

Out of the cesspool of politics, infighting, and perverse new factions that blighted the Holy Land God sent His son, Jesus Christ to be the Light of the World. (For more on this, see our paper: [The Word Became Flesh](#)).

Even more amazing, the Messiah would spend his formative years in the region of Galilee. This region was separated from the main concentration of Jewry in Jerusalem by heretical Samaria. Galilee was such a cultural and religious backwater its citizens could not speak Hebrew with a pure accent.

SPIRITUAL NUMBERS

Joel 2 has 32 verses. $32 = 4 \times 8$. The Bible Number 8 means NEW MAN or HOLY MAN. The number 8 is 2 cubed. Whenever a number is cubed it becomes ‘holy’. The Bible Number 2 means DIVISION. So, 8 implies: HOLY DIVISION. A separation is made between the HOLY and the UNHOLY. Jesus described it like this:

“And this is the condemnation, that light is come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. For every one that does evil hates the light, nor comes to the light, lest his deeds should be reproved. But he that does truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be made manifest, that they are wrought in God.” (John 3 v 19-21)

Joel 2 is the story of Jesus. $32 = 4 \times 8$ which may be translated: MESSAGE (4) of the NEW ADAM (8).

JOEL CH. 2 VERSES 1 - 8

Mighty Roman legions appear in the Holy Land

“Blow the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the Day of the Lord comes, for it is nigh at hand. (v.1); A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there has never been the like neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. (v.2); A fire devours before them; and behind them a flame burns: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. (v.3); The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. (v.4); Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. (v.5); Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. (v 6); They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march in formation, and they do not break ranks. (v 7); Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk everyone in his own column: and when they lunge between the weapons, they are not cut down. (v8)” (Joel 2)

The Gematria of Joel 2 v 1-8 is 44,984. $44,984 = 37 \times 1189 + 991$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 37 times through the whole Bible and end at the 991st chapter, which is Luke 18.

PROPHETIC ZION

Joel says ‘Blow the trumpet in Zion’ (v1). Of what Zion does the prophet speak? The Gematria of ‘in Zion’ in v1 is 808 which means EVERY ALTAR EVERY IDOL SMASHED. The 808th Bible Chapter is Eze. 6 where it says:

“Son of Man set your face against the mountains of Israel... I will destroy your high places. Your altars will be demolished... I will slay your people in front of their idols... But I will spare some... then in the nations where they have been carried captive those who escape will remember me... And they will know I Am the Lord”

The original Israelites were deported and dispersed by the Assyrians. They never repented. They never returned to the Holy Land. So the ‘Israel’ of which the prophet speaks is, according to Ezekiel 6, are those ‘in

the nations', those **'who escape'**, those who **'remember Me'**. Joel is speaking of believers in foreign lands who give up their native religion, either Judaism or Polytheism, and believe in the Messiah sent to the Jews.

The prophetic Zion of which Joel speaks is the Heavenly Jerusalem not the earthly Jerusalem:

"...one covenant is from Mount Sinai and bears children who are to be [religious] slaves: This is Hagar. Now Hagar stands for Mount Sinai in Arabia and corresponds to the present city of Jerusalem... But the Jerusalem that is above is free [from religion i.e. is spiritual], and she is our mother." Galatians 4 v 24-26

Jesus' death on the Cross did two things: (1) Payment for sin; (2) Release for believers from religious slavery so they could love one another from a pure heart and worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

EVERY ALTAR EVERY IDOL SMASHED: With sin paid there was no need for a Temple to make offerings to cover sin. Temple priests are redundant. All religious duty to tithe or otherwise support priests is meaningless in the eyes of God. Any attempt to resurrect temple services would diminish Calvary.

The 'Zion' of which Joel speaks can't be Judaism. 'Zionism' is a popular term used to describe the desire for Jews to return and repossess their heritage land claim in Palestine. This is not the Zion Joel 2 describes.



When Jesus instructed His disciples at the Last Supper he paraphrased Ezekiel 6: **"Do this in remembrance of Me."** (1 Cor 11 v 23-25) Which is another way of saying: before long you will be driven from the Holy Land, it will only be a memory for you; so expect to celebrate communion among new believers in foreign lands.

Where did Jesus celebrate the Last Supper? In a temple or a church? No. Jesus fellowshiped with his apostles in a simple room in a private residence. Where should believers in the Age of Grace meet to fellowship and celebrate communion? In a temple or a church? No. We should expressly avoid religious association. Christ's death has set us free. We are not meant to be slaves of religion.

Right from the start Joel chapter 2 is marking a distinction: the New Man (Messiah) brings a New Covenant. God will set aside (for an extended time) his dealings with the Christ rejecting Jews. The Gospel will go forth to foreign lands and believers in the nations will fear Him and worship Him there (privately).

THE ROMANS

Joel 2 v 1 is a warning of a prophetic sign the Day of the Lord, the coming of Messiah, is at hand: occupation of the Holy Land by a foreign power with never-before-seen military discipline and strength:

(v2) “...a great people and a strong; there has never been the like neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations”

The Roman army in 30 AD, considered the High Empire period, fielded 125,000 legionary forces plus 250,000 auxiliaries. In comparison, the army of Alexander the Great fielded 30,000 infantry and 5,000 cavalry. The Babylonian army that conquered Judah fielded roughly 30,000 troops.

(v3) “A fire devours before them; and behind them a flame burns: the land is as the Garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.”

Rome did not tolerate rivals well. Carthage made itself a rival. Rome determined not merely to defeat them in battle but to destroy their capital city. The Romans burned Carthage to the ground and enslaved the population. Another city, Utica, became the capital of the new Roman province.

(v4) “The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.”

Like the head of horse held high, a column of Roman soldiers on the march was always preceded by a banner raised on a pole (see picture on page 8). The Romans built roads to connect their capital with all their colonies and provinces. Reserves were deployed quickly across the Empire. To their enemies a Roman army marched as swiftly as horses over open fields.

(v5) “Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devours the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.”

Romans were strong on every front. Rome was took control of the entire Mediterranean. Rome was strong at sea and strong on land. Rome conquered mountains and Rome conquered plains.

(v6) “Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness.”

Rome was an oppressor. Rome levied high taxes in occupied territories. Rome used terror to suppress rebellion. Roman law treated its own citizens preferentially to all other classes of residents. Roman governors, such as Herod the Great, were notorious for butchery, debauchery, and self-indulgence.

(v7-8) “They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march in formation, and they do not break ranks... everyone marches in his own column”

In spite of its huge territory Rome remained unified for centuries. Periodically there might be a disputed succession for a short time. Rome was founded in 753 BC and did not split until 395 AD.

JOEL CH. 2 VERSES 9 - 16



Jesus heals a paralyzed man in Capernaum. Men climbed onto the roof to lower the patient because the press of people was too great to enter by the door. This literally fulfills the prophecy of Joel that the army of followers of the Lord will “climb up upon the houses” (v 9)

“They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. (v.9); The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining. (v.10); And the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executes his word: for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it? (v.11); Therefore also now, says the Lord, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: (v.12); And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn to the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repents him of the evil. (v.13); Who knows if he will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering unto the Lord your God? (v 14); Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly. (v 15); Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet. (v 16)” (Joel 2)

The Gematria of Joel 2 v 1-8 is 38,579. $38,579 = 32 \times 1189 + 531$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 32 times through the whole Bible and end at the 531st chapter, which is Psalm 53.

In our first stanza, Joel 2 v 1-8, the Messiah comes during a Roman occupation. In this stanza, Joel 2 v 2-16, the Messiah begins His ministry. Not as a solitary prophet. Prophetic Sign: as a leader with many followers.

The presence of the Roman army guarantees the army of the Messiah will not be military. This is precluded because our first stanza tells us in unequivocal terms it is futile to take up arms against Rome. The army of the Lord prophesied by Joel has a spiritual mission: to present the Messiah to the Jews that they might test and verify His qualifications, like a priest examining a lamb for sacrifice, whether He is blameless.

THE ARMY OF THE LORD

- (v9) **“They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief.”**

Although its mission is spiritual the army of the Lord will not be comprised of members of the ecclesiastic class, the priests, the scribes, or the Sanhedrin, exclusively. His followers will **“run to and fro in the city”** ~ by and large they will be regular everyday people. The expression **“they shall run upon the wall”** alludes to Nehemiah’s local levies: men and their families which each took part in rebuilding a portion of the wall of Jerusalem in their district. (Neh. 3-6)

- (v10) **“The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.”**

The Messiah will be so popular among the people **“the earth shall quake”** the social fabric will tear; The leaders of the political factions in Judea, those who are **“the heavens”** ~ political guides and influencers, will perceive a threat to their power: the Roman governor **“the sun”** and High Priest **“the moon”** shall **“be dark”** ~ angered and aggressive; The spiritual guides **“the stars”** will **“grow dim”**. Jesus will expose the hypocrisy of religious teachers in the synagogues.

- (v11) **“And the Lord shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executes His word: for the Day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?”**

The Gematria of Joel 2 v 11 is 4,522 has a remainder of 955 after subtracting 3 rounds of 1,189. Spiritual number 955 means TURN AWAY FROM JESUS IN DISGUST. The Messiah will tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth. This will so greatly offend self-righteous religious men with vested interests that they will seek the life of the Messiah. **“Who can abide it?”** No one: Jesus was crucified.

- (v12) **“Therefore also now, says the Lord, turn ye even to Me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning”**

The travesty of crucifying Jesus will touch the hearts of every man who loves the Truth, who loves the Father in Heaven. God sent his only Son, the joy of his bosom, to be abused by men. So that by His suffering the secrets of men’s hearts might be exposed, that they might be overwhelmed with guilt, confess their sins and be saved for all eternity.

- (v13) **“And rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God: for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repents him of the evil.”**

The Gematria of Joel 2 v 13 is 7,097 has a remainder of 1,152 after subtracting 5 rounds of 1,189. Spiritual number 1,152 means BORN AGAIN JEWISH PREACHERS GO TO THE GENTILES. Here is the mystery of the phrase **“rend your heart, and not your garments”**. The Gospel will not require

foreigners to mimic religious Jews. The Gentiles will not be required to strictly obey the Law of Moses. Salvation will come as the gift of a spiritual flame of the love of God in their hearts: “for He is gracious and merciful”. The Holy Spirit will be their Helper to re-order their life to please the Lord.

- (v14) “Who knows if He will return and repent, and leave a blessing behind him; even a meat offering and a drink offering to the Lord your God?”

The Gematria of Joel 2 v 14 is 3,617 has a remainder of 50 after subtracting 3 rounds of 1,189. Spiritual number 50 means FIRE: PURIFY, PERSECUTION. A believer will suffer rejection from his family and former friends. They will give up trying to draw him back into their fold: “Who knows if he will return?” For many it will be a lonely pilgrimage. Although the life of a believer in a Christ rejecting world is grim, we are the salt of the earth, being the agents of the Holy Spirit to restrain evil. The blessing appears “behind him” ~ after we are gone others are inspired: as it was with Jesus.

