

Army of the 144,000 in Joel 2

“A great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it.”

Brothers and Sisters; our heading text can only apply to the Remnant; the 144,000; nothing else fits!

A 7emca7 study

Joel 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;”

In the first chapter we have seen the inroads of Rome, through the inception of her false doctrines, the ‘wine of Babylon’ into Adventism through four generations. Now, this time period of the trumpet and alarm begins at 9/11 when the Third Woe and the restraint of Islam came to warn the world and God’s people that the crisis is right before them and they need to prepare. The forces of Rome had been gathering and getting ready to strike following 1989 when once again the most powerful army in the world had formed an alliance with her. Islam was released to fulfil their prophetic role by striking the armies of Rome, and thus distracting Rome from attacking faithful Sabbath keepers.

“Strive to Be Among the 144,000.” 7BC. 970.

In order to strive to be among this “great people” the 144,000, we must understand something about them. One fascinating description of the 144,000 is given in Joel 2. These represent God’s faithful remnant that give the Third Angel’s Message at the time of the Loud Cry:

“We stand as the remnant people in these last days to promulgate the truth and swell the cry of the third angel’s wonderful distinct message, giving the trumpet a certain sound.” 1888 mat., 1710.

The Third Angel’s message is a fearful message; one that causes all the inhabitants to tremble.

“A parchment was placed in the angel’s hand, and as he descended to the earth in power and majesty, he proclaimed a fearful warning, with the most terrible threatening ever borne to man. This message was designed to put the children of God upon their guard, by showing them the hour of temptation and anguish that was before them.” EW. 254.

This is a time when probation is about to close, first on God’s professed people and finally on the whole world; the Day of the Lord is coming, it is “nigh at hand.”

Joel 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.”

How can it be clouds and thick darkness and yet also be as the morning? Because to the unready it is darkness, while to the faithful it is the morning to them.

The day of God’s wrath is described elsewhere, as in Joel 2:31, “the great and the terrible day of the LORD.” The wicked will cry: “mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb.” Revelation 6:16. It will be dark and gloomy for the unholy. But we are introduced to a different sight, someone to whom this time is as the morning. They are, “A Great People”: What makes a person great in heaven?

“The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.” Psalm 68:11.

Of this class we read: "They entered upon the performance of their duties without coldly calculating the consequences of speaking to the people the word which the Lord had given them. They have not consulted their temporal interests, nor sought to preserve their reputation or their lives." GC, 609.

'A Strong people:' Their strength is from heaven:

"God's Spirit, moving upon their hearts, has constrained them to speak. Stimulated with holy zeal, and with the divine impulse strong upon them," (GC, 608). They fearlessly give the warning.

"There hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it", this shows us that these people are **not** the armies of Rome, or of Islam, because those have been around for a long while; this people is unique in the annals of this earth's history. They will do something no other people have done; they will live a holy life without an intercessor in the sanctuary in heaven. All who lived before the cross looked by faith to the coming Savior's intercession; all who lived after the cross, look to Christ's intercession in the Heavenly Sanctuary, but in the end of time, at the close of probation, the intercession has ended.

At the close of probation, Michael, (Christ) stands up and says:

"He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still." Revelation 22:11.

This is one of the most solemn events in the history of this world! We have a hard time even to imagine the solemnity of these declarations!

The people being introduced here will also face fierce trials that only true faith in Jesus, empowered by the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit could endure, from the arrival of the Sunday Law crisis, until the Voice of God announces the time of Christ's coming, and the wicked come and worship at the saint's feet.

"The season of distress and anguish before us will require a faith that can endure weariness, delay, and hunger--a faith that will not faint though severely tried." GC, 622.

The Numbers: 144,000 is more than just a numerical amount, it has deep spiritual significance. The number three represents the spiritual kingdom, good or evil; the true Godhead and Three Angels' Messages, or the evil confederacy of the Beast, False Prophet and Dragon with the false Three Angels' Messages of the unclean spirits.

Number four represents world-wide; the four winds being restrained from blowing on the earth, and the worldly (carnal) i.e., the four designations of the earth's inhabitants: nations, kindreds, tongues and people; and the events of the fourth horseman of the fourth seal that destroys the fourth part of men with four weapons.

It takes a union of the natural with the divine (spiritual), to gain salvation and enter into heaven. If you add them, you get seven, the divine symbol of completeness. The product of three times four is twelve. The number twelve is the number of the kingdom of heaven. The twelve patriarchs, twelve tribes of Israel, and the twelve apostles were the foundation of God's church.

