

A dramatic, low-angle shot looking up at a vast, dark sky filled with a massive swarm of locusts. The insects are silhouetted against a lighter, hazy background, creating a sense of overwhelming numbers and movement. The locusts are in various stages of flight, with their wings spread wide. The bottom of the frame shows the dark, intricate branches of trees, suggesting the locusts are flying over a forest or a field. The overall mood is one of awe and the power of nature.

Joel

The Day of the Lord

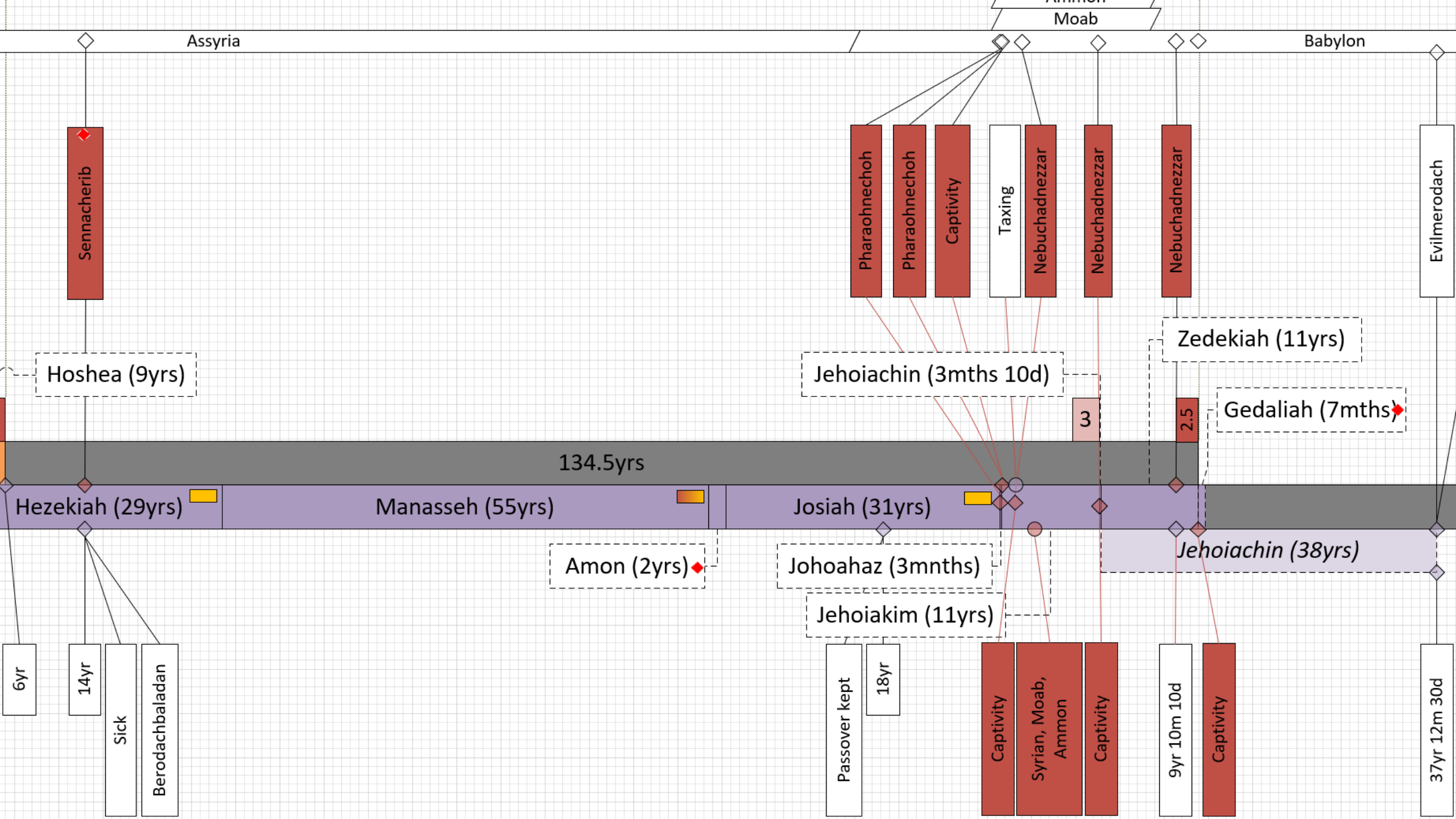
Joel

1. Quick Review
2. Prophetic Structure – The Day of the Lord
3. Understanding Symbols – The Invasion

Review – Call to Action

- Solemn Fasting
- Destruction
- The Day of the Lord





A dramatic, low-angle shot looking up at a vast, dense swarm of locusts filling the sky. The locusts are silhouetted against a dark, twilight sky, with a bright, glowing light source in the center, possibly the sun or moon, creating a lens flare effect. The locusts are in various stages of flight, with their wings spread, creating a sense of intense movement and overwhelming numbers. The bottom of the frame shows the dark, silhouetted branches of trees, suggesting the locusts are flying over a forest or wooded area.

Prophetic Structure The Day of the Lord

Joel – The Day of the Lord

The Day of the Lord

Joe 1:15 Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.



The Day of the Lord

Joe 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand;



The Day of the Lord

1	<p>Joe 1:15 Alas for the day! for the day of the LORD is at hand, and as a destruction from the Almighty shall it come.</p> <p>Joe 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand;</p> <p>Joe 2:11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?</p>
2	<p>Joe 2:31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.</p>
3	<p>Joe 3:14 Multitudes, multitudes in the valley of decision: for the day of the LORD is near in the valley of decision.</p>

Three More Days

#	#	Judgements against Judah and Jerusalem
		Pharoah Necho had conquered Jerusalem and taken Jehoahaz away. He only reigned for 3 months. He then appointed Eliakim the son of Josiah as king and renamed him Jehoiakim.
1		Nebuchadnezzar then conquered Pharoah's army. Jehoiakim then served Babylon for 3 years, after which he rebelled.
		We infer that Joel's prophecy came around the 5 th year of Jehoiakim. Which means the people are feeling confident about rebelling from Babylon.