- (v15) “Blow the trumpet in Zion, sanctify a fast, call a solemn assembly.”

Zion is the Heavenly Jerusalem. Believers in Jesus are spiritually transported to the great worship meeting in Heaven where Jesus is officiating as High Priest of the New Covenant. In prayer we can enter into the great worship meeting in Heaven and enjoy fellowship with a multitude of pure souls. In patience we wait for the rapture and resurrection of our physical bodies.

- (v16) “Gather the people, sanctify the congregation, assemble the elders, gather the children, and those that suck the breasts: let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber, and the bride out of her closet”

“Gather the people” ~ In a deep mystery all the believers in Christ die with Him on the Cross⁴.

“Sanctify the congregation” ~ United in Christ’s death the sins of all believers are removed forever⁵.

“Assemble the elders” ~ The apostles meet and pray together in the dark days after the crucifixion for fear of the Jews. “Gather the children” ~ new followers of Jesus muse the event of His death⁶.

“Let the bridegroom go forth of his chamber” ~ Jesus told us He was the bridegroom⁷. The ‘chamber’ is the tomb where Jesus was laid. Jesus rises from the dead!

“and the bride out of her closet” ~ Empowered by seeing the resurrected Christ the apostles exit their hiding place and return to public spaces to preach Christ. Witnesses leave Jerusalem and preach Christ in Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

⁴ Romans 6 v 3

⁵ Romans 6 v 5-11

⁶ Luke 24 v 14

⁷ Matt 9 v 15

JOEL CH. 2 VERSES 17 - 24

The Vine yields her strength

“Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God? (v.17); Then will the Lord be jealous for his land, and pity his people. (v.18); Yea, the Lord will answer and say to His people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen: (v.19); But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he has done great things. (v.20); Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things. (v.21); Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree bears her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength. (v.22); Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he has given you the former rain moderately, and he will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain *as at first*. (v.23); And the floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. (v.24)” (Joel 2)

The Gematria of Joel 2 v 17-24 is 50,984. $44,429 = 42 \times 1189 + 491$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 42 times through the whole Bible and end at the 491st chapter, which is Psalm 13.

In the third stanza of Joel 2 (v 17-24) the prophecy of Joel roughly covers the first millennium of the Age of Grace: from the fall of Jerusalem to the spread of the Christian faith across Europe.

SEED SOWN AMONG THORNS IS CHOKED OUT / SEED SOWN ON GOOD SOIL THRIVES

(v17) “Let the priests, the ministers of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, Spare thy people, O Lord, and give not thine heritage to reproach, that the heathen should rule over them: wherefore should they say among the people, Where is their God?”

Judea rebelled against Rome. After losing a legion early in the conflict to an ambush the Romans returned with vengeance. Jesus warned the religious leaders of the Jews they would bear the consequences of killing the prophets: “**that on you may come all the righteous blood shed on the**

earth, from the blood of righteous Abel to the blood of Zechariah, son of Berechiah, whom you murdered between the temple and the altar" (Matt. 23 v 35) Let the priests weep: the Romans breached the walls of Jerusalem and destroyed the Temple of the Jews.

(v18) "Then will the Lord be jealous for His land, and pity His people."

The inheritance of Jesus is all the land promised to Joshua: "from the Euphrates to the Great Sea on the West" (Joshua 1 v 4). What is the Great Sea? The Pacific Ocean is the greatest of all seas. Where is it? West of Jerusalem. All of Europe, Africa, and the Americas as far west as the Pacific Ocean count as "His land". After the Jews rejected Him, Gentile believers now count as "His people".

As promised, faith in Jesus would spread to all these lands in the Age of Grace. Pagan Romans and others who for generations worshipped idols would be swept aside.

Somewhat curiously, Europe and North America have some of the best soil, climate, and geography for growing crops in the world. As Jesus said: "But he who received seed on the good ground is he who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and produces: some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty" (Matt. 13 v 23). In contrast, most of the soil in the Holy Land is hilly and dry.

(v19) "Yea, the Lord will answer and say to His people, Behold, I will send you corn, and wine, and oil, and ye shall be satisfied therewith: and I will no more make you a reproach among the heathen:"

Christians suffered grievous reproaches under the Romans. Yet, miraculously, in 313 AD Christianity was decriminalized across the Roman Empire and confiscated church lands were returned. Roman Emperor Constantine gave glory to the Lord for his successes. Such was the wave of popularity for Jesus that succeeding Emperors would eventually remove pagan temples and drop pagan traditions.

(v20) "But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he has done great things."

Constantine moved the capital of the Empire to Constantinople. It is a harbor city which faces the Black Sea: the "east sea" when viewed from the center of Europe, His Land. Rome split into East and West in 395 AD. Rome West was overrun. Rome East became Byzantium. They practiced another Christian religion: Eastern Orthodoxy. The mantle of Rome East would move north to Moscow. Orthodoxy would flourish under the Russian Empire, which would eventually reach to the "utmost sea" ~ the Arctic Ocean or the backside of the Pacific Ocean. "His stink will come up": Russia would achieve much but eventually fall to Communism, teach atheism, and persecute the saints.

The Gematria of v20 is 9,292. The remainder of 9,292 (after 7 cycles of 1189) is 969. Bible Number 969 means REJECTED STONE BECOMES CORNERSTONE. This relates to the honor paid to Jesus in the capital of New Rome established by Constantine.

(v21) **“Fear not, O land; be glad and rejoice: for the Lord will do great things.”**

The fall of Rome thrust Europe into the Dark Ages. Sickness, cold weather, and poor crops brought calamity to the continent. Saints continued to spread faith in Jesus to all corners of pagan Europe. The chiefs of pagan tribes were gradually baptized. Churches were planted. Christian nations arose.

The Gematria of v21 is 2,033. The remainder of 2,033 (after 1 cycle of 1189) is 844. Bible Number 844 means CULT OF SECRET PRIESTHOOD. Once the Christian church became the state church it was inevitable that former pagans who filled the pews would infiltrate the priesthood and bring pagan customs back. The former pantheon of ‘gods’ was replaced by a pantheon of ‘holy saints’. The former pagan idols were replaced by statuary of saints. Pagan temples were replaced by chapels, churches, and cathedrals: often on the same site. Relics were venerated. Graven images were prayed to.

(v22) **“Be not afraid, ye beasts of the field: for the pastures of the wilderness do spring, for the tree bears her fruit, the fig tree and the vine do yield their strength.”**

As Christianity spread the Roman Catholic Church was enriched and emboldened. Formerly **“beasts of the field”** on the fringe of society: no longer. Christian nations [**trees**] bore Christian citizens [**fruit**]. Even the papacy formed a nation state [**the fig tree**]. Religious orders [**vines**] flourished.

The Gematria of v22 is 6,505. The remainder of 6,505 (after 5 cycles of 1189) is 560. Bible Number 560 means SENSELESS SONS OF DARKNESS. The 560th Bible Chapter is Psalm 82: a list of the moral deficiency of religious elites:

‘v1 **“God presides in the great assembly; he gives judgement among the gods [elites]”**

‘v2 **“How long will you defend the unjust and show partiality to the wicked?”**

‘v3 **“Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless; maintain the rights of the poor and needy”**

The sins of the Catholic Church overflowed. Indulgences were sold for money. Cathedrals were gilded and built at great expense. The needs of the poor, physically and spiritually, were a low priority.

Religious elites were careless of their own sins. They lost respect in the eyes of the people. Prophets will arise to challenge the practices of the Church.

(v23) **“Be glad then, ye children of Zion, and rejoice in the Lord your God: for he has given you the former rain moderately, and He will cause to come down for you the rain, the former rain, and the latter rain as at first.”**

Rain is water from Heaven. Rain nourishes and sustains life. God would begin the process of reform by inspiring scholars. Just as the apostles preached Christ (the former rains) to their brethren Jews, God would raise up spirit filled men to preach Christ (the latter rains) to their brethren Catholics.

The Gematria of v23 is 8,408. The remainder of 8,408 (after 7 cycles of 1189) is 85. Bible Number 85 means HOLY COMMUNION. The 85th Bible Chapter is Exodus 35 which is the account of Bezalel and Oholiab expertly crafting the furniture of the Tabernacle of Moses.

To this author the obvious candidates for Bezalel and Oholiab are Wycliffe and Hus. These theologians preceded the Reformation by over a hundred years. They spoke from within the Catholic Church. They identified the issues where the Church stumbled on false doctrine and practice. Wycliffe took grave exception to how the Church interpreted Communion. Wycliffe spoke truth to power in England, and Hus in Bohemia. Hus was burned at the stake. Wycliffe was declared a heretic.

(v24) **“And the [threshing] floors shall be full of wheat, and the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.”**

The Gematria of v24 is 3,330. The remainder of 3,330 (after 2 cycles of 1189) is 952. Bible Number 952 means WOE SYNAGOGUE LEADERS! HYPOCRITES! The 952nd Bible Chapter is Matt 23 which is the account of Jesus pronouncing seven woes on man-made religion (in that day: Pharisaism).

Official religion operated at peak corruption. The word **‘threshing floors’** has a Gematria of 664 and means MAN IS NAKED. The word **‘wheat’** has a Gematria of 202 and means PRINCIPLES COMPROMISED. The threshing floor is a Bible picture of a preacher imploring believers. The audience are told they were sinners: MAN IS NAKED. But the priests are not presenting the Gospel so the audience can’t exchange their filthy rags for robes of righteousness. The word **‘winevats’** has a Gematria of 727 and means THE HYPOCRITES. The word **‘oil’** has a Gematria of 311 and means FAMILY OF MERCHANTS. The Church was nothing more than a religious business enterprise: financially profitable to overseers, spiritually unprofitable to adherents.

JOEL CH. 2 VERSES 25 - 32

John Wesley

Revival: Authentic Gospel is Preached and Believed

“And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. (v.25); And you shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that has dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed. (v.26); And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed. (v.27); And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: (v.28); And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. (v.29); And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. (v.30); The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord come. (v.31); And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord has said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call. (v 32)” (Joel 2)

Gematria of Joel 2 v 25-32 is 50,518. $50,518 = 42 \times 1189 + 580$. If we start counting from Genesis 1 we would count 42 times through the whole Bible and end at the 580th chapter, which is Psalm 102. The Bible Number 580 means CONDEMNED PRISONERS SET FREE.

A people trapped in a religious bondage for hundreds of years are helpless to save themselves. At the height of Catholic influence in Europe the Bible was accessible only to a few priests and pedagogues. The ministry of the sacraments was dictated in Latin, a language incomprehensible to parishioners. Catholicism was the state religion. To speak against Catholicism was treasonous. The cage was tightly locked up.