Twelve squared, twelve times twelve, equals one hundred forty four, and in Revelation 21:17, we read;

"And he measured the wall thereof, an hundred and forty and four cubits, according to the measure of a man, that is, of the angel."

One hundred forty four is the measure of a man that rests on the foundation of Christ. The measurement given in Revelation 21 is the length and the breadth. [See vs. 16]. The breadth is the

width; how much do you love the Lord? The length is the depth; how deep is your conviction? How do you square up? We all will soon find out in the final crisis.

“Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet.” Isaiah 28:17.

The line and plummet measure to see if the walls are in line with the foundation, are you in line with Christ, the foundation of your salvation?

A thousand is ten times ten times ten. Ten means universal: The Ten Commandments are the law of the universe. Three represents spiritual things, and in this case, God’s servants the 144,000. Their foundation is Christ and their conviction and love are equal. They are truly “of the angel,” which represents Christ. These are they that will be redeemed from the earth. Their love for their Lord is great.

The struggle reaches a climax at the time of Jacob’s Trouble; at this time Christ has left the sanctuary, and as His last act He removes all the confessed sins of the redeemed, which up until then had been still on the Sanctuary but covered by His blood, and places them onto the antitypical Scapegoat—Satan.

“Though God's people will be surrounded by enemies who are bent upon their destruction, yet the anguish which they suffer is not a dread of persecution for the truth's sake; they fear that every sin has not been repented of, and that through some fault in themselves they shall fail to realize the fulfillment of the Saviour's promise, “I will keep thee from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world.” [Revelation 3:10.] If they could have the assurance of pardon, they would not shrink from torture or death; but should they prove unworthy, and lose their lives because of their own defects of character, then God's holy name would be reproached.” GC88 619.

However, the above takes place after these great and strong people have accomplished their work in the earth, which is to carry forward the Loud Cry of the Third Angel at the time when all the world is bowing down to an idol Sabbath, the mark of Rome’s power.

3 “A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them.”

The fire that “devoureth before them” is that of the Holy Spirit in the “Latter Rain.” With great power, the Third Message does its work of separating a people for God. The cry, “Come out of Babylon” sounds throughout the earth. The ‘angels’, the Three Angels and the Fourth, sever the wicked from among the just; see Matthew 13:49.

2 Corinthians 6:17 “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, 18 And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be my sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

“The angel who unites in the proclamation of the Third Angel’s Message is to lighten the whole earth with his glory. A work of world-wide extent and unwonted power is here foretold.” GC, 611.

Of the flame that burns behind them, there are a few thoughts here: 1.) We know that those that reject the final warning are being bound in bundles to be burned. Isaiah 9:18-19:

“For wickedness burneth as the fire: it shall devour the briars and thorns, and shall kindle in the thickets of the forest, and they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke. Through the wrath of the Lord of hosts is the land darkened, and the people shall be as the fuel of the fire: no man shall spare his brother.”

Notice also that “no man shall spare his brother.” Christ warns of this very time when:

“And a man's foes shall be they of his own household.” Matthew 10:36.

This shows a bitterness manifested towards those who give and those who receive the message of the Third Angel. Ellen White warns of this time:

“The power attending the last warning has enraged the wicked; their anger is kindled against all who have received the message, and Satan will excite to still greater intensity the spirit of hatred and persecution.” GC, 614-15.

This fire kindles in the forest, in the dry trees. Jesus compares Himself to a green tree, and says in Luke 23:31:

“For if they do these things in a green tree, what shall be done in the dry?”

Without a living faith we are as dry trees; without a living faith, you will not make it through the scenes to come, you will be burned up spiritually and later literally!

2.) Fire, designates vengeance and wrath, i.e., “the vengeance of eternal fire;” and “the fire of my wrath.” Jude 1:7; Ezekiel 21:31. Notice Psalm 83, for a parallel passage about this time period.

Psalm 83:13 “O my God, make them like a wheel; as the stubble before the wind. 14 As the fire burneth a wood, and as the flame setteth the mountains on fire;”

The question here is; are these God’s people being burned up by Rome or Islam here? Certainly not—the earlier verses in this Psalm leave no doubt that this is the final confederacy, Modern Babylon that is being set on fire here:

2 “For, lo, thine enemies make a tumult: and they that hate thee have lifted up the head. 3 They have taken crafty counsel against thy people, and consulted against thy hidden ones. 4 They have said, Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation; that the name of Israel may be no more in remembrance. 5 For they have consulted together with one consent: they are confederate against thee:”

Read the entire Psalm to see the picture! Actually except for references to the period of the 1260 days of the Dark Ages, we do not see anywhere in the scriptures where God’s enemies burn up the faithful! Nebuchadnezzar tried it and failed. There is a promise about that:

Isaiah 43:2 “When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee.”

