

Joel 2:1–11 (ESV)

¹Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near,

²a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations.

³Fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns. The land is like the garden of Eden before them, but behind them a desolate wilderness, and nothing escapes them.

⁴Their appearance is like the appearance of horses, and like war horses they run.

⁵As with the rumbling of chariots, they leap on the tops of the mountains, like the crackling of a flame of fire devouring the stubble, like a powerful army drawn up for battle.

⁶Before them peoples are in anguish; all faces grow pale.

⁷Like warriors they charge; like soldiers they scale the wall. They march each on his way; they do not swerve from their paths.

⁸They do not jostle one another; each marches in his path; they burst through the weapons and are not halted.

⁹They leap upon the city, they run upon the walls, they climb up into the houses, they enter through the windows like a thief.

¹⁰The earth quakes before them; the heavens tremble. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining.

¹¹The LORD utters his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful. For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome; who can endure it?

“When God Treats Us as His Own”

The LORD’s Gracious Warning

**The LORD’s Thorough Wrath
and Discipline**

**The LORD’s Absolute Sovereignty
and Omnipotence**