The rescue of believers out of the Catholic Church, a veritable second exodus from the bondage of Egypt, was miraculous. Joel 3 lays out the events in the dramatic rescue step by step.

(v25) “And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you.”

Gematria is 6,429. The remainder of 6,429 (after 5 cycles of 1189) is 484. Bible Number 484 means TORMENT THE RIGHTEOUS. The 484th Bible Chapter is Psalm 6.

Psalm 6 expresses the pain of believers under the yoke of Catholicism and their hope for deliverance:

“Be merciful to me, LORD, for I am faint”

“O LORD, heal me, for my bones are in agony”

“My soul is in anguish. How long, O LORD, how long?”

“Away from me, all you who do evil, for the LORD has heard my weeping.”

How is it the Lord takes responsibility for the dire situation believers found themselves in when He says He will “restore the years the locust has eaten... my great army which I sent among you?”

The first Gentile churches were in Asia Minor. John reveals to us in Revelations 2 and 3 how quickly they will lose their first love, how soon they will be tested by false apostles, how easily they will be drawn away by worldly temptations. These churches were taught in person by apostles who were eye-witnesses of Jesus and who spoke to them in their own language. And they still fell away.

For all its evils the bondage of man’s religion at least preserved a pretention of Christian fellowship. The illiterate, superstitious, and ill-mannered masses of Gentiles in Europe were shut in this box until the old pagan gods were a distant memory. To the true believers among them it was a hell hole. But like the wandering in the desert generations had to die before a generation was born who were ready to serve the LORD with all their heart.

(v26) “And you shall eat in plenty, and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, that has dealt wondrously with you: and my people shall never be ashamed.”

Gematria is 7,545. The remainder of 7,545 (after 6 cycles of 1189) is 401. Bible Number 401 means O LORD SAVE US! The 401st Bible Chapter is 2 Chronicles 34.

2 Chronicles 34 is the account of Josiah’s reforms. “While he was still young he began to seek the God of his father David.” (v3) When he became king he purged Judah and Jerusalem of high places, Asherah poles, carved idols, and cast images. The altars of Baal were cut down. He repaired the Temple. Most important of all he found the Book of the Law of the LORD.

“**And you shall eat in plenty**”. In 1440 the printing press was invented. Now the agents of reformation could translate the Bible and publish it in the common language. Gospel tracts became a means of bypassing religious control and reaching the masses with the true teachings of Christ and the apostles.

Martin Luther was a priest who became enlightened by studying the Latin Bible. He translated the New Testament into German. He distributed thousands of Gospel tracts. His clear Bible based teaching won over his hearers. Millions of Germans experienced spiritual rebirth and liberty.

(v27) “**And you shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I am the Lord your God, and none else: and my people shall never be ashamed.**”

Gematria is 4,853. The remainder of 4,853 (after 4 cycles of 1189) is 97. Bible Number 97 means FIRE BURNS ENEMIES. The 97th Bible Chapter is Leviticus 7.

The light of the Gospel spread across Northern Europe. However the chief proponents of change were unable to agree on essential tenets of faith and practice. FIRE BURNS ENEMIES: The Catholics persecuted all who strayed from their man-made religious rules. The Protestants were not much better. The various sects treated one another with suspicion and ill-will.

The progress of Reformation grew in fits and starts. It took over a half a century until Protestantism in some form was accepted as the state religion of northern European nations: England, Netherlands, Switzerland, Denmark, Sweden and Germany. All this was miraculous.

“**You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel**”. In Bible times Judah was the faithful tribe and upheld the worship of Jehovah the longest. The Northern Kingdom of Israel was notoriously backslidden and perpetuated the worship of false gods by false priests upon heretical altars.

Germany is prophetic Judah. We aren't surprised to see they were among the first to see the light. However, Lutheranism was pragmatic and only took Reformation so far. Movements in other countries were more zealous. Anabaptists rejected infant baptism. Jesus was found “**in the midst of Israel**” [not Judah] the Reformation achieved greatest success in territory outside Germany.

This is akin to the ministry of Jesus. Most of his miracles occurred in the former northern Kingdom of Israel: wedding at Cana, walking on water, etc. All of His closest disciples were from there.

The Reformation was followed by the Counter-Reformation. Catholics regrouped and struck back. FIRE BURNS ENEMIES. There were bloody wars of religion between the two camps for a century. In Catholic lands there were intense persecutions and purges of Protestant minorities. In Protestant lands there were persecutions of minority Protestant sects.

(v28) **“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.”**

Gematria is 8,579. The remainder of 8,579 (after 7 cycles of 1189) is 256. Bible Number 256 means FAMILY OF GOD SPLIT. The 256th Bible Chapter is 1 Samuel 20.

The cat was out of the bag. The laity had the Bible in their native tongue. It was now impossible to impose a static state sanctioned version of Christianity that departed from the teachings of the Bible.

Europe was still governed by Kings. The official version of the faith depended on the view of whoever was on the throne. Few royals were enthusiastic Bible students. There became an increasing disconnect between the desires of the faithful and the will of their sovereigns.

Groups such as the Pilgrims sought to leave Europe altogether and take the risky journey across the Atlantic to practice their faith unobstructed in the American colonies.

“I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh”: The migration of the faithful was convenient because it was God’s plan all along to spread the Gospel from the Euphrates to the Great Sea [Pacific Ocean]. It seems ever since Jews persecuted the apostles the faith has been on a long march to the West.

FAMILY OF GOD SPLIT: On a pretense the American colonies split from the British Empire and formed their own nation. It would be a Democracy. Never again would the beliefs of a monarch be imposed on the citizenry. Sects were tolerated. Even Jews could practice their religion in peace.

(v29) **“And also on the servants and on the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.”**

Gematria is 4,534. The remainder of 4,534 (after 3 cycles of 1189) is 967. Bible Number 967 means RICH RULER CANNOT INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE. The 967th Bible Chapter is Mark 10.

In the early 1700’s a season of revival broke out on both sides of the Atlantic. Preachers were raised up who warned people to repent and believe the Good News. It was called the Great Awakening⁸.

“On the servants and on the handmaids”: the preaching was taken to heart by everyday working people. It was resisted in the mainstream Protestant denominations. The result was the newly evangelized enthusiasts formed their own independent congregations. Some of the independents joined hands and formed whole new Evangelical denominations.

RICH RULER CANNOT INHERIT ETERNAL LIFE. During the formative years of the USA not many were rich. People worked long hours in the factory, in the mine, and in the field. These were the glory years of the message of Jesus. As Americans became richer interest in Jesus faded.

⁸ In America the Great Awakening came in waves: First (1730-1755), Second (1790-1840), Third (1855-1930), Fourth (1960-1980). The latter waves did not crest as high as the earlier waves.

(v30) “And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke.”

The Gematria of v30 is 7,106. The remainder of 7,106 (after 5 cycles of 1189) is 1161. Bible Number 1161 means WHOEVER HATES HIS BROTHER WALKS IN DARKNESS. The 1161st Bible Chapter is 1 Joh 2.

The 17th century was the age of exploration. The 18th century was the age of competition for world trade routes. The 19th century was the industrial revolution and vast colonial empires. European attention was fixated on commerce and wealth accumulation. Workers were downtrodden.

The core message of Jesus embodied in the Sermon on the Mount was forgotten. Governments were transitioning from pious monarchies to secular democracies. The first word of verse 30 “And I will show” has the Gematria 866 which points to Hosea 4. There the prophet laments loss of faith:

“Hear the word of the LORD, ye children of Israel: for the LORD hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because [there is] no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.” (Hos 4 v 1)

The second word of verse 30 “wonders [signs]” has a Gematria of 1136 which points to Hebrews 3:

“...and I said ‘Their hearts are always going astray and they have not known my ways. So I declared on oath in my anger ‘They shall never enter my rest’” (Heb 3 v 10-11)

After a 1,000 years Europe had become highly Christianized. Here is the ‘wonder’: the tapestry of Christian culture and faith completely unravelled. In 1678 John Bunyan wrote Pilgrim’s Progress, one of the most popular books of Protestant devotional literature of all time. The book was a stark presentation of how alienated genuine Christians felt living in the modern world.

What does it mean ‘They shall never enter my rest’? The period was marked by wars and revolutions. Stripped of Christian grace national leaders lost the art of diplomacy. Resolution of differences could only be achieved by fighting. “In the earth: blood and fire and pillars of smoke”: American Civil War, World War I, Russian Revolution, World War II.

(v31) “The Sun shall be turned into darkness, and the Moon into blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord [shall] come.”

The Gematria of v31 is 4,708. The remainder of 4,708 (after 3 cycles of 1189) is 511. Bible Number 511 means WAIT IN HOPE. The 511th Bible Chapter is Psalm 33.

“The Sun” is a Bible Type of the pinnacle of power and authority. For people in the modern era ‘The Sun’ is the national government. Modern governments are secular. They rely on the principles of Humanism and Science to govern. In spiritual terms they are “darkness”: no recognition of the authority and power of God in the affairs of men.

The Gematria of the word “darkness” in Joel 2 v 31 is 838 which points to Ezekiel 36. The LORD says:

“But you, O mountains of Israel, will produce branches and fruit for my people Israel, for they shall soon come home” (Ezekiel 36 v 8)

The LORD promised on raised hand to give Canaan to the descendants of Abraham. This promise was passed to Isaac then to Jacob. Of Jacob’s sons only the children of Judah returned after the first Exile. So the promise passed to them. Joel 2 v 31 clearly states the second return of the Jews is at hand.

Hence the Bible Number 511, WAIT IN HOPE, which points to Psalm 33. The LORD says:

“Let all the Earth fear the LORD; let all the people of the world revere Him. For He spoke, and it came to be; he commanded and it stood firm” (Psalm 33 v 8-9)

As the whole world is turning spiritually dark in the dusk of the Age of Grace, a shining light, a beacon of prophetic fulfillment, a demonstration of the power of God appears: The Jews will soon return to their homeland. God’s people who remain on the Earth will glory in the LORD for this. Worldly people will miss the significance altogether, because they walk in darkness.

It won’t be a cruel trick. The LORD has ordained “fruit for my people”. Their return will not be like the first return when they occupied the land but were kicked around like a tin can by large empires in the neighborhood. This time they will rule themselves and prosper.

Joel 1 covered the period from before the first Exile to the first return. Joel 2 covered the period from the arrival of the Romans, the ministry of Jesus, and most of the Age of Grace. Joel 3 covers the period from the return of the Jews in 1948. Joel 2 predicts the return: but not yet.

(v32) “And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be delivered: for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the Lord has said, and in the remnant whom the Lord shall call.”

