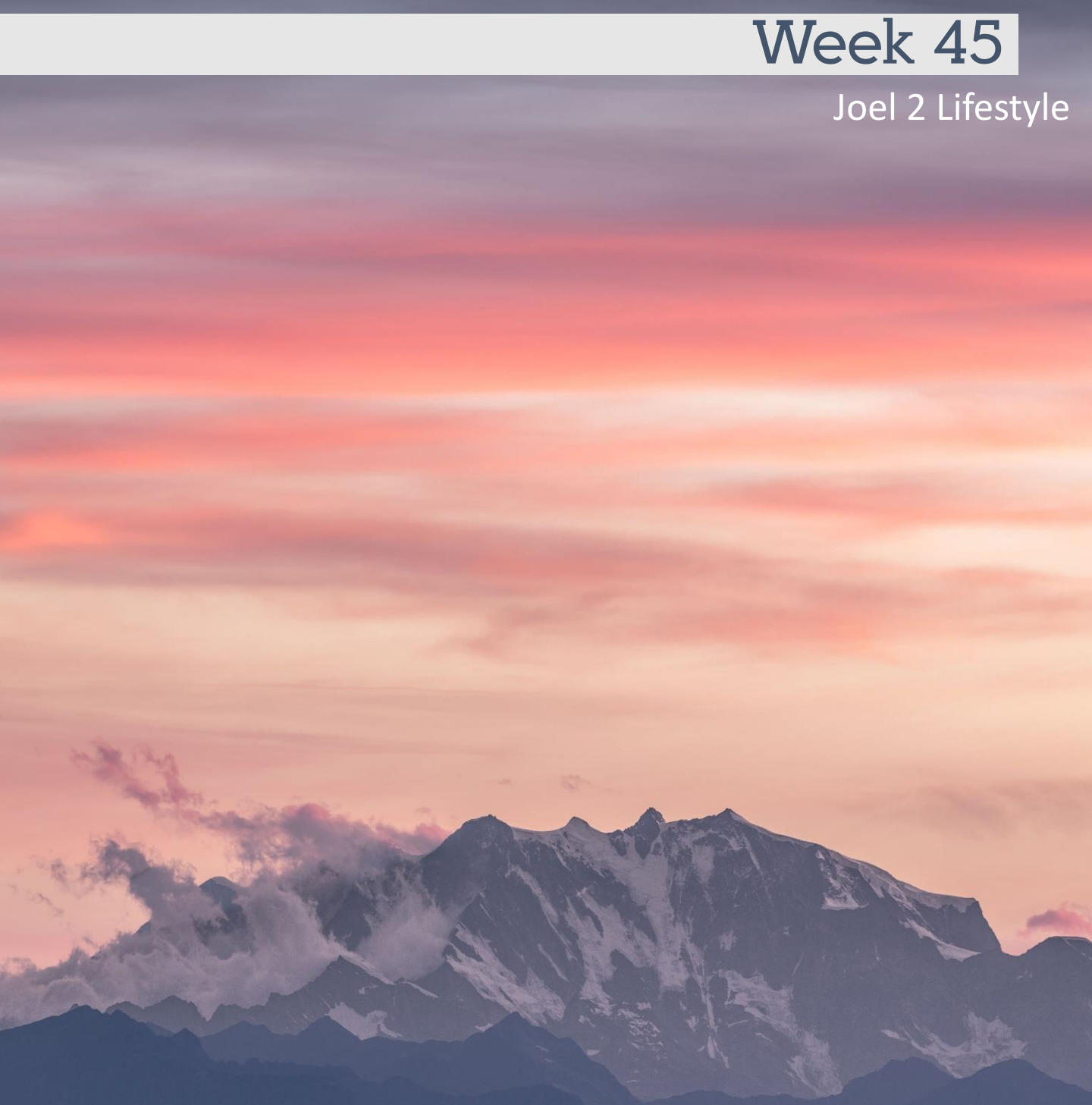



Week 45

Joel 2 Lifestyle



*End Time Outpouring of the
Holy Spirit
(Joel 2:28 - 29)*

A full-page background image of a sunset over the ocean. The sky is a gradient of orange and red, with the sun low on the horizon. The ocean has white-capped waves breaking. In the distance, a dark, rocky coastline is visible. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.


*And it shall come to
pass afterward that I
will pour out My
Spirit on all flesh.*

Joel 2:28

In Joel 2:18 – 27, Joel was speaking of the natural blessing that God would bring upon His land because of His zeal and His compassion. Now, Joel speaks of the coming spiritual blessing to renew the people.