So this army here, is not Rome or Islam attacking God’s people!

3.) Finally, we know that Christ returns . . .

“In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” 2 Thessalonians 1:8.

The desolate wilderness is what is left after Christ’s return. Jeremiah 4:23-26, describes the scene, desolate beyond anything we can imagine.

“I beheld the earth, and, lo, it was without form, and void; and the heavens, and they had no light. I beheld the mountains, and, lo, they trembled, and all the hills moved lightly. I beheld, and, lo, there was no man, and all the birds of the heavens were fled. I beheld, and, lo, the

fruitful place was a wilderness, and all the cities thereof were broken down at the presence of the LORD, and by his fierce anger.”

The final point brought out in verse 3 is that “nothing shall escape them.” God has promised that this Gospel shall go to every nation, kindred, tongue and people. All will hear this message of warning; all will make a choice; the world will contain only two groups, those for God and His commandments, and those in rebellion!

Now please think for a minute—if this army was Rome or Islam attacking all—then God’s people would be destroyed as well—would they not? If NOTHING escapes—then God’s people, who are the main target of Rome, are wiped out! These views makes the scriptures to contradict themselves!

4 “The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run.”

Are God’s faithful ever declared to be an army on horses?

Revelation 19:11 “And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. 12 His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself. 13 And he was clothed with a vesture dipped in blood: and his name is called The Word of God. 14 And the armies which were in heaven followed him upon white horses, clothed in fine linen, white and clean.”

Horses symbolize angels or special messengers as in Zechariah 1:8-10 and 6:1-8, or battle as in Exodus 15:21, Isaiah 43:17 and Jeremiah 8:6.

6 “I hearkened and heard, but they spake not aright: no man repented him of his wickedness, saying, What have I done? every one turned to his course, as the horse rusheth into the battle.”

The 144,000 are definitely special messengers in a battle! The horsemen, those being carried by the horse, represent the final messages of mercy they bear; the Third Angel’s Message.

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.”

The noise, or message, is shown to be sounding everywhere in a great “loud cry.” It leaps to the tops of the mountains, the various churches of the world—it hits them all; they can’t gainsay it!

The noise of this flame devours those who are not consecrated to the Lord. Notice here they are called ‘stubble’. This is a reference that occurs over and over in holy writ and never applies to God’s people being harmed by their foes, always only to His enemies. Certainly the four insects of chapter 1 do **devour** through the four generations, but they are not called flames or fire. We see the flame and fire only at the Day of the Lord, when the army of God’s faithful we are looking at are going forth. Here are other places telling the same story:

Nahum 1:10 “For while they be folden together as thorns, and while they are drunken as drunkards, they shall be devoured as stubble fully dry.”

Malachi 4:1 “For, behold, the day cometh, that shall burn as an oven; and all the proud, yea, and all that do wickedly, shall be stubble: and the day that cometh shall burn them up, saith the LORD of hosts, that it shall leave them neither root nor branch.”

Here is another account of this noise:

Zephaniah 1:10 "And it shall come to pass in that day, saith the LORD, that there shall be the noise of a cry from the fish gate, and an howling from the second, and a great crashing from the hills."

The battle array described here is the whole armor of God.

Ephesians 6:13 "Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand."

Does God ever say he will use His Faithful for a battle weapon? Certainly He does! Notice how Jeremiah describes the same events.

Jeremiah 51:20 "Thou art my battle axe and weapons of war: for with thee will I break in pieces the nations, and with thee will I destroy kingdoms; 21 And with thee will I break in pieces the horse and his rider; and with thee will I break in pieces the chariot and his rider; 22 With thee also will I break in pieces man and woman; and with thee will I break in pieces old and young; and with thee will I break in pieces the young man and the maid; 23 I will also break in pieces with thee the shepherd and his flock; and with thee will I break in pieces the husbandman and his yoke of oxen; and with thee will I break in pieces captains and rulers. 24 And I will render unto Babylon and to all the inhabitants of Chaldea all their evil that they have done in Zion in your sight, saith the LORD."

A 'strong people'; notice how Zechariah describes them:

Zechariah 12:6 "In that day will I make the governors of Judah like an hearth of fire among the wood, and like a torch of fire in a sheaf; and they shall devour all the people round about, on the right hand and on the left: and Jerusalem shall be inhabited again in her own place, even in Jerusalem. 7 The LORD also shall save the tents of Judah first, that the glory of the house of David and the glory of the inhabitants of Jerusalem do not magnify themselves against Judah. 8 In that day shall the LORD defend the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and he that is feeble among them at that day shall be as David; and the house of David shall be as God, as the angel of the LORD before them."

