

DOWN IN THE VALLEY

Joel 3:1-16

**God doesn't always work on the mountains,
sometimes He accomplishes great things to in a valley.**

I. VALLEY JUDGMENT PREDICTED (1-8)

A. I WILL JUDGE (1-3)

1. The Announcement (2a)
 - a. To all nations – there will be no exclusions when God judges
 - b. Brought down to the valley of Jehoshaphat
 - c. The place of God's judgment - See Rev. 16:12-21
2. The Reason: On account of my people, Israel (2b-3)

B. I WILL RETALIATE (4-8)

1. Two questions (4)
 - a. What are you to me? > Do you think I can't handle you?
 - b. Are you rendering Me a recompense? > Do you think you can punish Me?
2. Two Accusations (5-6)
 - You stole My property and My people
3. Two Predictions (7-8)
 - a. The sold ones will return and punish you (7)
 - b. Your children will then be sold (8)
4. Two Observations
 - a. No one can outmaneuver God! - See Gal. 6:7-8
 - b. God can quickly intervene - See Prov. 26:27

II. VALLEY JUDGMENT IGNORED

A. THEIR RESPONSE?

1. "The Lord has spoken" (v.8) appears to be no big deal to them.
2. There is no response to this prediction – they did nothing

B. MAN'S TENDENCY

1. Men tend to ignore the fact of a God who will judge
2. Men spurn God's grace - Rom. 2:2-6
3. Men denounce Christ's coming - II Peter 3:1-8
4. There is no fear of God in them.

Over please >

III. VALLEY JUDGMENT FULFILLED (9-16)

A. GOD'S ENEMIES IN THE VALLEY (9-11)

1. Prepared: Literally "sanctify a war" (9a)
2. Gathered: Generals and soldiers (9b)
3. Equipped: Build your weapons! (10a)
4. Inspired: Call your weak mighty (10b)
5. Fortified: Joined by allies (11a)

B. GOD'S ANGELS IN THE VALLEY (11b, 13)

1. The Prophet's Prayer (11b)
 - Ok Lord, bring in the angels
2. The Lord's Proclamation (13)
 - a. Reap a ripe harvest
 - b. See Rev. 14:14-20

C. GOD'S JUDGMENT IN THE VALLEY (12, 14, 16a)

1. He calls the nations out and sits in judgment upon all (12)
 - See Rev. 19:11-16
2. The troops have tromped into a valley of devastation > a killing machine
 - a. Multitudes ("hama") – the deafening sound of advancing troops
 - b. Decision ("charote") – to decide + to cut = a decision to cut up
3. Roaring from Heaven (16a)

D. GOD'S CREATION IN THE VALLEY (15-16)

1. The heavenly luminaries cease giving light (15)
2. Heaven and earth quake (16b)

E. GOD'S PEOPLE IN THE VALLEY

1. Not fighting only following - Rev. 19:14
2. At peace and fully protected (16b)

CONCLUSION:

Down in the valley God keeps His promises

- He roars to the wicked and gives rest to the righteous! (Review Joel 3:16)