

Magnolia Missionary Baptist Church of Beaumont
Pastor: Pastor Dwight Benoit
Superintendent: Ordained Minister Samuel O. Simon
Lesson # 9 January 24, 2023 – January 29, 2023

Unit II: GOD'S Promises

Subject: Promises of Restoration and Gladness

Text: Joel 2: 21-27

Key Verse: Ye 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 (Joel 2: 27, KJV).

Lesson Pointers:

- 1) Rejoice (Joel 2: 21-23)
- 2) Receive (Joel 2: 24-27)

Introduction

The question has often been asked. Do you believe in GOD? And how do you as believers see GOD'S promises as a special opportunity to live by faith in HIM? There are many who live by what they see, and get from GOD, but GOD'S people live by faith in what GOD has said in HIS word rather than by what they (we) see, count, or measure. To live by faith is to believe in what GOD says, and to act on that truth by getting ready for it to come. Believers who live by faith in GOD does not waste time trying to evaluate whether or not GOD'S promise will come to fruition. Believers just obey GOD'S directions and trust GOD'S word, and refuse to live in doubt.

Lesson Pointer # 1

- Rejoice (Joel 2: 21-23)

Now, in order for one to rejoice in something, there must first come a word of good news. Here in this text, Joel opens up with one of GOD'S well-known announcements to HIS people or messenger: "Fear not," when the LORD calls for us and the land to be glad and to rejoice, He tells us to fear not, because we can rejoice, because the Creator of the universe has spoken and HE is going to "do great things," that is good news to rejoice in (Joel 2: 21). Now, the people and the land had gone through great turmoil, and needed a great reason from GOD to rejoice. This call of rejoicing from GOD extended not only to the people and land but unto the beasts of the field as well, because the animals (the beasts of the field) fields that were burned and unfruitful will once again become fruitful and productive; the pastures, trees bearing fruit, fig trees and vines (Joel 2: 22). The LORD GOD'S command that was directed towards the people of Israel, the children of Zion, was for them to rejoice in the LORD their GOD. Now, when the all-knowing GOD, and all-powerful GOD calls for rejoicing, HIS people (believers) can be assured that there is a valid and certain reason for it, and to obey and rejoice, for the LORD had spoken. Joel, the call of GOD, continues by explaining that GOD had already provided moderate rainfall for the people and the land, and that GOD would ensure that the rain would fall in due season, on time, when wanted, needed, and expected (Joel 2:23). Joel said unto the people of Judah to look forward with great expectant faith, rejoicing, and praising GOD in advance for His divine blessings that HE (GOD) promise.

Promises of Restoration and Gladness!

Lesson Pointer # 2

- **Receive (Joel 2: 24-27)**

Be ready to receive the blessings of GOD'S promised word; Joel prophesied to the people of Judah that as the rains fell, according to the word of GOD, refreshing would cause the threshing floor (the place where oxen tread the wheat) to be filled with wheat and grain, and that their source or mechanism used to press grapes and olives would overflow with wine and oil. This is a blessing of prosperity for GOD'S people. The people of Judah would have enough, and would be filled with overflowing blessings (Joel 2: 24). GOD can do anything, and turn any situation around, there is nothing too hard for GOD. GOD vowed to give back to the people of Judah what was lost due to the pestilence that HE sent as judgment for sin (Joel 2: 25). Because of GOD'S love for HIS people, HE restored them, even though they had sinned against HIM, GOD kept HIS promise to restore. Joel prophesied that the people of Judah would eat plenty and be satisfied and praise GOD without being ashamed, because GOD had dealt wonderfully with them HIS people (Joel 2: 26). The promise of GOD is true that says that HE will never leave us nor forsake us, for the steadfast love of GOD is for HIS people. Joel said that "The LORD is your GOD." GOD proclaim to the people of Judah that it was "HE," your GOD who had done these mighty and marvelous works, in the midst of Israel, and that those who know HIM (GOD) as their personal GOD (LORD and SAVIOUR) shall never be ashamed (Joel 2: 27). All that is needed for the people of GOD to do was to receive and to rejoice in GOD'S grace, this is for all born again believers in JESUS CHRIST as well. You see, no matter what you have done, know and believe that GOD is able to restore you and to give you a turnaround, and to make you free, for whom the SON of GOD makes free is free indeed.

Promises of Restoration and Gladness!

Nuggets of the Lesson:

- 1) **Trust, obey, and rejoice in GOD'S word (Joel 2: 21-22; Psalm 65: 12-13)**
- 2) **The LORD shall restore that which was lost (Joel 2: 25; Joel 1: 4)**
- 3) **Receive the blessings of GOD with plenty and be satisfied (Joel 2: 26; Leviticus 26: 5; Psalm 67: 5-7; Isaiah 45: 17)**
- 4) **Know that GOD is in the midst of HIS people (Joel 2: 27; Leviticus 26: 11; Isaiah 45: 5)**