The Gematria of v32 is 7,404. The remainder of 7,404 (after 6 cycles of 1189) is 270. Bible Number 270 means PEACEMAKER. The 270th Bible Chapter is 2 Sam 3.

Here is the defining feature of the Age of Grace: Salvation is by faith not by works. This message was proclaimed by Peter: “Everyone who calls on the name of the LORD will be saved” Acts 2 v 21. Gentiles who respond will be invited to “Mount Zion” – the Heavenly Jerusalem.

Deliverance will also be for those “in Jerusalem” – worldwide Jewry. Jews will return to the Promised Land. In the Great Tribulation they will be given one last chance to believe in the name of Jesus, accept Him as their Messiah, and be eternally saved. John clarified this: “to all who received Him who believed in his name he gave the right to become children of God – children born not of natural descent... but born of God” John 1 v 12-13. Being Jewish grants privileges: but not eternal life.

PREAMBLE TO JOEL 3



By the Waters of Babylon We Sat Down

After World War I a Mandate under the authority of the League of Nations permitted Jews to return and resettle the Holy Land. After World War II the nation of Israel was born. A new institution, the United Nations, gathered all countries to New York City for diplomacy. World trade brought riches and prosperity. World cities filled with amusements and distractions captivated the minds of men in the West. Christian heritage faded from memory. Christian churches closed due to lack of interest.

The End of Days has come. The Age of Grace rushes to its conclusion. Strongmen are in power. Like giants of old they stomp out godliness. Those who love the LORD can only mourn: we are aliens in a foreign land again.

SPIRITUAL NUMBERS

Joel 3 has 21 verses. $21 = 3 \times 7$. Bible Number 3 means BINDING. Bible Number 7 means SWORD. Bible Number 21 means LAWLESSNESS (or) APPOINTED TIME. In Genesis 21 Abraham makes a treaty with Abimelech and Phicol the commander of his forces [SWORD]. They swear to a Non-Aggression Treaty. Abraham hands over 7 ewe lambs. Non-Aggression Treaty: the Sword (7) is Bound (3).

Number 21 can be viewed as a pictogram: '2' is a Lion, '1' is a Righteous Man. In Genesis 21 the Lion (2) is Abimelech, the righteous man (1) is Abraham. The Lion is in the first place. Abraham recognises Abimelech's authority. Abimelech will dictate the law of the land even though he is unethical and deceitful. As a leader he will behave without regard to God or God's Law. This is the sense of LAWLESSNESS in Number 21: sin abounds. The ewe lambs are taken prisoner.

What would happen to a flock of sheep if ewe lambs were penned up? If the ram lambs were sold to slaughter? Eventually, as the old ewes and rams died off the reproduction of lambs would cease. In the popular Christian literature many prophesy revivals in the Last Days. This is explicitly not what the spiritual numbers in Joel suggest.

Personal note: The author had two sons. Both rejected faith in Christ. Dusk is falling on the Age of Grace.

1ST SEPTUPLET: JOEL CH. 3 VERSES 1 – 7

Jehoshaphat and Ahab

“For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem, (v.1); I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land. (v.2); and they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink. (v.3); Yea, and what have you to do with Me, O Tyre, and Sidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? Will you render Me a recompense? And if ye recompense Me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompense on your own head; (v.4); Because you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things: (v.5); The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have you sold to the Grecians, that you might remove them far from their border. (v.6); Behold, I will raise them out of the place whither you have sold them, and will return your recompense on your own head. (v.7)” (Joel 3)

Gematria of Joel 3 v 1-7 is 37,640. $37,640 = 31 \times 1189 + 781$. Starting from Genesis 1 if we count 31 times through the whole Bible we finish at the 781st chapter, which is Jeremiah 36. Number 781 means BLIND JUDGE. King Jehoiakim cut the Scriptures of God into strips and burned them in a fire pot. He ruled without consideration of the Word of God. (He was appointed to office by a Pharaoh of Egypt.)

Verse 1: **Prophetic Marker**

“For, behold, in those days, and in that time, when I shall bring back the captives of Judah and Jerusalem”

After the Great Jewish Revolt in 66 AD the Romans conquered Judea and Jerusalem. They banned Jewish customs. Jews were forced into exile. The diaspora was a captivity akin to the first exile of the Jews to Babylon in 586 BC. Joel 3 v 1 is fulfilled when the Jews return to the Holy Land the third time.

In 1917, in the midst of World War I, the United Kingdom made a public promise [Balfour Declaration] to legitimize the Zionist agenda to make a national home for the Jewish people in Palestine. This was done in return for vital financial assistance received from Lord Rothschild in the war. Britain could make this promise because in 1916 it had made a secret pact with France to carve up Ottoman territory in the Middle East post-war in such a way the United Kingdom had control of Palestine [Sykes-Picot Agreement].

Verse 2: **Valley of Jehoshaphat**

“I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down into the Valley of Jehoshaphat, and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel, whom they have scattered among the nations, and parted my land.”

In 2 Chron. 18 King Jehoshaphat of Judah makes alliance with King Ahab of Israel. On a visit to Samaria King Ahab made diplomacy with King Jehoshaphat to join him in a war against Syria. Four hundred prophets of Israel prophesied victory. The solitary prophet of the Lord, Micaiah, prophesied King Ahab would die in battle. King Jehoshaphat and King Ahab ignored the Word of the Lord and went to war in an unholy alliance.



Samaria

v.2 (a): **“I will also gather all nations, and will bring them down to the Valley of Jehoshaphat”**

Where is the Valley of Jehoshaphat? The only place in the Bible it is mentioned is in Joel 3. We propose the **‘Valley of Jehoshaphat’** was the Gate of Samaria where the two kings met for diplomacy. The Bible type for a king is a mountain. A ‘Valley’ is a place where two mountains meet: where two governments confer together.

Verse 2 was fulfilled by the creation of the League of Nations. In 1795 Immanuel Kant first proposed a 'League of Nations' to work towards peaceful settlement of international disputes. In 1910 Theodore Roosevelt said "it would be a master stroke if great powers honestly bent on peace would form a League of Peace". As World War I went on anti-war sentiment increased. Serious thought was given towards creating a new international post-war framework that would create sanctions and disincentives for military aggression.

The Fabian Society in England was the first to propose a 'council of states' who would adjudicate international disputes. The international body would have permanent delegates. By the last days of World War I the U.K. government appointed a committee to look into the practicalities of establishing a 'conference of allied states'. Many of the committee's proposals were incorporated into the Covenant of the League of Nations.

The Covenant of the League of Nations was adopted in the Treaty of Versailles on 28 June 1919.

v.2 (b) "and will plead with them there for my people and for my heritage Israel"

Already having established in Verse 1 the subject of the prophecy is the captivity, at large, of Judea and Jerusalem, the exiled Jews in Europe, "my people and my heritage Israel" must refer to them.

This was fulfilled in the Mandate of the UK over Palestine which permitted Jews to return and resettle the Holy Land. A Mandate existed under the authority of the League of Nations. Technically Palestine was not land that belonged to the UK nor was a colony of the UK. The door was open for a transfer of sovereignty to a nation state of Jews when they were sufficiently organized and numerous to govern themselves.

Verse 3: Legacy of Antisemitism in Europe

"And they have cast lots for my people; and have given a boy for a harlot, and sold a girl for wine, that they might drink."

Progress had been made in some European nations to expand the civil rights of Jews. But the historical record in Europe was filled with pogroms and abuses of Jews. Their civic contributions were appreciated in high society but the masses were suspicious of Jews and antagonistic towards them. Spokesmen of the Christian faith, as far back as Luther, perpetuated negative stereotypes in the public mind.

The German people, looking for a scapegoat for their failure in World War I, would soon become genocidal towards Jews. There was only a brief window of opportunity to grant the Jews a way of escape.

Listen carefully readers. The Christian God, whom the Jews crucified, was actively intervening in the affairs of men to rescue the Jews from coming infernos of the German concentration camps. The Jews are a special people in the eyes of the Lord: all the more so as history moves on and faith in Jesus declines. The Lord's intent to bring the Jews back to the Holy Land is not only to preserve a remnant but to grant them a revelation at the mid-point of the Great Tribulation that He is their Messiah. He was busy at work saving them as far back as 1917. He is and ever will be the Messiah: the Savior of the Jews.

Verse 4: **The Palestinian Problem: Resettlement of Jews Will Dispossess Arabs and Christians**

“Yea, and what have you to do with Me, O Tyre, and Sidon, and all the coasts of Palestine? Will you render Me a recompense? And if ye recompense Me, swiftly and speedily will I return your recompense on your own head;”

Prior to the end of World War I most of the Middle East was under the administration of the Ottoman Empire. These included the historic lands of Tyre and Sidon (Lebanon) and Palestine (Israel). The population of Palestine were mostly Moslem Arabs with pockets of Catholic and Orthodox Christians.

The Holy Land belongs to the Messiah. He may give the land to whomsoever He chooses. For a period of time the Jews were tenants. For a period of time Christians and Moslems were tenants. It was the Jews turn again.

“What have you to do with Me?” Tenants can always be evicted by the owner according to his pleasure.

“Will you render Me a recompense?” Anyone who took issue with the Jewish tenancy did not prosper. In the history of modern Israel the former tenants, with the support of neighboring powers, repeatedly tried to usurp control of the Holy Land.

“Swiftly and speedily will I return your recompense on your own head.” In every instance these aggressions failed. Lives were lost and more lands were ceded to the Jews.

The former tenants, the people we know today as ‘Palestinians’, were now strangers and aliens in the land. Under no circumstances should tenants abuse them. Tenancy is a right to enjoy the land, not to mistreat human beings. Such behavior got the Jews evicted as tenants when they voted to crucify Jesus the last time.

Verse 5: **Curse on the Ungodly Victors**

“Because you have taken my silver and my gold, and have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things:”

The Allies won the war. But the LORD likened them to Tyre [which spawned Carthage, great naval power: *United Kingdom*], Sidon [close ally of Tyre and great land power: *France*], and the coasts of Philistine [warriors from distant shores: *United States*]. Nineteen centuries after the Cross the connection between God and the European Great Powers was worn to a frazzle.

“What have you to do with Me?” The Entente Cordiale nations were war mongers. They knew nothing of godliness, repentance, forgiveness, or the acknowledgement of sin. They had just sent millions of their sons to gruesome deaths. Their motivation was not noble but fueled by greed for land and lust for power. They ripped territories, colonies, and gold from their defeated foe. They had opportunity to be graceful but exacted stringent war reparations on Germany. They redrew the map of Europe and the Middle East without consideration of adverse consequences to the local inhabitants. Moslem countries now had Christian overseers. Arabic speaking territories now had English or French speaking governors.

“**You have taken my silver and my gold**”. World War 1 resulted in 40 million casualties. It was a mass execution of precious believers in Jesus [**my silver and my gold**] on all sides in the conflict.

