November 16–22
Hosea 1–6; 10–14; Joel
“I Will Love Them Freely”



Warning to Israel

Joel 1:9-13

What blessings and privileges would Judah lose as a result of neglecting their covenants with the Lord?

"One of the consequences of Judah’s destruction and scattering as a nation was the loss of her temple worship, the source of joy and gladness. Their field was wasted; they were no longer a fruitful people unto the Lord." (Old Testament Student Manual: 1 Kings-Malachi, pg.84)

Warning to Israel

Hos 4:1,6-10

What would the people lose the ability to do in the temple when the Lord declared that they would “be no priest” to Him?

Warning to Israel

Hos 6:6-7

What does the Lord desire more than sacrifices and burnt offerings?

Marion D. Hanks

“Hundreds of years before Christ, God confronted the willful ignorance of Israel in these words: ‘My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge: because thou hast rejected knowledge, I will also reject thee … seeing thou hast forgotten the law of thy God. …’

“The knowledge for lack of which they suffered is plainly explained by Hosea:

‘… the Lord hath a controversy with the inhabitants of the land, because there is no truth, nor mercy, nor knowledge of God in the land.

‘For I desired mercy, and not sacrifice; and the knowledge of God more than burnt offerings.’” (CR, April 1972)

Approaching Armageddon

Joel 2:2-10

What warning does Joel's description of this terrible army teach us, and how can we respond to that warning?

Joseph Fielding Smith

“Here we have a great, terrible army, marching with unbroken ranks and crushing everything before it, finding the garden like Eden before them, leaving the wilderness behind, causing mourning, causing suffering; and so the prophet raises the warning voice, and that voice is to us, if you please, that we might turn unto the Lord and rend our hearts.” (The Signs of the Times, pg. 160)

Approaching Armageddon

Joel 2:1,11

What do these verses teach us about the Lord's army and the power of those who carry out His word?

D&C 105:31-32

30) … I will hold the armies of Israel guiltless... scattering their watchmen, and avenging me of mine enemies unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me.

31) But first let my army become very great, and let it be sanctified before me, that it may become fair as the sun, and clear as the moon, and that her banners may be terrible unto all nations;

32) That the kingdoms of this world may be constrained to acknowledge that the kingdom of Zion is in very deed the kingdom of our God and his Christ...

John Taylor

“We will stretch out further and further. Zion's cords shall be lengthened and her stakes shall be strengthened until her armies shall become mighty and numerous and until God shall say to the Gentiles, it is enough.” (JD, 21:111)

Approaching Armageddon

Hos 11:10-11

What effect will the gathering of the army of Zion have on the rest of the world?

Approaching Armageddon

Joel 3:1-2,9-12

What do these verses teach us about the spiritual battle that will take place in the latter days and the need to be spiritually prepared?

Dean L. Larsen

“The Savior himself said that conditions toward the end of this dispensation would very much resemble those that existed just before the Flood. ‘As the days of Noe were,’ he said, ‘so shall also the coming of the Son of man be’ (Matt 24:37).

“Joel saw the period of time in which we live as a great battleground for the souls of men….

“Joel saw that this great battle would not be regarded in a casual way. It would be no time for weakness nor weaklings.” (CR, April 1983)

Approaching Armageddon

Joel 3:13-17

What does the Lord admonish His people to recognize about the coming day of judgment?

Wilford Woodruff

“He has... called upon the inhabitants of the world to prepare themselves for the great day of his second advent and coming, which is at hand. He is calling upon them loudly today; and, as I have said to some of my brethren lately, the Lord now wants to know whether the Latter-day Saints are willing to work with him or not. It is a day of decision.” (JD, 18:109)

Approaching Armageddon

Joel 2:12-16

What does the Lord admonish His people to do to demonstrate sincere repentance and have turned their hearts to Him?

Approaching Armageddon

Joel 2:28-32

What evidence do we see that the Lord is fulfilling these promises to His people in the latter days?

Gordon B. Hinckley

“The vision of Joel has been fulfilled….

“There has been more of scientific discovery during these years than during all of the previous history of mankind. Transportation, communication, medicine, public hygiene, the unlocking of the atom, the miracle of the computer, with all of its ramifications, have blossomed forth, particularly in our own era. During my own lifetime, I have witnessed miracle after wondrous miracle come to pass. We take it for granted.

“And, with all of this, the Lord has restored His ancient priesthood. He has organized His Church and kingdom during the past century and a half. He has led His people. They have been tempered in the crucible of terrible persecution. He has brought to pass the wondrous time in which we now live.

“We have seen only the foreshadowing of the mighty force for good that this Church will become. And yet I marvel at what has been accomplished.” (CR, Oct. 2001)

After Armageddon

Joel 3:18-21
Hosea 14:5-8

How will Israel be cleansed and spiritually renewed after the Battle of Armageddon?

Next Week:

November 23–29

Amos; Obadiah; Jonah

“Seek the Lord, and Ye Shall Live”

