

---

**VIDEO LECTURE MODULE:**

**BIBLE FOR  
6TH GRADE STUDENTS**

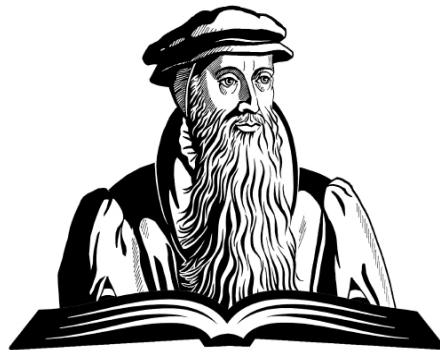
---

**Old Testament**

**Lesson 101**

**Joel and the Day of the LORD**

Lecture Presenter: Dr. Daniel Sweetman



**The John Knox Institute**  
of Higher Education

*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

**John Knox Institute of Higher Education**

*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

© 2023 by John Knox Institute of Higher Education

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means for profit, except in brief quotations for the purposes of review, comment, or scholarship, without written permission from the publisher, John Knox Institute, P.O. Box 19398, Kalamazoo, MI 49019-19398, USA.

Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

Visit our website: [www.johnknoxinstitute.org](http://www.johnknoxinstitute.org)

Dr. Daniel Sweetman is an instructor at Grace Christian Academy in Grand Rapids, Michigan, USA.  
[www.gcagr.org](http://www.gcagr.org)

# Module

---

## BIBLE FOR 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

### Old Testament

#### 113 LESSONS

*77 Lessons presented by Mr. Daniel Van Brugge*

*36 Lessons presented by Dr. Daniel Sweetman*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 01. The Bible: The Word of God             | 26. Joseph and His Brethren                     |
| 02. Creation: The Work of an Almighty God  | 27. Jacob Comes to Joseph                       |
| 03. Man: A Special Place in God's Creation | 28. God Heard Their Cry                         |
| 04. A Gracious Promise                     | 29. Moses and the Burning Bush                  |
| 05. Cain and Abel                          | 30. Let My People God                           |
| 06. Only Noah Found Grace                  | 31. Deliverance                                 |
| 07. The Coming Judgment –A Way of Escape   | 32. God's Patience with a Complaining People    |
| 08. The Noahic Covenant                    | 33. Keeping the Law: Not to Merit /Thankfulness |
| 09. The Tower of Babel                     | 34. The Lord Dwells Among His People            |
| 10. Abram: Called by God                   | 35. A Priest for the People                     |
| 11. Abram Intercedes for Lot               | 36. Moses Intercedes for a Rebellious People    |
| 12. Melchizadek                            | 37. Worshiping God Rightly                      |
| 13. Righteous by Faith                     | 38. Walk Not According to the World             |
| 14. Two Sons                               | 39. Hearts of Ingratitude                       |
| 15. Lessons from Lot's Life                | 40. Aaron's Rod Blossoming                      |
| 16. Faithless Abraham – Faithful God       | 41. The Serpent of Brass Lifted Up              |
| 17. Abraham Tested – God's Provision       | 42. Phinehas Turning Away God's Wrath           |
| 18. Isaac and Rebekah                      | 43. Cities of Refuge                            |
| 19. Jacob: A Better Desire than Esau       | 44. A New Generation                            |
| 20. Jacob the Deceiver                     | 45. Moses' Last Days                            |
| 21. God Preserves Jacob                    | 46. Joshua—God's Promise Fulfilled              |
| 22. Jacob Returns to Beth-el               | 47. A Promise to Rahab                          |
| 23. Joseph Loved – Joseph Hated            | 48. The Rise of Judges                          |
| 24. An Eye upon God                        | 49. Gideon—God with Him                         |
| 25. Joseph Raised Out of Prison            | 50. Samson                                      |

51. Ruth the Moabitess
52. Samuel Judges Israel
53. Israel's First King
54. The Kingdom Established
55. David Anointed the Next King
56. David Hunted by Saul
57. The Last Days of Saul
58. David, the Next King
59. Fetching the Ark
60. Thou Art the Man
61. David's Return to Jerusalem
62. Seven Sons of Saul Killed
63. Genealogies of Israel
64. David Appointed King
65. David's Kingdom Established
66. David Prepares for the Temple
67. David's Departing Instructions
68. Solomon Becomes King
69. Solomon Builds the House of God
70. The Kingdom is Rent
71. A Wicked Divided Kingdom
72. Ahab's Reign and Death
73. Elisha Begins his Work
74. Elisha's Voice is Heard
75. A Succession of Kings
76. Ahaz and Hezekiah
77. The Captivity of Judah
78. Introduction to the Prophets
79. Isaiah's Vision & Song
80. Isaiah Prophecies about Christ
81. The Prophet Jeremiah Called and Sent
82. Jeremiah Opposed and Comforted
83. Ezekiel, the Captive Prophet
84. Ezekiel's Comforting Visions
85. Daniel and His Three Friends
86. Nebuchadnezzar's Forgotten Dream
87. Three Friends in the Fiery Furnace
88. Nebuchadnezzar's Madness
89. The Writing on the Wall
90. Daniel in the Lions' Den
91. Daniel's Visions and Dreams
92. Ezra—Return from Captivity
93. Ezra—Rebuilding the Temple
94. Ezra—The Scribe
95. Nehemiah—Rebuilding the Walls
96. Nehemiah—The Task Completed
97. Esther the Queen
98. Esther—Haman's Plot
99. Esther—The Jews Saved
100. Hosea—The Minor Prophets
- 101. Joel and the Day of the LORD**
102. Amos the Fearless Herdsman
103. Obadiah Prophecies Edom's Fall
104. Jonah's Flight
105. Jonah's Mission
106. Micah Preaches Judgment & Mercy
107. Nahum—A Message for Nineveh
108. Habakkuk's Questions, God's Replies
109. Zephaniah—Threatenings & Promises
110. Haggai Urges Building the Temple
111. Zechariah—The Night Visions
112. Zechariah Prophecies of Christ
113. Malachi—Last Old Testament Prophet