After WWI the best Jewish academics and scientists [**my silver and my gold**] did not migrate to the Holy Land as the Lord ordained. Many were recruited for university research work in America. Others Jewish geniuses busied themselves in American commerce, entertainment, and finance.

“**And have carried into your temples my goodly pleasant things**”. Europe and the US were immersed in a post-Christian world. The four Hebrew words in this phrase have a combined Gematria of 1827 which means SAVIOR’S DEATH BRINGS SADNESS TO FEW PEOPLE. Millions of believers in Jesus still sang His praises in Church but they left their faith behind in the pews. Outside Church the saints were entangled in worldliness.

Verse 6: **Triumph of Humanism**

“**The children also of Judah and the children of Jerusalem have you sold to the Grecians, that you might remove them far from their border.**”

The ancient Greeks were famous philosophers and mathematicians. They relied on the power of human reasoning to reach conclusions. They mocked the God of the Jews and disdained the Law and the Prophets.

The Jews who fled in the second exile were bitter. Most would keep their culture while wandering across Europe but many lost faith in God. The Age of Enlightenment, late 17th century to early 19th century, was a boon to Jewish fortunes. Historic religious bias against them faded into the background. Jews leveraged their scholastic abilities and excelled in academia, in arts and sciences.

Descendants of Jews were notable among prominent proponents of secularism. Karl Marx published the Communist Manifesto in 1848. Socialism and Communism trace their origins to this man. Communist governments repressed faith in God and promoted Humanism.

“**that you might remove them far from their border**”. To this day the majority of Jews in the world do not live in the Holy Land. There are 7 million Jews in Israel. There are 6 million Jews in the United States. Over a million more live in Europe, Canada, Argentina, and Australia. Many descendants of Jews live secular lives around the world and don’t identify as Jewish. Many even changed their surnames to disguise their past.

Verse 7: **Jews Return to the Holy Land with Difficulty**

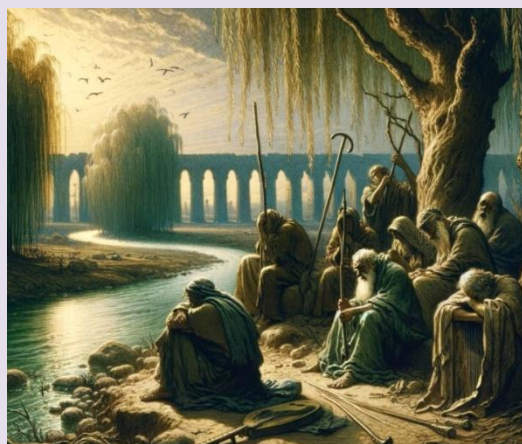
“**Behold, I will raise them out of the place whither you have sold them, and will return your recompense on your own head.**”

When the doors were opened for Jews to return to the Holy Land there were few who were interested. They faced an uphill battle which included buying land to live and farm from Arabs and Christians who weren’t inclined to sell to them. Their occupation required hard work, sweat and determination. Millions of Jews and descendants of Jews had better lives elsewhere.

“... will return your recompense on your own head”. After World War I antisemitism grew in Europe, especially (but not exclusively) in Germany. Within two decades of the end of the war the Nazis were in power. Nazis blamed Jews for losing the war. Nazis began a genocidal campaign of extermination. Nazi Germany was defeated in World War II. Nazis had incinerated Jews in concentration camps. German cities were incinerated by Allied bombs. Nazis had seized Jewish property. Germany was split in half: East and West. East Germany was under Soviet control.

“I will raise them out of the place whither you have sold them”. Israel rose among world nations both economically and militarily. Migration of Jews to Israel accelerated. Within Israel a remnant of religious Jews flourished: a tender shoot out of dry ground.

2nd SEPTUPLET: JOEL CH. 3 VERSES 8 – 14



By the waters of Babylon we sat down. Psa. 137

“And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off: for the Lord has spoken it.” (v8) “Proclaim ye this among the Gentiles; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up:” (v9) “Beat your plowshares into swords and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.” (v10) “Assemble yourselves, and come, all you nations, and gather yourselves together round about: thither cause thy mighty ones to come down, O Lord.” (v11) “Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.” (v12) “Put ye in the sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness is great.” (v13) “Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the valley of decision.” (v14)

The Gematria of Joel 3 v 8-14 is 27,962. $27,962 = 23 \times 1189 + 615$. Starting from Genesis 1 we count 23 times through the whole Bible and finish at the 615th chapter, which is Psalm 137. Number 615 means MOCKERS GLEE IN MY LOSS.

Verse 8: **Prophetic Marker: Birth of the State of Israel**⁹:

“And I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah, and they shall sell them to the Sabeans, to a people far off: for the Lord has spoken it,” (Joel 3 v 8)

On the 14th of May, 1948 – the day the British forces left - the Jews declared themselves to be a nation. Immediately the U.S. and the Soviets recognized the new state of Israel. Neighboring Arab states rejected Israel’s right to exist and there was a War of Independence. The Israelis were prepared for it.

“I will sell your sons and your daughters into the hand of the children of Judah” Israel defeated Arab forces who opposed them from within and without Palestine. Israel signed Armistice Agreements with its foes. On 11th of May, 1949 Israel was admitted as a member of the United Nations.

“and they shall sell them to the Sabeans”: Israel expelled Palestinians en masse from its land. Many settled in refugee camps outside Israel – in neighbor Arab states – many in Jordan. Ancient Saba or Sheba is located on the Arabian Peninsula slightly inland from the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Not too far south of Jordan.

Verse 9: **Enduring Hostility Towards Israel – Endless Wars**

“Proclaim ye this among the Nations; Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let all the men of war draw near; let them come up:” (Joel 3 v 9)

“Proclaim ye this”: The Declaration of Independence envisioned a Jewish state based on freedom, justice, and peace. Specifically “*complete equality of social and political rights of its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex*”. There was no mention of God in the Declaration, only a vague reference to the ‘Rock of Israel’.

The problem is the enmity between Arabs and Jews is deep seated. It goes all the way back to Sarah who lost her patience with Hagar and her insolent son Ishmael. Arabs find Jews abominable. Jews find Arabs intolerable. Abuse of Palestinians by Jews was inevitable as soon as Jews became official tenants.

The Gematria of Joel 3 v 9 is 3,305. This Number points to the 927th chapter of the Bible: Malachi 2 [3,305 – 1189 = 927]. In Malachi 2 the LORD said He made a covenant with Levi: “The Law of Truth was in his mouth and injustice was not on his lips. He walked with me in peace and equity.” (v6) The LORD says: “Have we not all one Father? Has not one God created us? Why do we deal treacherously with one another?” (v10)

The LORD has a high standard for the behavior of tenants. The Jews did not attain even their own standard of equality of social and political rights of inhabitants. So, Joel predicted wars against Israel “Among the Nations: Prepare war, wake up the mighty men, let the men of war draw near...” This was fulfilled in 1967 and 1973.

Even in peace time hostility to Israel burned like sacred incense in the hearts of Arabs.

⁹ It is called ‘Israel’ but the Jews who live there descend from the tribe of Judah. The original tribes of Israel were deported by the Assyrians and never returned. Not every single Israelite was deported. At the time of Jesus there were those, e.g. apostle Paul, who could trace their lineage to an Israelite tribe. But most residents at the time of the diaspora were Jews from Judah.

Verse 10: **Vindication of Israel by God is Inevitable – In Spite Of Israel’s Bad Behavior**

“Beat your plows into swords and your pruning hooks into spears: let the weak say, I am strong.” (Joel 3v10)

Joel 3 v 10 has nine words. The first word triplet “Beat your plows into swords” has a Gematria of 2103 and points to Zechariah 3. In this chapter it is written: “For behold the stone I have laid before Joshua... its inscription: ‘I will remove the iniquity of this land in one day’” (v9). Joshua is the Hebrew name for Jesus. Jesus went to the Cross with this comfort in His heart – that His sacrifice would ultimately redeem His People, the Jews, from the Curse. There would come a day, which we know as the mid-point of the Great Tribulation, when the Jews finally accept Him as their Messiah. Finally their sin will be removed, as far as East from West.

“Let the weak say, I am strong.” As reprehensible as the treatment of Palestinians has been since the beginning, and as unworthy as Israel has been of God’s grace, God must ensure Israel’s survival because of His great and precious promises. And so Israel has miraculously survived numerous wars against its enemies in spite of its smaller population and exposed international borders.

The second word triplet “and your pruning hooks into spears: the weak” has a Gematria of 924 and points to Zechariah 18. In this chapter it is written: “It shall come to pass in all the land, says the LORD, two-thirds shall be cut-off and die, but one-third will be left. I will bring the one-third through the fire, will refine them as silver is refined, and test them as gold is refined.” (v 8-9)

Although the ultimate victory is inevitable, in the process Israel will not go unscathed.

The third triplet “(let) him say: Might I Am” has a Gematria of 523 and points to Psalm 45. This is a Psalm extolling the glories of the king of Israel. We know Jesus is the rightful King of the Jews. But before the true Christ returns another man will come who claims this mantle and Israel will bow to him. The Hebrew word “I Am” has a Gematria of 61 which means KING OF JEWS.

The Declaration of Independence together with its vision of equality and justice will only be an historic footnote. Israel will transition from a democracy to an authoritarian regime headed by a military man: the Beast, the Antichrist.

The total Gematria of Joel 3 v 10 is 3,550 which points to the 1,172nd Bible Chapter: Revelation 5. Here it is written “Who is worthy to open the Scroll and to loosen its seals?” (v2) The answer: “Behold, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David has prevailed to open the Scroll and to loosen its seven seals” (v5)

The secular State of Israel can’t acknowledge their sin because God has temporarily blinded them to the Truth of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. So the LORD must continue to work in Heaven behind the scenes to bring history to its glorious conclusion: the second coming of Jesus Christ.

It was given to Joel and later to the apostle John to foresee all these events and to write them in Scripture for our benefit. Israel will go from bad to worse. Israel’s witness in the world will become a stench.

Verse 11: **End of World War II – Europe Will Transform into a Peaceful Union (EU)**

“Stir yourselves, and come, all nations round about: there [cause] your mighty men to settle [down], O Lord.”

World War II was merely a continuation of World War I with a pause for rearming. When the world wars were over much of Europe was devastated. The appetite for war was quenched. The Marshal Plan flipped the scrip from the Armistice after World War I. The United States undertook a serious effort to prevent starvation and to rebuild Germany and Japan. This infused Europe with a new spirit of collective interest. Fervor for nationalism and imperialism died out.

In 1946 Winston Churchill, speaking at the University of Zurich, called for a ‘European Union’ and a ‘Council of Europe’. His radical thinking was embraced by European nations searching for ways to prevent future wars.

