The Survivor's Escape To Zion (Joel 2:32)

Tony Mauck · Joel 2:32

INTRODUCTION

- The locust invasion, God's amazing mercy, as the people ultimately turn from their sins, and then the prophecy at the end of Joel chapter 2, that is quoted on the day of Pentecost.
- It is time for judgment to begin, to begin with the household of God.
- You have come to Mount Zion to the city of the living God.

1 Bleak to Blessing, Pain to Prosperity

Joel 2:26; Joel 2:28–32

- So in the second half of Joel's prophecy, the bleak vision that begins the book changes to blessing.
- And praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you, then my people will never be put to shame.
- Whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be delivered. For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem, there will be those who escape.
- Those in Zion who reap the blessings of the covenant are also styled the survivors. And that's what we are spiritually in Christ.

2 The Valley of Jehoshaphat

Joel 3:14; 1 Peter 4:18

- Joel is using a play on words with a famous king of Judah who was righteous, whose name means Jehovah has judged.
- So the point of the valley of Jehoshaphat is you will not escape the judgment of God.
- No one escapes the valley of decision.

3 Don't Be Overly Concerned With Justice

Ecclesiastes 8:12; Psalm 73; Romans 12

- Don't be overly concerned with justice not playing out in the world.
- Quit worrying about the nations around you. Because nobody escapes the valley of Jehoshaphat.
- Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord in Romans chapter 12.
- There is no place as bad as finding yourself opposed to the living and true God.

4 Troublers of Covenant People Incur God's Wrath

Luke 17:1–2

- It is inevitable that stumbling blocks should come, but woe to him through whom they come.
- We need to be careful in our treatment of other people in Christ.
- There is a harder work that we're called to do. And that's the maintenance of our heart and our attitudes and our treatment of each other in the likeness of our Lord.
- We can't please the Lord while hating our brother.

5 The Hopes to Be Found in Zion

Joel 3:16–17; Revelation 21; Revelation 22:11

- The Lord is a refuge for his people. And a stronghold to the sons of Israel.
- Then you will know that I am the Lord your God dwelling in Zion, my holy mountain. So Jerusalem will be holy, and strangers will pass through it no more.
- This kingdom reigns supreme in the world, whether it's recognized or not.
- Only the righteous enter in.

6 The Real Survivors

Joel 2:32

- The survivors find this city. Even among the survivors whom the Lord calls.
- The real survivors are sitting right here tonight. Those who have a place in the spiritual city of God.
- Being a part of Zion, and what we see in the book of Joel. Attitudes and behavior matter.
- We want all the blessings God has to offer without having to conform our attitudes and thinking and behavior in the likeness of Jesus.

THE CHALLENGE

The survivors in Zion, that's us. It is a high calling. The demands of righteousness are upon us. But we are blessed to be in that city.

MY NOTES