

THE BEGINNING OF THE LAST DAYS!

Acts 2:16 - 21

ORIGINAL CONTEXT – JOEL 2:28 - 32

A. 538 BC or later. Future time, when:

- Never again - reproach. Joel 2:19
- Prosperity; praising Lord (J 2:26)
- Lord zealous for Land (restored) (J 2:18, 21)
- No occupier on land (J 2:20)
- Relationship restored. (J 2:27; Matt 23:39)

B. Will occur post May 14, 1948 (Land)?

1948 STATEHOOD

- United Nations adopted a “partition plan” on Nov 29, 1947, partitioning Palestine into Jewish and Arab sections. The plan displaced thousands of Arabs.
- At end of British Mandate on May 14, 1948, declaration of statehood made by Israel.
- When British troops withdrew (5/14/48), Arabs attacked.

1. THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT PROMISED IN OT.

A. Outpouring promised – Israel specific:

- Joel 2:15f, Is 44:3-6, Ezek 39:29-30, Zec 12:10, Is 32:15-20 (regathering, land restored)

B. Along with judgement of the nations: Joel 3:12-14, Zeph 3:8-13 (remnant), Zech 14:2.

2. THE OUTPOURING FULFILLS JOEL 2 AND INAUGURATES “LAST DAYS.”

A. Time period:

- Joel 2:28 "And it will come about after this ...
- Acts 2:17 'And it shall be in the last days,' ...
(Heb 1:2, Is 2:2, Micah 4:1)

B. Messianic or church age. V 2:20

3. THE “OUTPOURING” IS EXTENDED BEYOND ISRAEL TO THE GENTILES

A. Likened to a downpour, deluge.

1. Mark 14:24, Upper room, “My blood is **“poured out”** for man”
2. John 2:15, Jesus **“pours out”** coins of moneychangers
3. Rev 16:6, they (16:2, people w mark of beast) **“poured out”** the blood of saints and prophets

THE EXTENSION IS SEEN IN THE “FULLNESS” OF THE OUTPOUR

- A. Everyone, **not just Jews**. Acts 2:17; cf Joel 2:32; Acts 2:9-12
- B. Not gender specific, sons **and daughters**.
John 4:27
- C. Not age specific - young and old.
- D. **My** bond slaves, men **and women**. Cf Joel 2:29; prophetic.

4. THE OUTPOURING WILL BE AUTHENTICATED.

A. Gift of prophecy to men/women.

- Words uttered on behalf of God. 1 Cor 14:3

B. Gift of supernatural.

- See vision and dreams. V 2:19

C. Signs - before Christ returns: v 2:19-20

- Sun and moon (Biltz and Hagee; blood moons)
- Increasing impact of sin - Blood, fire, smoke.

5. THE OUTPOURING HAS A SPIRITUAL PURPOSE.

- Acts 2:21

WHAT IS MY NEXT STEP?

- A. Memorize Acts 2:21.
- B. Read Acts 2 no less than 7x over next 7 days.
- C. Pray Acts 2:21 daily.
- D. Talk to at least one person about God.