It soon became clear to Western Europe that the Soviet Union was a serious threat to democracy. In 1947 there was a rigged election in Poland. In 1948 there was a Communist Party coup in Czechoslovakia. A common enemy accelerated formation of alliances and trade agreements, even between former belligerents.

In 1948 the Treaty of Brussels provided for military, economic, social and cultural co-operation between Belgium, France, Netherlands, and the United Kingdom. The Organization for European Economic Co-operation was also formed.

In 1950 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization was created. In 1952 Germany ceased to be occupied and reacquired its sovereignty. This permitted Germany to join NATO in 1954.

“Stir yourselves and come” is two Hebrew words. The second word has a Gematria of 15 and means COVENANT: Peace. Europe was ready for a new international agreement with peaceful intentions.

“All the nations” is two Hebrew words. **“All”** has a Gematria of 50 and means FIRE. **“The nations”** has a Gematria of 624 and means SAVED BY A MIRACLE. So much of Europe was devastated it seemed miraculous anything could be salvaged.

“Round about they assemble” is two Hebrew words. **“Round about”** has Gematria of 114 and means OLD COVENANT RESTORED. **“They assemble”** has a Gematria of 158 and means FEAR OF DEATH. Truly the situation was desperate. Another war could obliterate the continent. A renewed Pax Romana was sought.

“There settle” is two Hebrew words. **“There”** has Gematria of 345 and means SYNAGOGUE OF SATAN. **“settle”** has a Gematria of 463 and means CONSCIENCE SEARED. The experience of total war and the threat of Communism put a spur in efforts to co-ordinate European nations for mutual defense and trade. There was a danger it could go too far and erase the identity of the founding nations. This was not God’s will.

“O LORD. Your mighty men” is two Hebrew words. **“O LORD”** has Gematria of 26 and means GOSPEL. **“Your mighty men”** has a Gematria of 721 and means JOSEPH THROWN IN A PIT. Success, or ‘Good News’, would be

suppressing any nation's desire to rule over all the others [a Joseph type]. This arrangement was the antithesis of authoritarian Communism. Whether this could be sustained in the long run will be tested.

Verse 12: **United Nations is Formed – Liberal Humanism Flourishes**

“Let the heathen be wakened, and come up to the Valley of Jehoshaphat: for there will I sit to judge all the heathen round about.” (Joel 3 v 12)

The first occurrence of the words ‘**Valley of Jehoshaphat**’ in verse 2 refers to the League of Nations. The second occurrence in Joel 3 v 12 refers to the United Nations.

Gematria of verse 12 is 4,530 and points to Mark 6 [4,530 – 1,189*3 = 963]. In Mark 6 King Herod orders John the Baptist beheaded at the request of Herodias after her daughter had danced for Herod's entertainment and pleased him and the guests at his party. Jesus took the twelve apostles on a retreat but multitudes followed him on foot. There was a miraculous multiplication of five loaves of bread and two fish. He ordered the twelve to row across the lake. A storm arose and Jesus walked on the water beside them. As soon as Jesus entered the boat the wind and storm ceased. When they crossed over people brought the sick to Jesus and he healed them all.

Mark 6 is prophetic of a new way of life that would sweep the world: Liberal Humanism

1. Beheading of John the Baptist – End of religious participation in public discourse
2. Party Atmosphere – End of self-restraint, beginning of self-indulgence as the rule for modern life
3. Dancing of Herodias' Daughter – Lusty entertainment goes mainstream
4. Counsel of Herodias – Women's 'liberation' becomes a guiding principle
5. Christianity takes a back seat in public life – Jesus goes into the wilderness
6. Christians are hungry – the apostles [churches] can't feed them – Jesus keeps faith alive miraculously
7. Apostles in a boat on a lake battle wind and storm – Christians struggle in a hostile environment

Religion in Europe had legitimized the authority of Kings for hundreds of years. Nation states could count on the support of the Christian masses. Faith in the church and state was blind. No one questioned their authority believing they were appointed to these offices by God.

Post Enlightenment the feudal system and monarchy declined. But people still blindly accepted the authority of national leaders. After World War II their eyes were opened (“**Let the heathen be wakened**”) to the evils of authoritarianism. Having lost loyalty to national leaders and religious leaders, and having lost personal faith in Jesus or respect for the Word of God, the people pursued their own dreams and desires. This is the core tenant of Liberal Human: Human right to enjoy life, liberty, and property (with minimal interference by religious or secular authorities).

United Nations membership is a dilution of national sovereignty, a diminution of the power of a nation's leaders to determine their own destiny. This is in keeping with the spirit of the Age: Liberal Humanism.

The new status quo led to the expansion of world trade and rising wealth in the first world. But it began a process of moral decline, the breaking up of family values, and the plagues of obesity, substance abuse, and perverse lifestyles. The people became “**sheep without a shepherd**” (Mark 6 v 34).

Verse 13: **Cold War: Capitalists Vs Communists**

“**Send forth your sickle, for the harvest is ripe: come, get you down; for the press is full, the vats overflow; for their wickedness is great.**” (Joel 3 v 13)



Flag of Soviet Union

The national symbol of the Soviet Union portrayed the power of workers: in the fields (Sickle) and in the factories (Hammer). Little did Communists know, ancient Babylon was known in the Bible as “**the hammer of the whole earth**” (Jeremiah 50 v 23). Ancient Persia permitted cultural diversity and religious freedom among her vassals. Ancient Babylon was the opposite. Babylon forced vassals to adopt her gods. Anyone who refused to bow down was thrown into the fire. Communist systems fit this mold: tyrannical and authoritarian.

After World War II there was competition for supremacy between the superpowers: America and the Soviet Union. Which ideology would prevail? Whose ‘gods’ would the world bow down to? The Soviet Union claimed the mantle of Babylon and acted the part. But America, a nation whose identity will forever be linked to the number 13 [original colonies who rebelled], would prevail as Babylon, the sole world superpower.

Joel 3 v 13 has 15 words. We will parse these into 3 sections of 5 words each. Each of the three sections refers to wars between the contenders. Joel 3 v 13 is rich with imagery of mass casualties. It describes war.

1st Pentuplet: “**Send forth your sickle for the harvest is ripe.**” The Gematria is 1179 and means THERE WAS WAR BETWEEN THE ANGELS. Hebrew word “**sickle**” has Gematria 73 and means BABYLON. The first battle in the war between Capitalism and Communism was the Korean War (1950-53). The aggressor was North Korea supported by China and the Soviet Union. America beat back the attack. The war ended in stalemate.

2nd Pentuplet: “**Come tread down for the wine trough is full.**” The picture is of feet crushing grapes by stomping from above. Grapes being red symbolize Communists. This is prophetic of the Vietnam War (1955-75) in which America dropped more bombs than were dropped in all of World War II. America did not win the war. Furthermore, her feet [armed forces] were stained with the blood of innocent civilians killed in the war. America was more than willing to cast anyone who opposed her into the fire: a true Babylon type.

The Hebrew word “**tread down**” has a Gematria 210 and means LOSS OF LEADER. Assured by China they had no ambition to take over Indochina, President Kennedy opposed the war in Vietnam and sought to steer America away from it. He was assassinated. His replacement, the Vice President from Texas, enthusiastically expanded the war. But the sin of murdering President Kennedy meant America would never have God’s support in the war. Interestingly, Vietnam is long and narrow, shaped like a trough!

3rd Pentuplet: “**The wine vats overflow for great is their evil**”

Outplayed by America, in the process of time the Soviet Union collapsed. Communist attempts to resist God were never going to be blessed by God Almighty. But that is not the subject of this section of Joel 3 v 13.

Gematria of the 3rd Pentuplet is 2,055 and points to Hosea 4: “**There is no truth or mercy or knowledge of God in the land**” (v1). America will be beset by corruption, crime, and bloodshed: “**By swearing and lying, killing and stealing, and committing adultery. They break all restraint, with bloodshed upon bloodshed.**” (v2)

The Number 2,055 reduces to the Number 866 [2,055 – 1189 = 866] which means MOTHER OF HARLOTS. America will be plagued by sexual licence. Traditional marriage will lose its place as a revered social institution. It will be replaced by serial divorce and unwed sex. Children will no longer grow up in a stable family. Children will struggle with self-confidence, identity, and meaning in life. American culture will crush their tender souls.

The two Hebrew words “**They run over**” “**the winevats**” have Gematria 421 RULE OF GOD HONORED and Gematria 127 SPIRITUAL SONS respectively. The precious wine of the Covenant with God spills onto the ground. America was founded by SPIRITUAL SONS – the Puritans. America was intended to have a population of Christians to uphold the honor of God and His Laws. Even though the population of those who believe in God in America is large and millions attend church [**they run over the winevats**] Christian witness in America is soiled: God won’t bless it. Violent tendencies besmirch the testimony for Jesus¹⁰.

The Hebrew word “**for**” has Gematria 30 and means BLOOD: Children. Children born into spiritual Babylon will suffer grievously from the bloodshed in it. We see this in the steady stream of school shootings and murders in daily American news reports. How can children raised in terror believe in a loving God?

The two Hebrew words “**Great is**” “**their evil**” have Gematria 207 LOSS OF SAFETY and 1270 FINGER OF GOD. Number 207 points to Joshua 20 which describes the Cities of Refuge. There the manslayer takes refuge from the avenger of blood but he can never leave. America won’t be a ‘City on a Hill’. It will be a ‘City of Prisons’.

Babylon always was a terror to its own people. Incarceration in America will far exceed other democracies.

¹⁰ The radicalization of the Christian right to take up arms in militias as a way to influence politics is an example of how Christian witness has become earthy, carnal, unspiritual. Another evidence is the obsession of the Christian right with political campaigns at the expense of Christ’s commands to love your enemies, do good to those who persecute you, and care for orphans, widows, poor, and homeless. Church factionalism and contradictory messages of Bible teaching also hinders the proclamation of the Gospel.

The author is anguished by the words of these prophecies. Do not put your hope in America. Put your hope in God. He is faithful when we are unfaithful. He is loving when we are unloving. Our destiny is not here. Our destiny is to reign with Christ after He returns. This world is not our home.

Verse 14: **Diplomatic Agreements to Address the Palestinian Problem**

“Multitudes, multitudes in the Valley of Decision: for the day of the Lord is near in the Valley of Decision.”
(Joel 3 v 14)

Two more ‘Valley’ references in Joel 3: two more meetings of nations to resolve issues by diplomacy.

After the War of Independence Israel was partitioned into Jewish land and Palestinian land. Jerusalem was partitioned in a similar way. This was a temporary measure which permitted the two peoples to co-exist. It did not resolve the issue of competing claims for the same land. Relations were bitterly antagonistic.

The Palestinian cause was a rallying cry in the wider region. Many Arab states and Moslem militias supported the struggle for Palestinian self-determination and repatriation of refugees.

