

Joel 1:13–20 (ESV)

“The Stuff of Redeemed Weeping”

¹³Put on sackcloth and lament, O priests; wail, O ministers of the altar. Go in, pass the night in sackcloth, O ministers of my God! Because grain offering and drink offering are withheld from the house of your God.

Grieve (13, 15-20)

¹⁴Consecrate a fast; call a solemn assembly. Gather the elders and all the inhabitants of the land to the house of the LORD your God, and cry out to the LORD.

¹⁵Alas for the day! For the day of the LORD is near, and as destruction from the Almighty it comes.

¹⁶Is not the food cut off before our eyes, joy and gladness from the house of our God?

Worship (14, 19a)

¹⁷The seed shrivels under the clods; the storehouses are desolate; the granaries are torn down because the grain has dried up.

¹⁸How the beasts groan! The herds of cattle are perplexed because there is no pasture for them; even the flocks of sheep suffer.

¹⁹To you, O LORD, I call. For fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness, and flame has burned all the trees of the field.

²⁰Even the beasts of the field pant for you because the water brooks are dried up, and fire has devoured the pastures of the wilderness.