

A.L.I.V.E. Bible Study
Date: November 15, 2023
Intro & Joel 1:1-20

1. Who, according to 1:1 wrote the book of Joel? _____
2. When was the book of Joel written?
 - A. Probably after Hosea and before Amos...
 - B. We really don't know. There isn't much in there that allows us to date it...no lists of kings like Hose or Amos, etc.
 - C. It is probably placed in this position because of links between the content of Joel chapter 3 and Amos chapter 1 more than because of it's timing.
3. How is the book of Joel structured?
 - A. Probably randomly. As little as I know about scripture, it all seems random to me.
 - B. There are two major sections. After the title in 1:1, 1:2-2:17 contain "words of exhortation" and 2:18-3:2 contain "words of assurance" that God will respond if we return to him.
4. What was happening at the time of the writing of the book of Joel, according 1:4? _____

5. What does Joel say to Israel in 1:2?
 - A. Listen up!
 - B. Has anything like this ever happened? Shouldn't this catch your attention.
 - C. Your children don't have historical context, but you do. Let them know how big a deal this is!
6. What, according to 1:5, was the situation in Israel at the time of this plague of locusts?
 - A. Apparently, they were all drunk.
 - B. Everybody was so focused on their own enjoyment or maybe self-medicating, etc., that nobody seemed to be paying attention to the signs of the times and asking the question "what might this mean for us?"
 - C. If you can't pay attention to anything else, at least pay attention to the fact that you won't have any more wine because the harvest is gone!
7. What response, according to 1:8 and 1:13-14, does Joel suggest is appropriate?
 - A. Mourn! Take this seriously.
 - B. Put on sackcloth and wail.
 - C. Declare a holy fast.
 - D. Call a sacred assembly
 - E. Summon the elders to the house of the Lord.
 - F. Cry out to the Lord!
8. What does 1:15 suggest is the meaning of all of this? _____

9. What does 1:19-20 suggest is the natural response (even of the animals) in situations like this? _____

10. Have you been in this type of situation, either as a society or as an individual?
Yes _____ No _____ What has your response been? _____