The Six Day War in 1967 was a successful pre-emptive attack by Israel on the troops of Egypt, Jordan, and Syria massing on her borders. The result was a victory for Israel. One third of Palestinians were displaced from their homes. Most relocated to refugee camps in Jordan. Israel expanded her borders into Sinai.

In 1973 there was another war. Egypt and Syria attacked Israel. The result was a stalemate.

In 1964 the Arab League created the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO). For many years the PLO conducted a guerilla war and initiated terrorist attacks on Israel. A number of different groups operated under its umbrella. From 1967 to 1970 the PLO launched artillery barrages of Israeli settlements from inside Jordan. In 1970 there was a bus massacre. In 1972 there was an attack on Israeli Olympic athletes. In 1971 the PLO moved its headquarters to Lebanon and this sparked a civil war that lasted eleven years. In 1976 Syria joined the war. In 1978 Israel invaded Lebanon.

1st Diplomatic Agreement

In 1978 the Camp David Accord resolved hostilities between Israel and Egypt. Israel would return the Sinai Peninsula to Egypt. Israel would recognize ‘the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people’ with ‘full autonomy’ but make no provision for a Palestinian state. The Palestinians would be self-governing but possess no military. Israeli troops would withdraw from the West Bank and Gaza.

In 1981 Saudi Arabia and Egypt called for a diplomatic resolution of regional violence. In 1982 Israel attacked Lebanon again. Israeli forces reached Beirut and ousted the PLO headquarters.

2nd Diplomatic Agreement

In 1993 the Oslo Accords reduced the tensions. The PLO recognized Israel's right to exist in peace. Israel recognized the PLO as the legitimate authority representing the Palestinian people. The PLO renounced 'terrorism and other acts of violence against Israel'. Secular factions within the PLO supported the Accords. Religious factions within the PLO, Hamas and Islamic Jihad, resisted the Accords.

ELIJAH AND THE WIDOW'S SON

The total Gematria of the 10 words of Joel 3 v 14 is 5,064 whose remainder is 308 after subtracting 4 rotations of 1189. The 308th Bible chapter is 1 Kings 17, the account of the drought of Elijah in the days of Ahab. After the brook Cherith dried up Elijah moved to Zarephath in Sidon [modern Lebanon] where he was fed by a Widow. When the Widow's son died Elijah raised him from the dead.

Ahab's father Omri bought the field of Shemer for two talents of silver and built a capital city for the Northern Kingdom of Israel which he called Samaria. Omri did evil in the eyes of the LORD more than all who were before him. Ahab added to the sin of his father by marrying Jezebel the daughter of the King of the Sidonians.

The meaning of Bible number 308 is SPIRITUAL POVERTY. It describes the formative years of the modern state of Israel from 1948 to 1999. Israel is a secular nation. The word 'God' is not in the Constitution. Modern Israel has a heritage just as the Northern Kingdom of Israel had a heritage. Secularism is not God glorifying just as the golden calf idol of Samaria was not God glorifying.

Naboth was unwilling to sell his garden to King Ahab. Jezebel counselled Ahab to acquiring the garden by falsely accusing Naboth of blasphemy then killing him: "Take him out and stone him to death" (1 Kings 21).

Samaria is a Bible type of America. The kings of the Northern Kingdom of Israel are a type of the leaders of America in the modern era, who have a Christian heritage but whose actions are the opposite of Christ's commands [think dropping nuclear bombs on the civilian cities of Japan in WWII]. America worships the golden calf: America is a money driven society. This value system will inevitably incline America towards unethical policies. America is a society capable of any injustice if brings a financial benefit.

The Widow is the diaspora Jews of Europe¹¹. The death of the widow's son is the genocide of the Jews in Europe. The resurrection of the widow's son is the birth of the modern state of Israel. (Whose governance is very European [Sidonian]). Elijah is a picture of Jesus Christ [dwelling in the Upper Room (Heaven)].

Jezebel is the Zionist movement. America is wedded to Zionism. America supported Israel in all its wars. The problem with Zionism is it will resort to violence to drive Palestinians off their land when they won't willingly sell it. Zionism will do anything to get that land including all manner of unethical devices.

¹¹ Europa, after whom Europe is named, was a princess of Phoenicia. The capital region of Phoenicia was Tyre and Sidon. Phoenicia was a Semitic people who prospered by maritime trade. They were ingenious. They invented the modern alphabet.

We see the full prophetic fulfilment of the marriage of Ahab and Jezebel in the war in Gaza in 2024-25. Tens of thousands of Palestinian civilians are starved and bombed to incentivize them to emigrate.

The Gematria of the first five words of Joel 3 v 14 (2783) points to Ezra 2 PIONEERS OF THE FAITH: prophetic of the return of Jews from captivity: prophetic of re-birth of Israel. The Gematria of the last five words of Joel 3 v 14 (2281) points to Gal.1 CURSES ON HIM WHO TURNS THE GOSPEL INTO A LIE: prophetic of backslidden modern state of America / Israel not keeping the Camp David Accord promises made to Palestinians.

3rd SEPTUPLET: JOEL CH. 3 VERSES 15 – 21



Milk of human kindness is dried up.

I have calmed my soul like a weaned child with its mother. O Israel hope in the LORD from this time forth and forever. Psa. 131v2-3

“The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.” (v15) “The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel. “ (v16) “So shall ye know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers pass through her any more.” (v17) “And it shall come to pass in that day that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth out of the house of the Lord, and shall water the valley of Shittim.” (v18) “Egypt shall be a desolation and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness for the violence against the children of Judah because they have shed innocent blood in their land.” (v19) “But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.” (v20) “For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwells in Zion.” (v21)

Gematria of Joel 3 v 15-21 is 33,901. $33,901 = 28 \times 1189 + 609$. From Genesis 1 we count 28 times through the whole Bible and finish at the 609th chapter: Psalm 131. Number 609 means SOUL AT REST.

Psalm 131 is the 1798th chapter of the Bible. 1789 AD marks the outbreak of the FRENCH REVOLUTION:

Financial crisis and widespread social distress led to the convocation of the Estates General in May 1789, its first meeting since 1614. The representatives of the Third Estate {Commoners} broke away and re-constituted themselves as a National Assembly. The Storming of the Bastille in Paris on 14 July

led to a series of radical measures by the Assembly, including the abolition of feudalism, state control over the Catholic Church in France, and issuing the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen. The next three years were dominated by a struggle for political control. After another revolt in 1793 government passed to the Committee for Public Safety. About 16,000 people were sentenced and executed in the Reign of Terror. In 1795 the Committee was replaced by the Directory. It ended in a coup and the establishment of the Consulate with Napoleon as First Consul. (Wikipedia)

Verse 15: **Howling Fools in High Places**

“The sun and the moon shall be darkened, and the stars shall withdraw their shining.” (Joel 3 v 15)

Democracy fails. The highest elected officials eschew wisdom, reject decorum, trumpet lies, and sow chaos. Powerful right wing autocrats mercilessly persecute rivals and attempt to push them out of government.

1. ‘the sun’

a. Sun is a Bible type of a supreme leader over the land. Hebrew Gematria 640 points to Proverbs 12 which describes a leader ridden with moral weaknesses: hates correction (v1) stupid (v1) wicked intentions (v2) deceitful (v5) predatory (v6) perverse heart (v8) honors himself (v9) distracted by frivolity (v11) admires negative stereotypes (v12) constantly misspeaks (v13) shameless: forever right in his own eyes (v15) explosive wrath his immediate reaction to bad news (v16) promotes patent lies (v17) outrageously slanders rivals (v18) chaos follows him (v21). In 2025 we all know who is acting the part of a ‘supreme leader’ of the United States.

2. ‘and moon’

a. Moon is a Bible type of a religious movement – one which weakly reflects the light of the Sun. Gematria 224 points to Judges 13 and means COLD BLOODED. “The children of Israel did evil in the sight of the LORD and the LORD delivered them into the hands of the Philistines for forty years” (v1) Philistines [far right wingers] are militaristic and despise those who are ethnically and culturally different. America wields the sword of government power against the weakest. In 2025 this is fulfilled by ICE raids: detainment and deportation of people without due process.

3. ‘are dark’

a. Gematria 310 points to 1 Kings 19 – the account of Elijah running for his life from the threats of Jezebel. While Elijah hid in a cave the Earth was rent by an earthquake and burnt with fire. Elijah was instructed to pass his mantle to a man to study under him as prophet in training and anoint a successor to Ahab who would initiate a civil war and utterly destroy Ahab and Jezebel. It is the end of the politics of debate in the public forum. Violent overthrow becomes the means to take power.

The Gematria of the first three words of Joel 3 v 15 is 1174 which points to Revelation 7 and means WHO IS THIS MULTITUDE IN WHITE ROBES? White robes are a symbol of purity and righteousness. The Republican Party in America (GOP) is bolstered by the support of conservative Christians. Conservative Christians favor the stance of the GOP to uphold the traditional family and to advocate against abortion. They are

unconcerned about the far right tactics of Republican policy towards migrants and the summary firings of officials appointed under Democrat administrations. They whole heartedly support a political party that breaks with Christ's teachings to love your enemy, to do good to those who persecute you, feed the hungry, comfort the suffering, etc. This is shocking to the audience in Heaven.

1. 'and the stars'

- a. Gematria 664 points to Ecc. 5 which means MAN IS NAKED and harkens to Adam and Eve's sin of eating the forbidden fruit (see our paper [Mystery of Mankind](#) page 15 Genesis 3). Ecc. 5 describes deep corruption and graft at the hand of elites: "If you see the oppression of the poor and violent perversion of justice... do not marvel... for high official watches over high official... moreover the profit of the land [kickbacks] is for all [elites]. Even the king is served from the field." (v. 8-9) Ecc. 5 warns us the greed of the elites will be their downfall: "There is a severe evil I have seen under the sun: riches kept for their owner to his hurt." (v. 13) "... those riches perish through misfortune." (v 14) "As he came from his mother's womb, naked shall he return... and he shall take nothing from his labor which he may carry in his hand" (v.15) (see our poem [Eyes Cast Down](#)).

2. 'withdraw'

- a. Gematria 147 points to Numbers 30 and means FATHER'S POSSESSION. This chapter outlines how a father may overrule a daughter who makes a vow in her youth in his house. Similarly a husband may also overrule a wife. This is Patrimonialism. In the context of American politics, the President ignores the 'vow' or the rulings of his wife: the House of Representatives {Commoners} and Senate {High Born}. The President is the de facto law of the land. In 2025 we see an example of this in the use of tariffs as a means for the President to coerce desired foreign policy outcomes from trading partners and to raise domestic revenue in spite of the fact the Constitution says only Congress may approve tariffs¹² and raise taxes.