2	1	Babylon then conquered the city, killed Jehoiakim. His son Jehoiachin then was setup as king for 3 months and 10 days.
3	2	Babylon once again conquered the city, and took Jehoiachin away, and then appointed Mattaniah his uncle as king. He renamed him to Zedekiah. Then Zedekiah also rebels.
4	3	In the 9 th year of Zedekiah, Nebuchadnezzar besieges the city. In the 11 th year it is taken and destroyed.

It is nigh at hand- is at hand

Luk 21:29-33 And he spake to them a parable; Behold the **fig tree**, and all the trees; 30 When they now **shoot forth**, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now **nigh at hand**. 31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the **kingdom of God** is **nigh at hand**. 32 Verily I say unto you, **This generation** shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. 33 **Heaven and earth shall pass away**: but my words shall not pass away.

Heaven and Earth

Joe 2:2 A day of **darkness** and of **gloominess**, a day of **clouds** and of **thick darkness**, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

Joe 2:10 The **earth shall quake** before them; the **heavens shall tremble**: the **sun and the moon shall be dark**, and the **stars** shall withdraw their shining:

Joe 2:31 The **sun** shall be turned into **darkness**, and the **moon** into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

Joe 3:15 The **sun** and the **moon** shall be **darkened**, and the **stars** shall withdraw their shining.

Sun and Moon

Act 2:18-20 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will shew wonders in **heaven** above, and signs in the **earth** beneath; **blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke**: 20 The **sun** shall be turned into **darkness**, and the **moon** into **blood**, before that great and notable **day of the Lord** come:

Sun and Moon

2Pe 3:9-13 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance. 10 But **the day of the Lord** will come as a **thief** in the **night**; in the which the **heavens** shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall **melt with fervent heat**, the **earth** also and the works that are therein shall be **burned up**. 11 Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of **the day of God**, wherein the **heavens** being on **fire** shall be dissolved, and the **elements** shall melt with fervent **heat**? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for **new heavens** and a **new earth**, wherein dwelleth **righteousness**.

