

Return to Me
Rend Your Hearts
Joel 2:1-17

Question: How should we respond when we are faced with the sudden and strong realization that God's judgement is coming?

I. Urgency to Acknowledge: The Day of the LORD is Coming (vs. 1-2)

II. It Brings Utter Destruction (vs. 3-5)
~ Eden to desolate wilderness

III. It is Unstoppable (vs. 6-9)
~ I'm coming and I'm not stopping

IV. Who can Endure the Great and Awesome Day? (vs. 10-11)
~ expected answer: no one!

V. Call: Rend Your Hearts & Return to the Lord your God (vs. 12-14)

VI. Drop Everything and Let's Get to It (vs. 15-17)

Point to Ponder: The LORD's call is for us to rend our hearts and not our garments. Those words should cause us to examine our confession and repentance of sin. It is easy to speak of our sin in general ways, but if we are going to rend our hearts we must confess the ugly reality of our lives. Let's spend time naming the specifics of our sin to our God who is gracious and merciful.

Next Week: Next Sunday we will continue our sermon series entitled *Return to Me* by considering **Joel 2:18-27** 'God's Gracious Response.'

