

# I will Repay Your Lost Years

(Joel 2:25)

**Joel**

- Means "Yahweh is God"
- Prophesied in Judah in the days of King Uzziah

**Occasion and purpose of this book:**

- A locust plague had descended on Judah, ruining all the crops
- Joel saw the judgment of God on Judah
- Joel asked his people to repent

**Special features of this book**

- The OT prophecy concerning the Pentecostal outpouring of the Holy Spirit is given in Joel (2:28-29)
- God brings people to repentance through natural disasters

**Reasons for the invasion of locusts**

- Drunkenness (1:5)
- Spiritual and moral decline

**God's solution to the problem (1:14)**


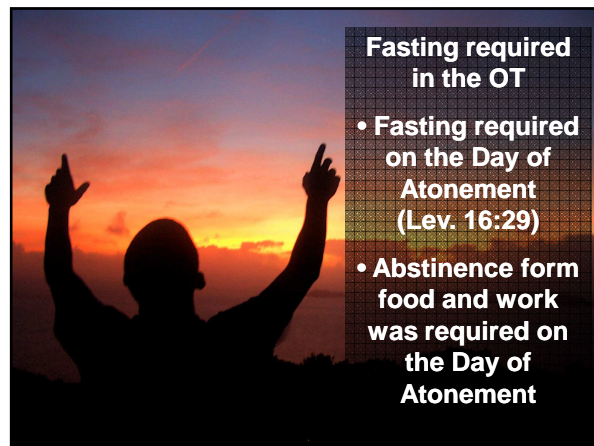
- Declare a holy fast
- Call a sacred assembly
- Cry out to the Lord

**Fasting**  
Fasting is a Biblical way to truly humbly yourself in the sight of God (Ps. 35:13, Ezra 8:21)



**Fasting required in the OT**

- Fasting required on the Day of Atonement (Lev. 16:29)
- Abstinence from food and work was required on the Day of Atonement



**Fasting – a part of a believer's life**

- Jesus said in Matt. 6: 17, "When you fast...."
- Apostles and believers of the early church fasted (Acts 13:2-3)

**Repentance, Fasting, Prayer, and weeping are required to receive God's mercy (2:12-14)**



**God is a God of Restoration**



**God is willing to repay your lost years (2:25)**