There Shall Come a Day

Act 17:31 Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead.

The Structure of Bible Prophecy



NIGH AT HAND (17 YEARS) 587 BC
BABYLONIAN INVASION
(JOEL 2:1)



(26 YEARS) AD 70
ROMAN INVASION
(ACT 2:16-20)



GOGIAN INVASION
JESUS' RETURN
(JOEL 2:32)

Three Part Prophecies

Mal 4:5 Behold, I will send you **Elijah the prophet** before the coming of the great and dreadful **day of the LORD**:

Isa 40:3-5 **The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness**, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. 4 Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: 5 And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it.

Mat 17:10-13 And his disciples asked him, saying, Why then say the scribes that Elias must first come? 11 And Jesus answered and said unto them, **Elias truly shall first come**, and restore all things. 12 But I say unto you, That **Elias is come already**, and they knew him not, but have done unto him whatsoever they listed. Likewise shall also the Son of man suffer of them. 13 Then the disciples understood that he spake unto them of **John the Baptist**.

The Prophetic Challenge

- Which parts are immediate?
- Which parts are future?
- If only parts were fulfilled, how can we be confident of the parts that have not?
- What makes Bible prophecy better than non-inspired prophecy if both are only “partially correct”?

An Unbeliever's Answer

2Pe 3:1-8 This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: 2 That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: 3 Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, 4 And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. 5 For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water: 6 Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: 7 But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. 8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

Inspired Prophecy Is Reliable and Contrary to Current Facts/Opinions

- The Judgement component is always fulfilled
- The remnant component is always fulfilled
- The structure of Biblical prophecy keeps the focus on what God has done, is doing, and will do
- The repetition provides a structure of consistency and aids us understanding our current context and time period
- The long-term hope is consistent
- The current events are often contrary to Bible prophecy

A low-angle shot looking up at a vast sky filled with a dense swarm of locusts. The insects are silhouetted against a bright, glowing sun that creates a lens flare effect. The locusts are in various stages of flight, with their wings spread. In the foreground, the dark, intricate branches of trees are visible, some with small green leaves. The overall atmosphere is one of a powerful natural event.

Understanding Symbols The Invasion

Joel – The Day of the Lord

The Invader

Joe 2:2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: **a great people and a strong**; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations.

Read (Joel 2:2-11)

The Defender

Joe 2:6 Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather **blackness**.

Isa 13:8 And they shall be afraid: pangs and sorrows shall take hold of them; they shall be in pain as a woman that travaileth: they shall be amazed one at another; their faces shall be as flames.

Nah 2:10 She is empty, and void, and waste: and the heart melteth, and the knees smite together, and much pain is in all loins, and the faces of them all gather **blackness**.

The Invader

Joe 1:4 That which the palmerworm hath left hath the **locust** eaten; and that which the locust hath left hath the cankerworm eaten; and that which the cankerworm hath left hath the caterpillar eaten.

Joe 1:6 For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the teeth of a **lion**, and he hath the cheek teeth of a great lion.

Joe 2:4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of **horses**; and as horsemen, so shall they run.

The Invader

The Aggressor

- A great people and a strong
- Destroy with **fire**
- Appearance of horses and horsemen, chariots
- Run like mighty men
- Climb like men of war
- March without breaking rank
- Unstoppable
- Enter as a **thief**

The Defender

- No escape
- Tremble, blackness (pale)
- **Earth** quakes
- **Heaven** trembles
- **Sun, moon, stars** dark

Similar Language – 6th Seal

Joe 2:10 The **earth** shall quake before them; the **heavens** shall **tremble**: the **sun** and the **moon** shall be **dark**, and the **stars** shall withdraw their shining:

Joe 2:30-31 And I will shew wonders in the **heavens** and in the **earth**, **blood**, and **fire**, and pillars of **smoke**. 31 The **sun** shall be turned into **darkness**, and the **moon** into **blood**, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come.