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

We are told that "the faces of God's people will shine with the light of heaven." 7T, 17.

The Jews could not bear to look upon Moses when he descended from Mount Sinai because of the glory of the Lord upon his face; it will be so again at the end of time:

"Their countenances are lighted up with His glory, and shine as did the face of Moses when he came down from Sinai. The wicked can not look upon them." GC, 640.

"When Christ comes, 'Before His presence 'all faces are turned into paleness;' upon the rejecters of God's mercy falls the terror of eternal despair. 'The heart melteth, and the knees smite together,...and the faces of them all gather blackness.' Jeremiah 30:6; Nahum 2:10." GC, 641.

There is only one other place we see "faces gathering blackness", and it is only those 2 places where this Hebrew word used is found in scripture; the second one is here.

Nahum 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."

Is it God's faithful that are being so afflicted? No; this is applying to Nineveh, which is another symbol of Rome and Babylon, the great! This army is discomfiting Modern Babylon—so it has to be God's Remnant, the 144,000.

We see the parallel to Daniel 11:44, 45, as the King of the North is troubled and goes to stand against these people, but he comes to his end.

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:"

Ezekiel 1:12 "And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went."

In Ezekiel we see another symbolic representation of God's 144,000 going forward with the message of the Third Angel in the end time, led by the Spirit. We can't take the time to explain it all here, but you can see it for yourself.

The walls here mentioned are the walls of difficulty. These people are mighty overcomers! Led and guided by the Holy Spirit, they will each march forward towards Zion on that straight and narrow path giving the last invitation of mercy to the world!

"Servants of God, with their faces lighted up and shining with holy consecration, will hasten from place to place to proclaim the message from heaven. By thousands of voices, all over the earth, the warning will be given. Miracles will be wrought, the sick will be healed, and signs and wonders will follow the believers." GC, 612.

They will not break their ranks:

"In this age of the world He has given His people much light and instruction in regard to how His work is to be carried forward,—on an elevated, refined, ennobling basis; and He is displeased with those who in their service do not carry out His design. He will separate such men from His cause, and prove others, who, if self-sufficient, will in turn be replaced by still other laborers." (MS 81, 1900).

God requires a consecrated people, a peculiar treasure. As some fall out, before the final close of probation, they will be replaced!

8 "Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk every one in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded."

In Christianity today, it is a common practise to tear others down to elevate self; this is rampant within Adventism! The 144,000 will walk in their own paths and not be concerned with who is first, best, etc.! They will not look to tear down, but rather, build up God's last day people. The truly converted are not the accusers of the brethren. They call sin by its name and openly rebuke such, but not in the spirit of envy, jealousy, anger, etc. These people can fall upon the "sword of righteousness" and not be hurt.

Also no one can defeat them using the sword of the Word of God!

Isaiah 11:2 "And he shall set up an ensign for the nations, and shall assemble the outcasts of Israel, and gather together the dispersed of Judah from the four corners of the earth. 13 The envy also of Ephraim shall depart, and the adversaries of Judah shall be cut off: Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim. 14 But they shall fly upon the shoulders of the Philistines toward the west; they shall spoil them of the east together: they shall lay their hand upon Edom and Moab; and the children of Ammon shall obey them."

9 "They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief."

Revelation 16:15 "Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame."

2 Peter 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."

A city in prophecy is a spiritual nation, i.e., the great city Babylon. Throughout this 'great city' the elect of God will carry the plain, cutting truths for that time. They shall run upon the wall, that is, they shall run over any besetting obstacle as though it were not there! Also notice that they run **on** the walls; why? Because they have been building the walls, restoring the waste places, doing the job of Nehemiah. At this time:

"The power attending the message will only madden those who oppose it. The clergy will put forth almost superhuman efforts to shut away the light lest it should shine upon their flocks. By every means at their command they will endeavor to suppress the discussion of these vital questions. The church appeals to the strong arm of civil power, and, in this work, papists and Protestants unite." GC, 607.

This is to no avail; the message will be heard by all, it shall "enter in at the windows like a thief." That is, the windows of the soul!

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:"

I will let the Spirit of Prophecy explain the trembling:

"I asked the meaning of the shaking I had seen, and was shown that it would be caused by the straight testimony called forth by the counsel of the True Witness to the Laodiceans. This will have its effect upon the heart of the receiver, and will lead him to exalt the standard and pour forth the straight truth. Some will not bear this straight testimony. They will rise up against it, and this will cause a shaking among God's people." 1T 181

God's elect from everywhere, inside and outside of His church will be shaken by the power of this message; all the inhabitants of the land shall tremble! After the message has done its work, all light will be cut off from the inhabitants of the earth. The sun is a representation of Christ, the Great Light.

