23rd Nov. 2014 Island Glades Gospel Chapel

***The Years That The Locust Hath Eaten,* Joel 1:4; 2:25**

**Part 1** – The Years in *The Day of the Lord –* Or Israel’s **R**etribution.

**Part 2** – *The Years* *Eaten by the Locust* Restored – Or Israel’s **R**estoration.

**A. The Context of Israel’s Lost Years – *Eaten by the Locusts.***

 1. The Prophecy of Joel: *The Day of the Lord*

Joel = Jehovah (*Jo*) is God (*el*).
 Cp. Elijah = God (*Eli*) is Jehovah (*Jah*).
A Message of Jehovah’s Judgment on the day of *Yahweh*.

a. The **P**erspective of Joel – *the Day of the Lord* (5 occ.)

 i. It is **F**rightening. Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14

 ii. It is **F**uture: It has to do with Israel's Retribution Joel 1:15; 2:1, 31 cf. Zech. 14:1-3, 4-7; 12-15

 It has to do with Israel’s Restoration. Joel 3:17b, 18 (cf. 3:14-17a); Zech. 14:8-11, 16-21

**[B. The Concept of the Lost Years.** (Background Explanation)

1. The **V**iewpoint of the Old Testament Prophet:

 His Mountain-peaks-Vision Missing out the Valley.

1. The Cross and the Crown. I Pet. 1:10, 11
2. The Child and His Coronation. Isa. 9:6, 7
3. *The Acceptable Year of the Lord and the Day of Vengeance*.

[Missing: *The Church Age*]

 Isa. 61:1-2 cf. Lk. 4:17-19

2. The **V**iew down In the **V**alley: *The Mystery*!

 The Church is a Mystery. Eph. 3:1-12

a. The Meaning of *Mystery* – Not a ritual perplexity… 3:3-5

1. Unknown in other Ages, Made Known Now.
2. A Divine truth **H**idden **H**eretofore but **H**enceforth revealed.
3. Concealed in the O.T. and Revealed in the N.T.

b. It is the Mystery of Christ.

 All Believers Baptised into His One Body. Eph. 3:4 cf. I Cor. 12:12, 13

c. It is the Mystery of the Church – Jews and Gentiles made One in Christ. Eph. 3:6 cf. I Cor. 12:13

d. The three entities in God’s Programme: I Cor. 10:32

 *Give no offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles nor to the Church of God.*]

b. The **P**rogramme in Joel - The *Day of the Lord…*

i. in **P**rophetic **P**ictures: 1:1-20 (2-7)

 The **P**lague of Locust **P**ests. (1:4 cf. Rev. 9:1-12)

ii. in **P**ertinent **P**rophecy concerning…

* Israel. 2:1-32; 3:1
* Their Retribution. 2:1-11
* The Repentance and Restoration. 2:12-27 (25)
* The Lord’s Response. 2:28-29
* Gentiles. 3:2-15
* Both in Millennial Blessing. 3:16-21 (18ff)

**3**. Views of What the Worms could mean:

 a. A **L**iteral Reference to the **L**ife-Cycle of the Locust.

 b. An **A**llegorical reference to the **A**lien **A**rmies that **A**ttacked Israel. Cf. Rev. 9:1-12

 c. **S**pecial **S**pecies of the Locust.

**C. The Content of the Lost Years.**

1. The Lost Years in the **W**ilderness **W**anderings.

The years of Disobedience and Unbelief:

37 years squeezed into one chapter -

 The Characteristics of the Lost Years.

i. They were the Ramblings Dictated by Divine Decree (no progress)

 Wanderings between Kadesh and the Red Sea. Num. 14:32-35

 Cf. 1:1; Deut. 1:3; 33:1-49; 14:25-30, 32-35 cf. 1-4

To Continue next Week.

30th Nov. 2014 Island Glades Gospel Chapel

**The Years That The Locust Hath Eaten, Joel 1:4; 2:25**

Part 1 – The Years in The Day of the Lord Or Israel’s Retribution.

**Part 2** – [Part 1 Continued] The Years Eaten by the Locust Restored Or Israel’s Restoration.

[Part 1 Recapitulated

1. **The Context of Israel’s Lost Years Eaten by the Locusts.**

**1**. The **P**rophecy of Joel: *The Day of the Lord* .

a. The **P**erspective of Joel – *the Day of the Lord* (5 occ.)

 i. It is **F**rightening.

 Joel 1:15; 2:1, 11, 31; 3:14

 ii. It is **F**uture: It has to do with Israel's **R**etribution.

 Joel 1:15; 2:1, 31 cf. Zech. 14:1-3, 4-7, 12-15

 It has to do with Israel’s **R**estoration.

 Joel 3:17b, 18 (cf. 3:14-17a); Zech. 14:8-11, 16-21

b. The **P**rogramme in Joel.

**B. The Concept of the Lost Years**

1. The **V**iewpoint of the Old Testament Prophet:

 His **M**ountain-peaks-**V**ision **M**issing out the **V**alley.

The **V**iew down In the **V**alley: The Mystery!

The Mystery of the **C**hurch

The Mystery of **C**hrist.

