

V. The invitation 14

- turn
- repent
- confess
- walk

c. Items to be further pursued:

- the Messianic statements or applications of 11:1 ff
- the eschatology ideals
- relevance to modern life

The great thrust of Hosea is that of knowing the Lord...knowing Him in the details of a life of intimacy. Failure in this allows for false gods and false theological "lovers"...a situation that is often a protective obstinacy and which must be dealt with in the sharpest of manners.

2. A Survey Study of Joel "God's Day"

a. An overview: (TVT, Dr. Putnam has no article on Joel)

The author is Joel the son of Pethuel but beyond that we know nothing of him save that he is not of the priestly class as is indicated by the address of 1:13 and 2:17. The book is dated with great difficulty and the commentators offer dates from the 9th to the 3rd centuries BC. This breadth in dating is possible on objective grounds because Joel, while speaking of many nations, talks only of those whose existence covered centuries. In addition his theological terminology is common to most of the great prophets and so not datable. There are some points in the Hebrew that suggest a later date but our knowledge of the development of Hebrew is not sufficiently pointed to allow an exactness in this character. The later datings (200 BC) usually require subjective grounds such as the idea that the apocalyptic was not known in earlier Israelite history and literature and the development of the coming of the Spirit was likewise a later picture. Both of these concepts are predicated on rather liberal grounds with regard to the development of Israel's faith as a means of the projection of the national image.

R. K. Harrison, INTRODUCTION, prefers a "before 400 date" for Joel and my personal preference is a pre-exilic date largely because of his emphasis on impending disaster and judgment which I prefer to associate with the captivity armies. The book is short and compact but the imagery is very vivid and there is a terror to the account that leaves one feeling the helplessness of those facing the judgment of God. The promised blessing is a great relief to this scene. Joel is almost totally poetical in form but it is the poetry or narration, not that of song.

In outlining Joel I prefer the simple outline of the

COMPANION BIBLE:

- I. A Call to hear 1:1-3
- II. The threat of Judgments 1:4-13
- III. A call to repent 1:14-2:17
- IV. The treatment of Judgments 2:18--:21

(This is modified by TVT..the original is on page 1224 of the cited volume)