"Clouds may seem to shut from us the bright beams of the Sun of Righteousness; but we know that the face of our Redeemer is not forever hidden... let us keep our eyes fixed where we can see the Sun of Righteousness, and rejoice that we have a living Saviour." OHC, 65.

Moreover, the Bible, in describing Jesus says, "...his face was as it were the sun," and "But unto you that fear my name shall the sun of righteousness arise with healing in his wings." Rev. 10:1; Mal. 4:2.

The sun then, is the great light from Christ that brings healing conviction, through the agency of the Holy Spirit, to the heart of His people. The Bible and Spirit of Prophecy are the words of Christ, the Great Light that heals the sin sick soul. Instead of searching for truth, Paul says:

"...the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; And they shall turn away their ears from the truth, and shall be turned unto fables." 2 Timothy 4:3.

Thus, this Great Light is rejected.

The moon does not have its own light; rather it reflects the light of the Sun. The law of the universe, the Ten Commandments are a reflection of God's character. This law, especially the fourth commandment, will be rejected as well.

The stars represent angels or people. In this verse, the proclamation by God's faithful of the Third Angel's Message, and the message of the angel of Revelation 18, are rejected.

God has withdrawn His Spirit. His light and rest shall not be found; it's too late, probation has closed!

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord: And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the Lord, and shall not find it." Amos 8:11-12.

There is another thought that comes to mind regarding the sun, moon and stars here; the final remnant are the spiritual descendants of those who gave the judgement hour message in the Great Advent Movement; these saw the literal signs in the sun, moon and stars!

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?"

The Lord utters His voice to the world through His faithful people during the Loud Cry. If you look at the texts that say the Lord will Roar, there are exactly **four places** that is found; four represents world-wide.

Isaiah 42:13 "The LORD shall go forth as a mighty man, he shall stir up jealousy like a man of war: he shall cry, yea, roar; he shall prevail against his enemies."

Jeremiah 25:30 "Therefore prophesy thou against them all these words, and say unto them, The LORD shall roar from on high, and utter his voice from his holy habitation; he shall mightily roar upon his habitation; he shall give a shout, as they that tread the grapes, against all the inhabitants of the earth."

Hosea 11:10 "They shall walk after the LORD: he shall roar like a lion: when he shall roar, then the children shall tremble from the west."

Amos 1:2 "And he said, The LORD will roar from Zion, and utter his voice from Jerusalem; and the habitations of the shepherds shall mourn, and the top of Carmel shall wither."

Notice this last one, what does it mean the Lord will roar from Zion and Jerusalem? It refers to the power of His message going out to the world through His people, the 144,000

Concerning the Day of the Lord at the time of the second coming of Christ, we read the wicked crying out:

"Mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?" Revelation 6:16-17.

From Joel 2, we can plainly see that those who would be part of this elect army are comprised of the people that give the straight truth for our time.

Ellen White says: "The Lord gives a special truth for the people in an emergency. Who dare refuse to publish it? He commands His servants to present the last invitation of mercy to the world. They cannot remain silent, except at the peril of their souls. Christ's ambassadors have

nothing to do with consequences. They must perform their duty and leave results with God.” GC, 609-10.

“Many today consider the third angel’s message too harsh - they even call it a “sharp thrust”! To those people, Christ warns: “There has been too much beating about the bush in the proclamation of the third angel’s message. The message has not been given as clearly and distinctly as it should have been.” Ev., 230.

If you’re afraid to give this message now, you won’t be able to do it under the adverse conditions to come!

“The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.” Psalm 68:11.

Amos 3:8 “The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?”

The rest of Joel chapter 2 consists of a combination of warning to get ready for this great task and encouragement as to how the Lord will use His people to vindicate His name! It is clear that all who truly seek Him will be provided with all needful blessings and the power of heaven to do the task that is coming to us during the Day of the Lord time period. Notice this parallel to Daniel 11:44, 45:

Joel 2:20 “But I will remove far off from you the northern army, and will drive him into a land barren and desolate, with his face toward the east sea, and his hinder part toward the utmost sea, and his stink shall come up, and his ill savour shall come up, because he hath done great things.”

No brothers and sisters, Rome does not burn up God’s people; and neither does Islam; but if we fail to heed the warning and prepare by seeking the Lord with all our hearts, rending our hearts and not our garments, putting away sin and humbling ourselves before the Lord; then we will fall among the slain in the spiritual streets of Babylon the Great.

Amen!