



## Life Guide

applying God's Word to life

### God's Message for Wheat among Weeds August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

*(Joel 3:12-16)*

- 12 “Let the nations be roused;  
let them advance into the Valley of Jehoshaphat,  
for there I will sit  
to judge all the nations on every side.
- 13 Swing the sickle,  
for the harvest is ripe.  
Come, trample the grapes,  
for the winepress is full  
and the vats overflow—  
so great is their wickedness!”
- 14 Multitudes, multitudes  
in the valley of decision!  
For the day of the LORD is near  
in the valley of decision.
- 15 The sun and moon will be darkened,  
and the stars no longer shine.
- 16 The LORD will roar from Zion  
and thunder from Jerusalem;  
the earth and the sky will tremble.  
But the LORD will be a refuge for his people,  
a stronghold for the people of Israel.

1. Give an example of something you've experienced, or seen/heard about happening to another person that details our struggles as “wheat among weeds.”

2. **Evaluate:** Do you think the message that the unbelieving nations will be gathered together for judgment at Judgment Day is more meaningful for Old Testament Israelites, or 21<sup>st</sup> Century American Christians?

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3. **Agree/Disagree:** Judgment Day will be a day of terror for the world.

4. **Agree/Disagree:** The plague of locusts that God sent against the people of Judah in Joel's prophecy was an act of judgment against his people.

5. The Book of Joel uses the phrase “The Day of the LORD” seven different times, and becomes a theme of the prophecy. The Day of the LORD can be defined as “Decisive intervention of God in history to accomplish his will and purposes.” Give some “days of the LORD” in the book of Joel. What are some other “Days of the LORD” that we might trace from the history of the world?

6. **Explain:** In what ways does the assurance of Judgment Day also bring you comfort and assurance for the daily struggles of your life as a Christian in an unbelieving world?

7. How is God's message, “I am your stronghold,” a message for repentance? How is it a message for refuge?