Rev 6:12 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a **great earthquake**; and the **sun became black** as sackcloth of hair, and the **moon became as blood**;

Rev 6:13 And the **stars of heaven fell** unto the **earth**, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind.

Rev 6:14 And the **heaven departed** as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every **mountain and island were moved** out of their places.

Similar Language – 5th Trumpet (1st Woe)

Joe 1:6 For a nation is come up upon my land, strong, and without number, whose teeth are the **teeth of a lion**, and he hath the cheek **teeth of a great lion**.

Joe 2:5 Like the noise of **chariots** on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a **flame of fire** that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array.

Joe 2:7 They shall **run** like mighty men; they shall **climb** the wall like men of war; and they shall **march** every one on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks:

Rev 9:1-2 And the fifth angel sounded, and I saw a **star fall from heaven** unto the **earth**: and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit. 2 And he opened the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit, as the smoke of a great furnace; and the **sun** and the air were darkened by reason of the **smoke** of the pit.

Rev 9:7-9 And the shapes of the **locusts** were like unto **horses** prepared unto battle; and on their heads were as it were crowns like gold, and their faces were as the faces of men. 8 And they had hair as the hair of women, and their teeth were as the **teeth of lions**. 9 And they had breastplates, as it were breastplates of iron; and the sound of their wings was as the sound of **chariots of many horses running** to battle.

Symbolic Language

Symbol	Interpretation
Heavens	Ruling powers
Earth	The nations and people
Darkness/Celestial collapse	A change in the political structure A change in the religious structure
Shaking/Earthquakes	A change in the geopolitical structure

Heavens and Earth

Isa 1:1-2 The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning **Judah** and **Jerusalem** in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah. 2 Hear, O **heavens**, and give ear, O **earth**: for the LORD hath spoken, I have nourished and brought up children, and they have rebelled against me.

Isa 1:10 Hear the word of the LORD, ye **rulers** of Sodom; give ear unto the law of our God, ye **people** of Gomorrah.

God's Judgement Against Judah

Isa 1:21 How is the **faithful city** become an **harlot**! it was full of judgment; **righteousness** lodged in it; but now **murderers**.

Isa 1:27-31 Zion shall be redeemed with **judgment**, and her converts with **righteousness**. 28 And the **destruction** of the transgressors and of the **sinner**s shall be together, and they that **forsake** the LORD shall be **consumed**. 29 For they shall be **ashamed** of **the oaks** which ye have desired, and ye shall be **confounded** for **the gardens** that ye have chosen. 30 For ye shall be as an **oak** whose leaf fadeth, and as a **garden** that hath no water. 31 And the strong shall be as **tow**, and the maker of it as a **spark**, and they shall both **burn** together, and none shall **quench** them.

Isa 1:26 And I will restore thy judges as at the first, and thy counsellors as at the beginning: afterward thou shalt be called, The city of **righteousness**, the **faithful city**.

God's Righteousness

Num 14:21 But as truly as I live, all the **earth** shall be filled with the **glory** of the LORD.

Isa 11:9 They shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain: for the **earth** shall be full of the **knowledge** of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

Hab 2:14 For the **earth** shall be filled with the **knowledge** of the glory of the LORD, as the waters cover the sea.

The Day of the Lord and His Army

Joe 2:11 And **the LORD** shall utter his voice before **his army**: for **his camp** is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for **the day of the LORD** is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

2Pe 3:10 But **the day of the Lord** will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. 11 **Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation** and godliness, 12 Looking for and hasting unto the coming of **the day of God**, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? 13 Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.