3. 'their shining'

- a. Hebrew Gematria 658 points to Proverbs 30 and means BURIED ALIVE. This chapter describes a society that is bankrupt: "Surely I am more stupid than any man... I neither learned wisdom nor have knowledge of the Holy One." (v 2) "There is a generation that curses its father and does not bless its mother" (v 11) "... that is pure in its own eyes yet is not washed from its filthiness" (v 12) "Oh how lofty are their eyes" (v 13) "whose teeth are swords and whose fangs are knives. To devour the poor from off the earth and the needy from among men." (v 15) The LORD will not let it stand. There will be retribution. "The eye that mocks his father and scorns obedience to mother, the ravens of the valley will pick it out and the young eagles will eat it" (v 17). A new generation of young revolutionaries will rise up against the status quo. In 2025 we may see the beginnings of the counter-revolution in the election of a Socialist as mayor of New York City.

'and the stars withdraw their shining' (words 4-6)

¹² Except in the exceptional instance of a national emergency.

- a. Gematria of the last three Hebrew words of Joel 3 v 15 is 1469 which points to 2 Sam 13 and means JUSTICE DELAYED. This chapter describes the rape of Tamar by David's son Amnon. David treated Amnon's sin preferentially and did not punish him. This fueled rage in the heart of Tamar's brother Absalom. Absalom contrived a feast for all the sons of David and had his servants murder Amnon. In 2025 we see the President delaying justice on behalf of his 'sons' – members of the nation's elite class – for example by granting a pardon to a billionaire convicted of fraud in the management of a cryptocurrency fund. There is also the ongoing shielding of names of elite class individuals who visited the notorious Epstein Island where young women were molested. Even in a crime family there must be a code of conduct to keep the under bosses in line. When there is a breakdown in trust because of missteps by the capo there will be anarchy.

The US flag has 50 stars representing 50 states within the Union. We could interpret the last three words of Joel 3 v 15 as the US flag ceases to inspire humanity with a vision of human rights and a better life. It could be interpreted as some states cease to support the Union and go rogue. We have already seen historic allies, like Canada, searching the globe to find better trading partners.

Verse 16: **The Rapture**

“The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel.”

Joel jumps forward in prophecy to the rapture of the saints just before the Great Tribulation. All who have ever put saving faith in the blood of Jesus Christ on the Cross will rise from the dead and those who are alive and remain will be transformed and meet the LORD in the air. When all are assembled Christ will reward the resurrected saints for their service then lead them in triumph to Heaven. 'Zion' in v. 16 is Christ's Throne in Heaven. 'Jerusalem' in v. 16 is the Heavenly Jerusalem. 'His People' are the Saints, the prophetic children of Israel, not the Jews, the children of Judah. [Of course, none are Moslems or any other Abrahamic off-shoot].

Verse 16 has 15 words. The verse naturally divides into three pentuplets of five Hebrew words each.

1st pentuplet: **“The Lord also shall roar out of Zion, and utter”**

Gematria of 2864 points to Psalm 8 (2864 = 179 x 16). Number 179 means POOR HAVE FAITH and Number 16 means SACRIFICE. The 179th chapter of the Bible is Deuteronomy 26 which lists the characteristics of obedient Israelites: give a testimony of the LORD's saving work (v3); faithfully provide for the Levite, the stranger, the fatherless, and the widow in their gates (v12); keep covenant with God to follow His commandments, walk in His ways, and obey His voice (v17). These good things have been sacrificed on an altar of another god. We can interpret 2864 as SEVER THE COVENANT WITH GOD. 2864 can also be factored as 4 x 716 which is translated: MESSAGE (4) of BRAZEN INSULTS AGAINST GOD (716).

The Rapture is the day when the patience of God with Gentiles ends. Gentile lands are wholly un-Christian. There is no public testimony of the work of the Cross. There is no public reverence for Jesus Christ. Leaders and Commoners have sold out to Satan's worldly system. Strangers (migrants) are persecuted. Children are aborted. Millions of poor people lack basic necessities in countries that possess immense riches. Churches collect tithes but use them to pay for professional speakers, impressive halls, and plush pews.

and Yahweh	32	FELLOWSHIP
from Zion	846	GATE OF TEMPLE IS SHUT TO ALL MEN
he will roar	314	NO GOD IN ISRAEL
and from Jerusalem	562	WEEPING PILGRIMS FLEE
he will give [utter]	1110	CHRIST IS ALL AND CHRIST IS IN ALL

The Rapture is a day when men can no longer gain FELLOWSHIP with Yahweh (the LORD). From his throne in Heaven, Zion, the LORD has commanded: GATE OF TEMPLE IS SHUT TO ALL MEN. His complaint: there is NO GOD [Yahweh] IN ISRAEL.

The Rapture is the Trump call of God. The miserable saints on the earth, tormented by the lawlessness and violence, leave this earth: WEEPING PILGRIMS FLEE. The Rapture brings all saints on earth who have ever lived together with Him for eternity: CHRIST IS ALL AND CHRIST IS IN ALL.

2nd pentuplet: "his voice from Jerusalem; and the heavens and the earth shall shake: but the Lord"

Gematria is 2,813. $2,643 = 2 \times 1189 + 435$. The 435th Bible chapter is Ester 9. Number 435 means ATTACKING ENEMIES IS ACCEPTABLE. Ester 9 is the account of the vengeance of the Jews on the sons of Haman. According to Ester 9 over two days the Jews killed thousands of men who hated them. Thus the plot of Haman to destroy the Jews was turned around and he and his family were destroyed.

his voice	142	RASH DECISION
and they quake	582	EARTH IS A PARADISE
heavens	950	FIG TREE WITHERS
and earth	1107	WORKERS NOISILY ARGUE: GIVING TO NEEDY STOPS
and Yahweh	32	FELLOWSHIP

The Rapture means there is no one left on earth to continue any form of Christian religion. The word 'his voice' is an allusion to the preaching of Christ in temples of religion. Gematria 142 points to Numbers 25 which is the account of the plague resulting from the sin of Peor where Israelite men whored with the women of Moab and bowed down to their gods. The plague only stopped when Eleazar took a javelin and pierced through an Israelite man whoring with a Midianite woman in a tent.

When the Rapture happens organized Christian religion collapses. Midian is a Bible type that represents a Sect of Man's Religion (see our paper [Seven Years in the Hands of Midian](#)). Numbers 25 says **"Harass the Midianites and attack them; for they harassed you with their schemes by which they seduced you"** (v18). At the Rapture the LORD removes all protection from organized churches (tents of Cozbi) because the deceived saints who whored in them are dead or gone. It will be open season to attack religionists (Midianites), just as the house of Lot was surrounded by haters in Sodom and Gomorrah. These events tell us the final judgment of God in fire and brimstone is close at hand (second half of the Great Tribulation).

The Gentile world will manufacture justifications for attacking organized churches: a history of youth sexual abuse by priests and pastors; teachings incompatible with Secular Humanism; the forced conversion of aboriginals via oppressive residential school systems, etc. Sins of individuals will be wiped onto communities.

The word **'heavens'** has Gematria 950 and means FIG TREE WITHERS. The Fig Tree is a Bible Type of a nation (tree) founded on worship of God. At the first advent Christ cursed the Fig Tree that bore no fruit. This was prophetic of Judah in his day. Because they departed from the will of God, the LORD brought the Romans who destroyed the Temple in Jerusalem and banned monotheistic religious practices.

3rd Pentuplet: **"will be the hope of his people, and the strength of the children of Israel"**

Gematria is 991. The 991st Bible chapter is Luke 18. Number 991 means SON OF DAVID HAVE MERCY ON ME.

Luke 18 is the parable of the persistent widow where Jesus says plainly:

"And shall not God avenge his own elect who cry out day and night to Him though He bears long with them? I tell you that He will avenge them speedily." (v7-8a)

"Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on earth?" (v8b)

The reference to Luke 18 puts an exclamation point on our interpretation of Joel 3 v 16 as the Rapture.

Unless it wasn't already abundantly clear when we look at the words in the 3rd Pentuplet we find in the first word **"refuge"** Gematria 113 SNATCH AWAY THE SAINTS:

(is a) refuge	113	SNATCH AWAY THE SAINTS
for his people	146	FREE OF ALL BONDS
and (a) stronghold	129	DISRESPECT THE FATHER
for sons of	92	WICKED DESTROYED
Israel	511	WAIT IN HOPE

The Rapture will be a great relief to saints who suffered in the Last Days. **'for His people'** has Gematria 146 means FREE OF ALL BONDS. Back on Earth no one loves the LORD: **'and (a) stronghold'**: Gematria 129 means DISRESPECT THE FATHER - The Father in Heaven who sent His Son Jesus to be the Savior of the World. No one is praying to God to forgive those haters. They are doomed: WICKED DESTROYED. The saints in Heaven

have their backs turned to the Earth and are basking in the glory of the presence of Jesus Christ: 'Israel' has Gematria 511 and points to Psalm 33 – a praise hymn to the glory of Almighty God.

THE LAST VERSES OF JOEL 3

Analysis of the last five verses will be abbreviated. Preliminary interpretations as follows:

Verse 17 Great Tribulation

“So shall ye know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain: then shall Jerusalem be holy, and there shall no strangers [aliens] pass through her any more.” (v17)

At the mid-point of the Great Tribulation it will be revealed to the Jews that the Messiah is Jesus. They will mourn. A series of judgments will punish and purge the world of those who worship the Beast and his image. (Note: Anti-Christ is the Beast from the Sea – he is not a Jew – he is an 'alien').

Verse 18 Second Coming of Christ

“And it shall come to pass in that day that the mountains shall drop down new wine and the hills shall flow with milk and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters and a fountain shall come forth out of the house of the Lord and shall water the valley of Shittim.” (v18)

The LORD, resident in Zion, the Mountain of the Lord ('mountain') in Heaven, will descend ('drop down') clothed in a robe dipped in blood ('new wine') followed by the armies in Heaven, clothed in fine linen, white and clean ('milk'). Those who return with Christ will rule and reign with him as Princes ('hills') in His Kingdom.

Verse 19 Separation of Sheep and Goats

“Egypt shall be a desolation, and Edom shall be a desolate wilderness, for the violence against the children of Judah, because they have shed innocent blood in their land.” (v19)

Nations will rise and fall depending on whether they heeded the warnings of the 144,000 witnesses. Identity of Egypt and Edom is uncertain. Possibly Egypt is Islamic nations and Edom is Eastern Orthodox nations.

Verse 20 Millennium

“But Judah shall dwell for ever, and Jerusalem from generation to generation.” (v20)

The Hebrew word translated 'for ever' in can also be translated 'eon' – a thousand years.

Verse 21 New Jerusalem

“For I will cleanse their blood that I have not cleansed: for the Lord dwells in Zion.” (v21)

The LORD will dwell in the New Jerusalem with all those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life (Rev. 21)!