# *Lesson 101*

---

## **Joel and the Day of the LORD**

Joel, chapters 1 through 3

### **Memory Verse**

*“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.”*

Joel 2:28

### **Who Was Joel?**

The name Joel means “the LORD is God.” We know very little about the prophet Joel. We read that his father’s name was Pethuel. We do not read when it was that Joel prophesied. Because no names of kings are mentioned, some believe he prophesied during the time of queen Athaliah and the high priest Jehoiada. Others believe he preached much later, after the Jews returned from captivity.

### **A Dreadful Judgment**

The prophecy of Joel begins with a vivid description of a dreadful scene. It is as if a hurricane has swept across the land and destroyed everything. Nothing is left of the beautiful fields of wheat, the vineyards, and the fruit trees. There is sorrow everywhere. Husbandmen and vinedressers are astonished at the devastation. Priests mourn because people have no sacrifice to offer. The herds and flocks and beasts of the field groan and cry unto God. Then Joel begins to describe what has caused this destruction. A well organized army has overrun the country of Judah. There were so many of them that they darkened the sunlight. They caused a dreadful sound like the rumbling of thousands of chariots and the crackling of a huge fire. No amount of soldiers and armed guards were able to stop the invaders from scaling the city walls, rushing through the streets and entering people’s homes by thousands and millions. Who were they? The dreadful invaders who had caused such destruction were huge swarms of locusts. Locust plagues struck fear and terror in the hearts of people who experienced them. In two days, the locusts were able to destroy enough food for half a million people. Before the swarms flew off, they laid millions of eggs which soon hatched, and their larvae ate anything the locusts had left.

At the same time of the locust plague, there was a bad drought. A famine threatened the people of Judah. It is no wonder that Joel cried out, “Gird yourselves, and lament, ye priests: howl, ye ministers of the altar...For the meat offering and the drink offering is withholden from the house of your God” (Joel 1:13). Even the temple service, which pointed to Christ, could no longer continue.

The prophet Joel realized that this dreadful judgment foreshadowed an even greater judgment, which is “the day of the LORD,” the judgment day when all the earth will be summoned for judgment. This day will be ushered in by dreadful signs in the sky and in the earth. Joel called out to the people of Judah, “The day of the Lord is great and very terrible; and who shall abide it?” (Joel 2:11). Then Joel called out to his people, “Therefore also now, saith the LORD, turn ye even to me with all your heart, and with fasting, and with weeping, and with mourning: 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 repenteth him of the evil” (Joel 2:12 & 13).

### **A Great Restoration**

God blessed the preaching of Joel. Suddenly the tone of the book of Joel changes. Upon the people’s repentance, Joel begins to pronounce great blessings and precious promises. The enemy shall be driven away. Gentle showers will come down upon the land, and the threshing floors and the wine fats shall be filled to overflowing. Divinely inspired, Joel may look far in the future. In Joel 2:28–32, we read a promise of a great pouring out of the Holy Spirit upon all flesh. Peter, in his sermon to the astonished Jews at Pentecost, leaves us in no doubt that the wonderful outpouring of the Holy Spirit they were witnessing was the fulfillment of this prophecy. Thankfully, Pentecost was only the beginning of the mighty works of the Holy Spirit among all nations. Now that we have the complete Bible, the Holy Spirit uses the Word of God rather than dreams and visions to renew hearts and minds of sinners. If you have ever heard God’s voice speaking to you from his Word, you know that the effect is no less powerful!

### **Review Questions**

1. In Joel 1:4, which insects are causing the devastation in the land of Judah?

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

2. In Joel 1:12, what plants were affected by the locusts and by the drought?

\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

3. In the following verses, who is mourning because of God’s judgments?

Joel 1:5 \_\_\_\_\_

Joel 1:9 \_\_\_\_\_

Joel 1:11 \_\_\_\_\_

Joel 1:18 \_\_\_\_\_

4. What does Joel compare the locusts to in the following verses?

Joel 2:4 \_\_\_\_\_

Joel 2:5 \_\_\_\_\_

Joel 2:7 \_\_\_\_\_

Joel 2:9 \_\_\_\_\_

5. In Joel 2:28, 29, who will be filled with the Holy Spirit? \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

6. Fill in the blanks (Joel 3:18):

*“And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall \_\_\_\_\_ new  
\_\_\_\_\_, and the hills shall \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow  
with \_\_\_\_\_, and a \_\_\_\_\_ shall come forth of the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_,  
and shall \_\_\_\_\_ the Valley of Shittim.”*

### **Discussion Questions**

1. What does Joel mean in chapter 2:13, when he says, “And rend your heart, and not your garments”? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. In Acts 2:16–21, Peter told the Jews that the words of Joel 2:28–32 were being fulfilled just then.

-What was taking place in Acts 2? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

-In what way were the prophecies of Joel fulfilled then? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

-Which part of the texts does not seem to have been fulfilled at the time? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

3. Compare Joel 3:13 and Revelation 14:15–19.

What is similar in these two verses? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

What do these verses refer to? \_\_\_\_\_

---

---