The Three Entities of The Jew, The Gentile and The Church. I Cor. 10:31

**C. The Content of the Lost Years.**

**1**. The Lost Years in the **W**ilderness **W**anderings. Num. 14:32-35

The years of Disobedience and Unbelief: Cf. 1:1; Deut. 1:3

37 years squeezed into one chapter - 33:1-49

a. The **C**haracteristics of the Lost Years.

i. They were the Ramblings **D**ictated by **D**ivine **D**ecree (no progress) 14:25-30, 32-35

 Wanderings between Kadesh and the Red Sea. cf. 1-4

Continuation of Pt. 1 –

ii. There was the **R**eminder of **D**eath. Num. 14:32 cf. Rom. 7:18-25

iii. There was the **R**ecurrence of **D**efeat. 14:40-45

* They were without the Lord. 14:42, 43
* They were without the Ark. 14:44
* They were without Moses. 14:44

b. The **C**orrections for the Lost Years. Num. 15:38-40

 Make a cord of Blue in the fringe of the Garments as a Reminder that they must......

i. **R**emember and do all the Commandments of the Lord. 15:39, 40

ii. **R**esort not after their own heart their own eyes. 15:39, 40

iii. **R**evere their God – be holy. 15:40, 41

c, The **C**auses of **L**ost Years in our **L**ives today:

i. **C**hrist **P**ersecution – Paul wasting the church. Gal. 1:13

ii. **C**omplacent **P**ursuits – Prodigal wasted his substance with riotous living. Lk. 15:13

iii. **S**elf-**C**entred **P**rofits not **P**roducing Gain. Phil.3:4-8

iv. **S**elfish **C**arnality Limiting **P**rogress. I Cor. 3:1, 2

 v. **C**hildish **P**arty-**S**pirit and **S**trife. I Cor. 3:3, 4

vi. **S**inful **P**osition resulting in Divine **S**ilence. Psa. 66:18

1. The **C**ost of Lost Years. Lost Years are Costly…

i. To the individual **C**hristian.

ii. To the **C**hurch.

iii. To the **C**ause of **C**onversion.

e. The **C**ure for Lost Years.

i. The Prospect – they can be Restored ‘cos of the Relationship.

ii. God’s Promise – but we must Return and Repent.

2. The Lost Years of **S**laving **S**ervitude (in JUDGES). I Kgs. 6:1 cp. Acts 13:18-22

a. The **S**eeming Discrepancy Explained.

i. The Years from Exodus to 4th Year of Solomon's **R**eign **R**eckoned. Acts 13:18-22

 In the wilderness. - 40 years. 13:18

 Under the judges. - 450 years 13:20

 Under King Saul. - 40 years. 13:21

 Under King David. - 40 years. 13:22 cf. I Kgs. 2:11

 Up to King Solomon's 4th year. - 3 years. I Kgs. 6:1

 Total **573** years.

b. The Years of National **S**ervitude in Judges Reclaimed: 573 years

 Under Mesopotamia. 8 years Jud. 3:8

 Under Moab. 18 years Jud. 3:14

 Under Canaan. 20 years Jud. 4:2, 3

 Under Midian. 7 years Jud. 6:1

 Under Philistines. 40 years. Jud. 13:1

(Years eaten by the Locusts) 93 years

i. The Years from Exodus to 4th Year of Solomon's Reign Reckoned. 573 years.

 Acts 13:18-22

ii. The Years of National Servitude in Judges Reclaimed: 93 years

iii. Hence, the years which counted in God's Sight 573 - 93 = 480 years

 as in I Kgs. 6:1; cf. I Cor. 3:12-15

Note: The Servitude in Jud. 10:7-9 affected only the tribes beyond Jordan,

and did not suspend Israel's national position.

a. The **S**eeming **D**iscrepancy **E**xplained.

b. The **S**ource of **D**efeat **E**xamined: Idolatry. Jud. 3:7

*And the children of Israel* ***did evil in the sight of the LORD****,*

*and forgat the LORD their God, and served Baalim and the groves.*

c. The **S**elf-**D**esire to **D**o one’s own **E**xerted. Jud. 21:25; 17:6

 *In those days there was no king in Israel:*

*every man* ***did that which was right in his own eyes****.*

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3. The **L**ost Years in our Lives today –

a. The **L**atent **C**auses:

1. **C**hrist **P**ersecution – Paul wasting the church. Gal. 1:13
2. **C**omplacent **P**ursuits – Prodigal wasted his substance with riotous living. Lk. 15:13
3. **S**elf-**C**entred **P**rofits not Producing Gain. Phil.3:4-8
4. **S**elfish **C**arnality Limiting Progress. I Cor. 3:1, 2
5. **C**hildish **P**arty-**S**pirit and **S**trife. I Cor. 3:3, 4
6. **S**inful **P**osition resulting in **D**ivine **S**ilence. Psa. 66:18

b. The **C**ost of Lost Years. **L**ost Years are **C**ostly…

i. To the individual **C**hristian.

ii. To the **C**hurch.

iii. To the **C**ause of **C**hrist.

c. The **C**ure for Lost Years.

i. The **P**rospect – they can be **R**estored ‘cos of the **R**elationship.

ii. God’s **P**romise – but we must Return and **R**epent.

Summary:

A. THE **C**ONTEXT of Israel’s Lost Years.

B. **The Concept** of the Lost Years.

C. **The Conclusions** Regarding The Lost Years.

1. Years spent in Pleasure and Leisure without God are lost.

2. Years spent in Compromising and Backsliding are lost.

3. Years spent in Self-Seeking Service without God are lost. I Cor. 3:11-15

a. Gold, silver precious stones, or wood, hay stubble. 3:12

b. Works shall be burnt, he shall suffer loss. 3:15

c. But he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire. 3:1

 Therefore, **C**onfess, and the Lord will **R**emit. **C**onsecrate, and the Lord will **R**estore.

 **C**ommit, and the Lord will **R**eign over.

 Having been **C**hallenged now **R**ise up.

**Conclusion:**  How do you spend your days/years?
*"when all our days are passed away in Thy wrath*

*(and) we spend our years as a tale that is told"* Psa.90:9

 OR "*a year crowned with God's goodness*" Psa. 65:11

For those interested in…
Viewing the Powerpoint Presentation again;

Listening to the Study again

And/Or Want a full Outline of the Study,

 Please visit: www.berita-bethel-ung.com