Joel 2:28-29 is the most well-known passage in the book of Joel and probably the most significant. It is God's promise for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

However, this passage is more than just about God giving us dreams and visions so we can have a vibrant and anointed ministry.



The prophetic anointing that Joel spoke of was promised in the context of a great crisis – the ultimate Day of the LORD when God's judgment is manifested on the earth in an unprecedented measure..

The outpouring of the Spirit that Joel spoke of is essential in the hour of life and death and in the promise of the coming Great Harvest. It is about understanding what God is doing on the earth and being supernaturally empowered in a time of unprecedented divine visitation and widespread crisis.

This great outpouring will be upon all nations and all flesh.

This massive outpouring of the Holy Spirit's power is one of the great manifestations of the New Covenant.

The New Covenant in its mature manifestation is about a people walking in wholehearted obedience through supernatural anointing.

Although the New Covenant was established at the cross and the resurrection of Jesus, it has yet to operate in its fullness among the people of God today.

We have the first fruits in that our sins are forgiven and we have the indwelling Spirit. We can have inner transformation and walk with a new heart. But He has also promised us the ability to operate in the power of the Spirit and to partner with Jesus in a mighty way. We have yet to experience the fullness of the manifest power of God in the manner that God has spoken of.

God has promised us that there will be the full measure of Holy Spirit activity, His divine presence and the unction of God in our midst. We will experience the full promise of the New Covenant before the Lord returns!

God has shown us the divine pattern of how to move from introductory saving grace to the fullness of His covenant.

We cannot be satisfied, especially at this time of history, to settle with the introductory dimensions of grace when God has promised a worldwide outpouring of the Spirit.

*When
will the
unprecedented
outpouring
take place?*

Note that Joel started the verse with the word “*afterward*” in Joel 2:28. “*Afterward*” is referring to “*after something specific*”. Peter gave us insight when he quoted this passage in Acts 2:17. Instead of using the word “*afterward*”, he said, “*It shall come to pass in the last days*”.

Peter was clearly making an End-Time prophecy. We know that the Last Days began at the day of Pentecost two thousand years ago and will culminate at the Coming of Jesus. We also know that at the time of Pentecost, the Spirit did not come upon all flesh in the whole world, but was poured out at certain localities. Thus, Peter’s apostolic interpretation confirms that *the greatest outpouring of the Holy Spirit of all time will happen before the Second Coming*.

In Joel 2:31, Joel also explained that *this outpouring along with the cosmic signs will precede the great and terrible Day of the LORD*. This will cause eternity to be real in the lives of believers, giving our hearts confidence even in the midst of the worst of the shakings.

Another time frame reference Joel used is in Joel 2:29 and 3:1 - “*in those days*”. This phrase tells us that the events prophesied will happen within the same time frame. This means that the outpouring of the Spirit will happen in the same time period depicted in Joel 3:1, when the Lord gathers all of the captives and prisoners of Israel from all the nations and brings them back to Jerusalem.

It will also be the same time frame as Joel 3:2 when He assembles all of the nations to come against Jerusalem. This will happen in the generation of the LORD's return.

The phrase "it shall come to pass afterward..." in Joel 2:28 is clearly referring to the timing of the great outpouring, relating it back to the required wholeheartedness, expressed in a lifestyle of fasting, praying and gathering in sacred assemblies of Joel 2:12-17.

This aligns with the whole heart cry of the book of Joel.

The message is, "Cry out to God. Call upon His Name and He will be zealous for you. He will heal you. He will visit you with blessing."

There is only one option and it is in concert with the Joel 2 lifestyle. The outpouring of the Spirit comes when God's people cry out to Him in wholeheartedness.

God *is patient.*

He is holding back and waiting for a wholehearted people to arise all over the world and cry out to Him. At the sound of our fervent cry, He will be very gracious to answer and release the greatest outpouring of the Holy Spirit in human history!



Readings and Prayers for the week

Readings for Week 45

Take some time to read Joel 2 and 3 in one sitting. Study the things that must precede the outpouring of the Spirit as well as the things that will happen after the outpouring. What is God looking for in His Church? Why is it so crucial that the Church walk in the full demonstration of His power before His return?

Prayers for Week 45

Use Col 1:9-10 to pray that the Church will have understanding of the covenantal nature of God and what He requires from her from Joel 2:12-17. Pray that she will have understanding of the necessity for her to move in power at the time before His return.