

07 Joel Calls Israel to Repent

"Even now," declares the Lord,
"return to me with all your heart,
with fasting and weeping and
mourning."

Rend your heart
and not your garments.
Return to the Lord your God,
for he is gracious and
compassionate,
slow to anger and abounding in love,
and he relents from sending
calamity.

Who knows? He may turn and have pity
and leave behind a blessing—
grain offerings and drink offerings
for the Lord your God.

Blow the trumpet in Zion,
declare a holy fast,
call a sacred assembly.

Gather the people,
consecrate the assembly;
bring together the elders,
gather the children,
those nursing at the breast.

Let the bridegroom leave his room
and the bride her chamber.

Let the priests, who minister before the
Lord,
weep between the temple porch and
the altar.

Let them say, "Spare your people, O
Lord.

Do not make your inheritance an
object of scorn,
a byword among the nations.

Why should they say among the
peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

Then the Lord will be jealous for his
land
and take pity on his people.

Joel 2:12-18